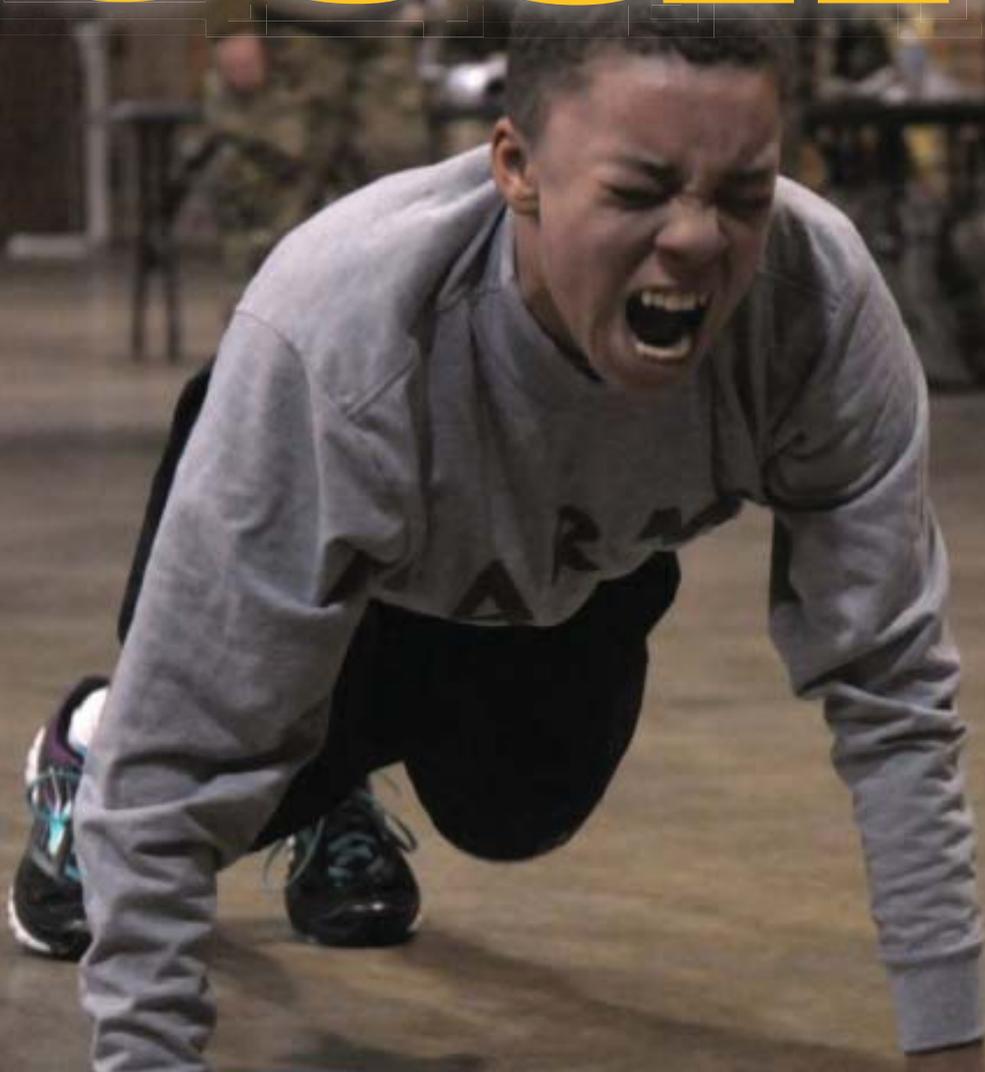


# ON THE **Scene**

MARCH 2017



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# Battling It Out to Be NCNG's Best Warrior



By Sgt. Leticia Samuels, NCNG  
382nd Public Affairs Detachment

The electricity surged through the air as North Carolina National Guard (NCNG) soldiers of the 60th troop command (TC) warmed up to compete against the best of their comrades in the 60th TC Best Warrior Competition (BWC) at the Claude T. Bowers Military Center on Feb. 4 and 5. The state level BWC was held March 4-10 at Camp Butner training site.

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Staff Sgt. Kimble (above) participates in a review board as part of the Best Warrior brigade level competition.

The annual brigade- and state-level competitions gather soldiers from the NCNG's most diverse areas to recognize soldiers who truly live by the Army values and embody the warrior ethos. The soldiers participate in a range of events leading to the selection of the best qualified noncommissioned officer (NCO) and soldier to represent the 60th TC during the next level of the competition.

"This brigade has some dynamic soldiers," said 60th TC Command Sgt. Maj. **Kevin Whitaker**. "This is a very special group of soldiers and NCOs."

Whitaker said seeing senior NCOs becoming involved when he was a junior soldier is part of the reason he is so interactive with soldiers today.

"It made me want to be better," said Whitaker. "It made me want to work harder. This, the BWC, reminds me of what it is all about."

A welcome from the brigade's senior leader and staff started the morning of Day One, then participants went straight into an Army physical fitness test (APFT) that measured upper and lower body muscular endurance after completing three events. Competitors had two minutes to complete the push-up and sit-up events, followed by the completion of a two-mile run.

Once the APFT was completed, competitors immersed themselves in the events. Competitors circulated throughout a round robin of events consisting of selected Army tasks and drills to various

weapon systems assembly and disassembly, map reading, radio etiquette and a display of speed writing skills.

"The most humbling event was the weapons stations," said U.S. Army Sgt. **Betuel Monje**, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear NCO assigned to the 42nd Civil Support Team. "I was a cavalry scout for about four years. I was a parachute rigger many years ago, so I used to be very proficient and very competent in them (weapons). But, just getting my hands on them this last time, being the first time I have touched them in 5½ years, was very humbling. It was very mentally demanding."

Competitors stepped off during the frigid and wet early morning hours of Day Two completing a rugged six-mile ruck-march testing each soldier's endurance, pushing the boundaries of their mental and physical abilities.

Competitors concluded by appearing before a board consisting of senior enlisted leaders from the 60th TC. Soldiers were asked questions about military regulations, military history and current affairs.

Staff Sgt. **Nicole Kimble**, a recruiter assigned to the North Carolina Army National Guard's (NCARNG) Detachment 11 Recruiting and Retention Battalion (RRB), and Spc. **Roberto Sto Domingo**, an explosive ordinance device technician assigned to the 430th Ordnance Company, were crowned as the 60th TC's best warriors.

"Sgt. Kimble by far has a no-quit attitude," said Master Sgt. **Robert Crocker**, the recruiting NCO in charge assigned to the NCARNG's Bravo Company, RRB. "She strives to be the best she can be in every single task. I give her a little bit of a hard time because I know it challenges her and pushes her to do more."

Following the February brigade level competition was the state level, held in March, which finds the best warrior among the 12,000 NCNG soldiers.

The competition filtered through every area. It started at the company level, moved to battalion level, brigade/regiment level, state/division level, regional level and finally, the national level. Similar to the television series "American Ninja Warrior," the levels

of competition become more demanding and grueling.

Much like the brigade level, the five-day state level competition evaluates physical fitness, weapons qualification, road march, land navigation, warrior tasks and battle drills, a stress shoot course, urban operations, obstacle course and an appearance/review board for the best overall non-commissioned officer and soldier or airman. Upon conclusion of the competition the top non-commissioned officer and soldier will represent the NCNG in the Region III BWC in April in Kentucky.

"The soldiers of today are good, and the NCNG's future is bright," said Whitaker. "These soldiers are an indication that they will continue to accomplish any mission."

"For me, it's not about winning," said Kimble. "It's always about putting 100 percent into what I do. Even if I know something, I'm still going to go back and study."

The brigade- and state-level BWC allowed soldiers and NCOs from an variety of military occupations to showcase their resiliency and knowledge in a competitive way while boosting morale, cohesiveness and promoting "esprit de corps" toward each other and their units.

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Sgt. Joshua Kirkpatrick (below left), representing the 449th Theater Aviation Brigade, placed 1st in the NCO category. PFC Kyle Smith (below right), from the 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, placed 1st in the soldier/airmen enlisted category.





## Recruiting Troopers for a Rewarding Career

By Patty McQuillan, Communications Officer

Some might know the State Highway Patrol for its sharp uniforms, eye-catching vehicles, professional and courteous troopers. But to become one of the elite in law enforcement is not a cakewalk, according to the recruiters whose job it is to find qualified applicants.

“Law enforcement is more of a calling,” said Trooper **Jason Metcalf**, Troop G in Asheville. “As a recruiter, I’m looking for people who are clean-cut, in shape, well-mannered and professional. You can find out a lot just by talking to them – their body language, how they address you.”

Finding qualified applicants between the ages of 21 and 39 who have, at minimum, a high school diploma, are physically fit and want to be a public servant is more difficult today than even a decade ago, according to the State Highway Patrol’s nine recruiters.

CONTINUE READING p. 5

Each troop district has at least one recruiter. They are led by Sgt. **Terra Miller**, a 17-year Patrol veteran. Reviewing applicant packets often has Miller burning the midnight oil.

"It's important to get good, qualified applicants," Miller said. "This is the starting point. A recruiter has to have patience and passion to do the job."

"Finding qualified applicants has its challenges," said Trooper **Pamela Williams**, Troop D in Greensboro. "I go to job fairs, local gyms, the Employment Security Commission, colleges, criminal justice classes. It's a constant challenge to find people who are a good fit."

Recruiting for the State Highway Patrol is a 24-hour job. Some of the state's nine recruiters are constantly looking for new recruits when out with their families, at ballgames or at the grocery store.

"I may be off the clock, but it never stops," said Trooper **Andrew Pait**, Troop B in Fayetteville. "I go to job fairs, events and military bases to recruit applicants, and I get a lot of inquiries regarding the requirements for patrol school. I conduct an information session for recruits who make the final cut to help reduce the amount of cadets that quit in patrol school."

After completing an application, potential recruits must undergo a written exam and a physical fitness assessment. Some recruiters, who are certified physical fitness instructors, can assist with the physical fitness assessment.

Trooper **Darrell Pugh** with Troop A in Greenville acknowledges that the recruiter's job doesn't end once the paperwork is completed.

"We oversee the applicant packets, then come to Raleigh for the testing," Pugh said.

Miller said the applicant process is pretty strenuous. Those who passed the initial screening must now have to obtain records of a background check and their driving record, take a polygraph test and undergo a medical evaluation. Applicants go before a review board, where a panel of troopers asks questions to test their character. Those who pass the test become a cadet and face 29 weeks of tough training.

Trooper **William Winchester** with Troop H in Monroe loves his job and equates it to being an extension of his family.

"It's a good feeling when you meet a young person who deserves the opportunity, and watch him or her become a trooper," Trooper Winchester said. "It's like being a parent and watching your child grow up."

Troopers **Ahmad El-Amin** with Troop C in Raleigh and **Jason Locklear** with Troop A in Greenville also expressed the satisfaction in finding well-qualified candidates who not only apply but graduate.

On Feb. 14 at the Highway Patrol Training Academy, 22 young people arrived who thought they'd like to be a trooper. Each one had spoken to a recruiter and filled out the necessary paperwork. This day would be the applicant's initial screening. They



were weighed, measured and taken to the gym for a physical fitness test. Two did not make the cut.

"The patrol school is not a walk in the park, and there are not too many people who can make it. It's extremely difficult to get into it," said Trooper **Roy Carroll**, Troop E in Salisbury. "We have a lengthy application process. But, it's an elite organization, and if one gets through it, it's a very rewarding career."

"I want to do my part to hire people who actually have the heart to do this job," said Trooper **Leonardo Alvarado** with Troop B in Fayetteville. "That's what we need, people to do the job professionally and who love doing the job."

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The State Highway Patrol's team of recruiters pictured above are: Sgt. Terra Miller; Troopers William Winchester, Troop H, Monroe; Jason Metcalf, Troop G, Asheville; Roy Carroll (also pictured above holding feet of an applicant doing sit-ups), Troop E in Salisbury; Ahmad El-Amin, Troop C, Raleigh (pictured together); Trooper Leonardo Alvarado (pictured p. 5 above), Troop B in Fayetteville; Trooper Jason Locklear, Troop A, Greenville; Trooper Andrew Pait, Troop B in Fayetteville; Trooper Darrell Pugh, Troop A, Greenville; and Trooper Pamela Williams, Troop D, Greensboro.

## Recognizing Juvenile Justice's Instrumental Instructors

By Laura Leonard, Editor/Communications Specialist

Out of 72 Juvenile Justice Section instructors, three were recognized as instructors of the year in the categories Overall Achievement, Court Services and Facility Operations on Tuesday, Feb. 28, at a ceremony in Raleigh.

"All three instructors have worked so hard to equip Juvenile Justice staff with the training needed to effectively complete their duties," said **Kimberly Quintus**, director of juvenile justice policy, training and strategic planning.

Instructors were chosen based on how they exemplified teamwork, showed diversity in the subjects taught, numbers of hours taught and positive feedback received.



**Tracy Stanley**, unit administrator at Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center, was named Juvenile Justice Instructor of the Year. Stanley has worked for the state since 1996, and currently manages 35 staff members at the McWhorter Housing Unit and electronic training records for

staff members at Stonewall Jackson YDC. Last year, she taught more than 188 hours for restraints, controls and defensive techniques (RCDT), first aid, model of care and fitness and wellness. Stanley was also instrumental in finalizing the new lesson plan for facility operations RCDT.

"Ms. Stanley is a person of great integrity and is respected by her colleagues here at Stonewall Jackson," said **Peter Brown**, facility director at Stonewall Jackson YDC. "Not only is she an excellent trainer, but she is a very experienced manager and a powerful advocate for the juveniles that we serve. We all wish her continued success as she moves forward through her career."



Court Services Instructor of the Year, **LaTonya Middleton**, court counselor for District 11, began working with the state in 2000 and became a general instructor in 2005. Besides being a court counselor, Middleton has worked both as a correctional officer and probation officer for the Department of Public Safety. Last year, she taught more than 80 hours of in-service training and more than 46 hours in defensive techniques – to name a few. She taught these classes while

managing a caseload of 22 juvenile supervision cases in her three-county district.

"Even though she is with District 11, LaTonya has devoted her time and energy as a trainer for all of Court Services," said Chief Court Counselor **Marsha Woodall**. "She is dedicated and takes great pride in providing learning opportunities to other staff. LaTonya's dedication as a court counselor is also evident through her daily work. She has a great passion for her job, and serves children and families with a great impact."



**Haley Jones**, human services coordinator at New Hanover Juvenile Detention Center, was named Facility Operations Instructor of the Year. Jones, who began her career with DPS as a youth counselor technician in 2008, became a general instructor in 2015 and has since worked to make the in-service training program thrive for Facility Operations staff. Last year, Jones provided 109 hours of active instruction time and was essential to the development of the new RCDT in-service lesson plan. She remained involved with the training program following her promotion to human services coordinator last October.

## Recognizing Instrumental Instructors from p. 6

“The department has a real gem in Haley,” said Jeff Fritz, director at the New Hanover Juvenile Detention Center. “What really makes Haley special is her outlook. No matter what she is asked to do, or what unexpected twists occur with the kids, she tackles obstacles with the intent of making things better. When it comes to her job, Haley is the consummate glass half-full employee. This positivity is infectious and is really what makes her good at instructing others in the skills she is certified to teach.”

## Photo Opportunity with Braelyn and Fuzzy the Bear



As four Patrol troopers were taking their meal hour at Ron's Barn Restaurant in Harnett County, a young lady named Braelyn asked to take a picture with them and Fuzzy the Bear.

Afterward, Braelyn's parents explained how she had just been released from the hospital and chose to eat at Ron's before traveling home. They also explained the purpose for the photo: as a student of Holly Grove Elementary school, Braelyn's class assigns Fuzzy the Bear to students who display exceptionally good behavior. The child is sent home with Fuzzy along with a journal with the goal of recording everything you do with Fuzzy with pictures. These troopers were honored to be a part of Braelyn and Fuzzy's journey.

Pictured above with Braelyn (center) are the following troopers (left to right): Trooper D.N. Pope, Sgt. J.P. Bobbitt, Trooper C.S. Carter and Trooper D.E. Edwards.

## NC Blue Alert Goes Statewide

By Mike Baker, SHP Public Information Officer

The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons, which is overseen by the State Highway Patrol, is proud to announce the implementation of the N.C. Blue Alert system. The system is used to notify the public when any law enforcement officer in North Carolina has been violently attacked and a suspect is being sought.

The Blue Alert system is a voluntary cooperative effort among North Carolina radio and television broadcasters, local and state law enforcement, the N.C. Department of Transportation, the N.C. Education Lottery and the N.C. Center for Missing Persons. The intent is to hinder the violator's ability to flee the state, aid in a swift capture and eliminate the threat to the community and law enforcement personnel.

State Highway Patrol telecommunicators will issue the alert, along with descriptions of the suspect and/or the suspect's mode of travel. The information will be broadcast on radio and television stations, Department of Transportation message boards on major highways, and on terminals and monitors at all retail locations of the N.C. Education Lottery.

“This Blue Alert system is intended to aid in swiftly apprehending a dangerous suspect and doing so safely,” said Department of Public Safety Secretary Erik Hooks. “I am delighted that we have this new system. It is an excellent way to ask for the public's help in providing leads to help law enforcement locate the assailant, as well as keeping the public safe from danger.”

To initiate a Blue Alert, police departments, sheriffs' offices and other law enforcement entities must have information that would assist in locating the suspect, such as a description of the suspect's vehicle, complete or partial license plate information and a detailed description of the suspect. A Blue Alert may also be issued if a law enforcement officer is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for the officer's safety.

A law enforcement agency head with jurisdiction over an assault scene must determine that a suspect poses a threat to the public and other law enforcement personnel before requesting a Blue Alert. The N.C. Center for Missing Persons is the only agency that can activate a Blue Alert and will do so only at the request of an investigating law enforcement agency head. It is then the responsibility of the Center to determine whether there is sufficient identifying data to justify activation.

“We hope we never have to issue a Blue Alert,” said Col. Glenn McNeill, commander of the State Highway Patrol. “However, if we do, North Carolina has this new quick response system that, with tips from the public, will hopefully result in the assailant's capture.”

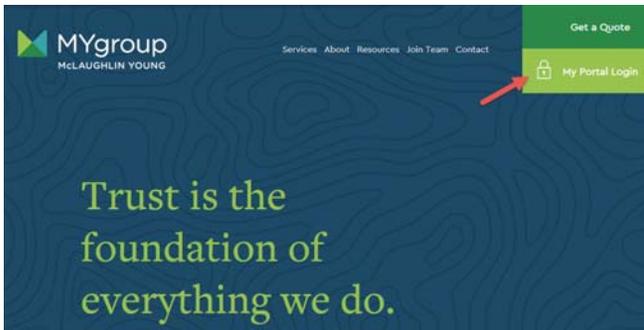
Blue Alert began in 2015 as a nationwide initiative and was named in honor of two New York City police detectives assassinated in 2014 while sitting in their patrol car. The Blue Alert system is modeled after the AMBER and Silver Alert systems currently in place in every state. Twenty-seven states have implemented the Blue Alert program.

## Accessing the FREE, CONFIDENTIAL Employee Assistance Program

When there is a personal and/or work-related difficulty that concerns you and your immediate family members, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is there to provide free and confidential assessments, short-term counseling, referrals and follow-up services.

The EAP is an agency-sponsored benefit that offers resources and support. These resources are available to DPS employees and their family members living in the same household. The best thing is that these services are free and completely confidential. Consultations through the EAP can be done over the phone or face-to-face for up to three sessions per event. However, if additional resources are needed, a referral to an outside source may be required and would then be filed under the employee's health insurance plan.

To access this program, go to [www.mygroup.com](http://www.mygroup.com). Click on "My Portal Login" as shown below.



Then, click on "Employee" for basic information about how the EAP works and how to set up an appointment.



### WORK-LIFE SERVICES

The Employee Assistance Program also offers work-life services, which is assistance geared towards helping you balance your life. These services are web-based, telephonic or face-to-face resources.

Agency username and password are required to access the Work-Life Services portal for articles and additional information.

Please contact **Darlene Yost**, benefits manager, at 919-716-3800.

Once logged in, you have the ability to access a variety of information and resources.

### Work-Life resources features:

- More than 11,000 articles,
- Links to monthly webinars,
- Will generator,
- Relocation Center,
- Savings Center and
- Online training.

*Work-Life resources also provides searchable databases for:*

- Childcare,
- Eldercare,
- Summer Camps,
- Adoption Agencies,
- Education,
- Pets and
- Volunteer Services.

The website can also be viewed entirely in Spanish. To access the Spanish website, go to the top of the screen, click the drop down menu "Choose Country-Language," and select "E.E.U.U. Español."



As a state employee, these resources are available to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by calling 888-298-3907 or 704-717-5295 as well as the website at [www.mygroup.com](http://www.mygroup.com).

# Severe Weather: Are You Prepared?

By Clyde Roper, Communications Officer

Governor Roy Cooper proclaimed March 5-11 Severe Weather Preparedness Week in North Carolina. It's routine for the first full week in March to be so designated. However, this year the week's observance was marked by a heightened sense of importance for many after Hurricane Matthew and other recent severe weather events demonstrated Mother Nature's power.

"Of course, we always take severe weather preparedness seriously because we want to remind everyone to get ready and make a plan before storms strike," said Mike Sprayberry, director of N.C. Emergency Management (NCEM).

"With thousands of families still recovering from Hurricane Matthew last fall, and still being in recovery mode even now, dealing with the aftereffects of that disaster, we're very mindful of why we work so hard to prepare for these events and to get our fellow North Carolinians to do the same," Sprayberry said.

North Carolina has been no stranger to severe weather in recent months. In 2016, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued 61 tornado warnings for the state and recorded 16 tornadoes, up from the previous year's totals of 25 tornado warnings and nine tornadoes. There were 121 flash flood warnings issued last year and 121 incidents of flash flooding—many associated with Hurricane Matthew. In addition, the NWS issued 697 severe thunderstorm warnings, and recorded 827 incidents of severe thunderstorms with damaging winds and/or large hail. Numerous severe storms, flash flooding, tornadoes and hurricanes caused severe damage and loss of life last year.

"March, April and May are the busiest months of the year for severe thunderstorms with damaging winds, large hail, tornadoes, lightning and

flash floods," said Nick Petro, a warning coordinator meteorologist with the NWS in Raleigh.

"With the severe weather season upon us, now is the time to review your severe weather readiness and safety plans, which should include information about where to seek shelter in your home, business and school. Remember, the safest place to seek shelter during high winds and tornadoes is away from windows in a basement, or the lowest floor in an interior room, such as an interior closet, bathroom or hallway," said Petro.

## Making a plan

A big part of Severe Weather Preparedness Week was urging residents to make or review and update their family emergency plan.

An emergency plan should include how everyone will contact each other, where to go, how you will get back together and what to do in different situations. A good place to begin is [ReadyNC.org](http://ReadyNC.org), a preparedness and recovery resource website managed by NCEM.

North Carolina emergency officials urge residents to get the free ReadyNC mobile app, which provides real-time traffic and weather information, plus information about opened shelters, river flood levels and basic instructions on how to develop an emergency preparedness plan. The [ReadyNC.org](http://ReadyNC.org) website also provides information to help people prepare for severe weather and tornadoes, including



how to make an emergency supplies kit and what to do during and after severe storms.

Make sure your emergency plan also includes plans for places where your family spends time, such as work, school and daycare.

"After you write down your emergency plan, talk to everyone in your home about it and practice it at least once a year," Sprayberry said. "Make sure your loved ones know where to go when severe weather strikes. Having a plan and following it can save their lives."

## Vital Safety Tips

Emergency management officials suggest you make sure emergency notifications are turned on if you have a smart phone. If not, it is recommended having a weather radio that broadcasts NWS alerts when severe weather threatens. While tornadoes can touch down at any time during the day or night, many North Carolina tornado fatalities have occurred at night when people are asleep and less likely to receive a warning without a weather radio. Emergency officials urge following these safety tips:

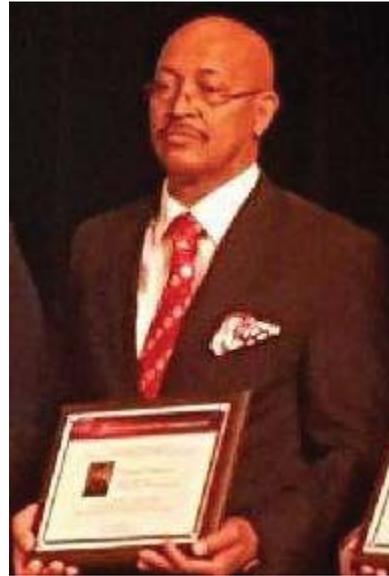
- Know the terms: WATCH means a tornado is possible. WARNING means a tornado has been spotted; take shelter immediately.
- Know where the nearest safe room is: **At home**, go to the basement, interior room, stairwell, bathroom and closet, and stay away from windows. **At work**, go to a basement, stairwell, restroom or, as a last resort, crawl under a desk. **At school**, inside hallways, small closets and bathrooms can be shelter. Mobile classrooms, gymnasiums, auditoriums and other rooms with a large expanse of roof are dangerous. In stores, seek shelter against an inside wall. An enclosed hallway or fire exit leading away from the main mall concourse is a good spot. Stay away from skylights and large open areas.
- If driving, leave your vehicle immediately to seek safety in an adequate structure. Do not try to use the vehicle to outrun a tornado, and do not stop under an overpass or a bridge.
- If outdoors and no shelter available, take cover in a low-lying flat area. Watch out for flying debris.
- After a storm, wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves and gloves when walking on or near debris, and be aware of exposed nails, broken glass, damaged power and gas lines and electrical systems that may cause fires, electrocution or explosions.

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# Tell Me Something Good!

## Odom CI Retiree Honored at Black History Event

Raymond Vaughan was recognized as one of the recipients of the 10th Annual 2017 Black History Month, Local African American Heroes Award at Halifax Community College on Feb. 21. Vaughan retired from Odom Correctional Institution as a sergeant in 2003. He now serves as treasurer for Odom CI's Community Resource Council.



## Apex Pharmacy Celebrates Black History Month with Ethnic Cuisine

In observance of Black History Month, the DPS Central Pharmacy in Apex recognized black medical professionals and scientists for their great accomplishments. It concluded the celebration with a delicious cuisine of prepared ethnic dishes from the event's organizers on Feb. 28.



## Pamlico CI Makes History at New Bern's First Black History Parade



Four Pamlico Correctional Institution staff members participated in New Bern's first Black History Parade on Feb. 25. Pictured are: Faye Daniels, facility superintendent III; William Stires (driver), captain; Lauren Harrell, assistant superintendent of programs; and Barney Owens, assistant superintendent.



## Eight Graduate from the RCDD Training Program



The Office of Staff Development and Training congratulate the following employees on completing the RCDD Instructor Training Program, which ended March 3. This program provides specialized certifications to instruct personnel within the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice in the restraints, controls and defensive techniques training program. Pictured above (front row, left to right): Charles Vandiford, LaFrance Davis, Felicia Clark, Francesca Lattie; (back row, left to right): Jason Fowler, Wallace Koonce, James Stanton, Tiffany Faircloth.

Congratulations to BCO Classes 6, 7 and 8!



Twenty-two participants graduated the Basic Correctional Officer Class 6 held at Samarcand Academy Feb. 17. Pictured are (front row, kneeling from left to right): Samuel Martinez, Christopher Felts, Randy Morton, Leslie King, Carrie Barrino, Megan Young, Yolanda Norton, Correctional Case Manager Tiffany Smith, Graceann Hall, Cody Pete. Back row from left to right: Angela Carrington, Shyheim Ledbetter, Douglas Ferrell, Trevor Durham, Morgan King, Jerry McClarin, Tarus Cunningham, Daniel Denton, Reginald Allen, Robert Ahlers, Benjamin Asp, Bradley McCoy.



Nineteen participants graduated the Basic Correctional Officer Class 7 held at Samarcand Academy Feb. 24. Pictured are (standing left to right): Joshua Smith, Juston Ward, Jordan Hendricks, Jonathan Wiedrich, Gary Bowens, Julian Crump, Charles Terrell, Jordan Miller, Kevin Fowler, David Sequira, Anthony Morris; (kneeling from left to right): Tiffany Scott, Latasha Clark, Chanaqua Robinson, Ebony Nixon, Shayla Roberson, LaTisha Burns, Jessica Woods, Latorra Diggs.



Nine participants graduated the Basic Correctional Officer Class 8 held at Samarcand Academy March 3. Pictured are (first row, left to right): Ernesha White, Charymar Santana, Kennethra Price, Savior Jones; (second row from left to right): Brantley Cox, Tyquan Crews, Jose Cruz, Yolanda Crowder, Michelle Williams and Training Coordinator Joe Cagle.

Tell Me Something Good!

# Tell Me Something Good!



## Reading Across America

Celebrating the 16th annual National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America Day, the State Highway Patrol troopers in the Wake County area read books written by Dr. Seuss to students who attend the East Garner Elementary School in Garner on March 2 and 3. NEA's Read Across America Day, which celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday and the joys of reading, expected more than 45 million readers, both young and old, to pick up a book and read. Trooper L. Alvarado, Jr. reads to a class in the far left photograph while First Sgt. J.A. Memory IV shares his love of reading in the inset photograph.



## Congratulations BCO #11!



Eighteen participants recently graduated the Basic Correctional Officer Class 6 held at Samarcand Academy March 10. Pictured are (kneeling from left to right) (front row): Amanda Leppert, Candice Heath, Charles Cornwell, Doretha Morant, Clara Bailey, Angelette Johnson, Pedro Lopez, Benee Langford; (standing): Derek Oxendine, Latoya Smith, Quinton Bell, Jeremy Leary, Erik Singletary, George Shelton, John Batterson, Amy Paleno, Tassie Sykes, Charles Norris.

## A Forever Dog

One family appreciates the work and training that the New Leash on Life program at Caledonia Correctional Institution provides to service dogs.

The Crisafulli family wrote about Lucy (left), who became a member of their family in August 2015. They decided Lucy was a good fit for their home and described her as obedient yet very loving and tries always to please.

"The training she received before coming to us allowed Lucy to mesh quickly into our family," Larry and Daphene Crisafulli said. "My 85-year-old mother recently came to live in our household. On two occasions, Lucy made us aware that my mother was in distress. My mother, thankfully, was saved from a fall in one instance. We are truly appreciative for the time, effort and care invested in Lucy while she was there."



## SHP Puts the BRAKES on Reckless Teen Driving

By Laura Leonard, Editor/Communications Specialist

The State Highway Patrol partnered with a teen driving program called B.R.A.K.E.S., which stands for Be Responsible And Keep Everyone Safe, to target North Carolina's highest at-risk group: inexperienced teen drivers.

For the past three years, the Patrol has hosted BRAKES training events at its driving facility in Raleigh, which is the same track used to train troopers. Some troopers speak to the teen drivers, discussing the Move Over law and what to do if stopped by a law enforcement officer.

Training events were held in Raleigh (February) and Concord (March) with future events planned for June.

Across the nation each year, more than 32,000 people are killed in car crashes, with more than 5,000 of them being teenagers. That's almost 90 people a day that die on America's highways. In 2016, Patrol troopers investigated more than 57,000 vehicle collisions involving drivers and passengers who were between the ages of 15 and 19 years old. As a result of those collisions, 10,744 teens were injured and 118 were killed.

These numbers concerned the Patrol and BRAKES founder Doug Herbert. That's why the SHP partnered with BRAKES to make a difference and one day have zero traffic fatalities.

Dr. Paul Friday, professor at UNC-Charlotte, has published Part I of a series of reports on the program's effectiveness. No BRAKES participant has been involved in a fatal crash. Of the nearly 5,000 teens that are killed in traffic crashes in the United States, none of them had participated in BRAKES. At age 22, 10 percent of state drivers had a crash in 2014 compared to zero for BRAKES participants.

It is because of these results that, earlier this year, the Governors Highway Safety Association honored BRAKES by presenting it with the Peter O'Rourke Special Achievement Award for outstanding highway safety accomplishments. It was noted in the award presentation that BRAKES trained over 3,200 teens in 2014 and more than 15,000 teens since its inception, and it's all free.

This is not just a local program; this is a complex operation that travels all over the country and requires a dedicated group of staff and volunteers to make it happen.



Tell Me Something Good!

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## On The Scene...

is an online news magazine published monthly for and about employees of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. If you have questions, ideas or content to submit, please call Laura J. Leonard at 919-436-3142 or by email at [Laura.Leonard@ncdps.gov](mailto:Laura.Leonard@ncdps.gov).

## Correction Enterprises Offers Classes for Inmates to Learn to be Entrepreneurs After Release

In 2015 Dr. Anthony O. Vann, director of support services in North Carolina Correction Enterprises (NCCE), introduced an interview/resume writing skills class to the growing number of soft skill programs offered by NCCE to its inmate workers. This helps offenders learn to articulate the skills they have learned while incarcerated.

The organization realizes the importance of making sure that former offenders find a job within 90 days of release, and its main mission to ensure offenders are equipped with every tool necessary.

With this in mind, NCCE constantly researches and works to discover every possible avenue to help offenders become successful upon reentry.

Through a partnership with Sageworks Corporation, NCCE now hosts the "Inmates to Entrepreneurs" seminar, which is a community outreach organization that focuses on teaching ex-offenders to start low capital businesses.

The classes have been taught by the co-founder of Sageworks, Brian Hamilton, who is an expert on privately held companies. He is the original architect of an artificial intelligence technology platform that is used by thousands of financial institutions and accounting firms across North America for analyzing private companies.

"We are very excited about this partnership," Vann said. "To have someone of this caliber come in train our inmates is definitely a step in the right direction. More than 40 of our inmate workers, including those from the Apex Warehouse and the Sign Reclaiming Center in Carthage, attended the certificate-based seminar in February. We look forward to reaching all of our inmate workers at our minimal custody units within a year of their release. The next classes will be held at our Chase Laundry and Umstead Laundry locations. Providing as many options as possible is the name of the game!"



## Maj. Bailey Receives National Recognition

Maj. Christopher Bailey, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) in the Division of Emergency Management, Training and Exercise program, was awarded a commemorative brick at the North Carolina Wing Annual conference on Feb. 4 at the JB Duke Hotel in Durham. This commemorative brick will be placed in CAP National Headquarters Heritage Park, located at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, as a tribute to the contributions to the CAP member who made a significant contribution to the mission and organization.

Bailey serves as a volunteer with the N.C. Wing Civil Air Patrol as its director of operations.

Over the past year, he has worked diligently with the National Headquarters Finance Committee to implement the Shell program to help take the financial burden off of members by using corporate credit cards

The Shell program places fuel credit cards in each aircraft, which alleviates members having to pay out-of-pocket for aircraft fuel. Pilots then seek reimbursement from national headquarters, which could take up to one week to process. This program is eliminating more than \$3 million in reimbursements. Bailey also assisted in developing the system to track and audit how these credit card purchases. With the use of these credit cards, pilots can perform missions without tying up their personal funds waiting on the reimbursement process.

Susan Easter, chief financial officer for the CAP headquarters, said "I cannot tell you how much we appreciate all of the work Chris Bailey did to ensure that the Shell program was implemented in a way that assured the program would be successful for all of the members."

Civil Air Patrol, the longtime all-volunteer U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, is the newest member of the Air Force's Total Force. The USAF Total Force consists of regular Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and CAP, which operates a fleet of 550 aircraft and performs about 90 percent of continental United States' inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC.) CAP is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 78 lives annually.



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## Honor students

Earning honor student status during recent basic correctional officer training was **Rickie Brown II** (Alexander CI) and **Joshua Greenwood** (Orange CI).

## DPS Badge of Excellence Nominations Due April 17!

Do you know someone who implements ideas that improve individual or work unit processes? Do you have a coworker who identifies ways to make services easier for customers to access? Has someone you work with demonstrated outstanding judgment or courage in an emergency?

These are a **few** of the qualities of an Badge of Excellence nominee. If you know someone who fits this criteria, then you know someone who should be nominated for the department's Badge of Excellence!

The nomination process is open. Deadline for nominations is **April 17!**

Be sure to provide a detailed description of how the person you are nominating has gone above and beyond the call duty in his or her job. The more descriptive...the better!

Nominate a well-deserving coworker [online!](#)

Got questions? Call Margaret Ekam at 919-733-5027.



Tell Me Something Good!

### Congratulations to BCO Class 14!



Twenty participants recently graduated the Basic Correctional Officer Class 14 held at Samarcand Academy March 17. Pictured are (front row, kneeling left to right): Savannah Elliott, Julia Gobble, Charity Baker, Cynthia Campbell, Case Manager Briana Suttles, Temica Crume, Karen Baers, Denise Greco, Mark Harris, Arryn Tyler; (back row, standing from left to right): Jake Hambrick, Joseph Ollis, Tyler McKinney, Chad McHone, Jonathon Faulkner, Mark Bensley, Adam Rector, Andrew DeVinney, Pedro Felix, Jonathan Williams.

### What an Accomplishment!



The State Employees Combined Campaign (SECC) recognized **Maury Correctional Institution** for its 82 percent participation rate during the March 8 Prison Region Directors Meeting in Raleigh. Pictured above (left to right) are: Deputy Director of Operations **Kenneth Lassiter**, who is holding the glass trophy for last year's Secretary's Cup golf tournament fundraiser; Coastal Region Director **Annie Harvey**, who received an award for Maury, Bertie and Craven CI's fundraising efforts to help employees affected by Hurricane Matthew; Maury Administrator **Dennis Daniels**, who accepted the Secretary's Choice Award from SECC for Maury CI's fundraising efforts; and Deputy Director of Auxiliary Services **Carlton Joyner**.

# PROMOTIONS

## In February 2017

**Karen Allen**, sergeant I, Davidson Correctional Institution  
**Aundra Alston**, sergeant III, Central Prison  
**Carl Alvis**, business and technology applications specialist, Information Technology  
**William Applewhite**, housing unit manager I, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Leticia Atkinson**, professional nurse, Johnston Correctional Institution  
**Allen Avery**, youth counselor associate, Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center  
**Kimberly Babson**, licensed practical nurse, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Debra Ballance**, medical records assistant IV, Pamlico Correctional Institution  
**Jon Barnett**, work against correctional officer III, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Carmen Basil**, substance abuse counselor Advanced, Alcohol and Chemical Dependency  
**Tericka Beard**, correctional officer III, Scotland Correctional Institution  
**Randy Bennett**, maintenance mechanic IV, Facility Management  
**Joshua Blackburn**, sergeant II, Mountainview Correctional Institution  
**Ronnie Booth**, work against correctional officer III, Central Prison  
**Jasmine Boyd**, correctional officer III, Central Prison  
**Joshua Bradshaw**, food service supervisor III, Foothills Correctional Institution  
**Karen Buie**, chief probation and parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 10  
**Kevin Buster**, community development specialist I, Governor's Crime Commission  
**Jeanette Camel**, substance abuse counselor advanced, Alcohol and Chemical Dependency  
**Sharon Carroll**, personnel assistant V, Human Resources Eastern Regional Office  
**Angela Carswell**, administrative officer I, Burke Confinement in Response to Violation  
**Barbara Clark**, administrative assistant II, Avery Mitchell Correctional Institution  
**Justin Combs**, work against correctional officer III, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Angela Conyers**, administrative assistant II, Purchasing and Logistics  
**Michael Cooper**, chief probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 18  
**Clarence Corbett**, case manager, Lumberton Correctional Institution  
**Phillip Cox**, plant maintenance supervisor I, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**John Craft**, chief probation and parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 7  
**Teresa Creech**, administrative officer III, Office of the Secretary  
**Angela David**, public safety telecommunicator supervisor, State Highway Patrol  
**Regina Davis Lennon**, correctional officer III, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Kyle Davis**, sergeant III, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Tyler Dellinger**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 24  
**Amelia Douglas**, sergeant III, Central Prison  
**De Brian Everett**, correctional officer, Bertie Correctional Institution  
**Gregory Faines**, sergeant III, Central Prison  
**Tiesha Farmer**, social worker III, Chatham Youth Development Center  
**Pedro Felix**, sergeant III, Foothills Correctional Institution  
**Pamela Gilliard**, housing unit manager II, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Angela Golding**, judicial services coordinator, Community Corrections Judicial District 17  
**Sharon Grantham**, behavioral specialist II, Maury Correctional Institution  
**David Dana**, youth counselor, Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center  
**Wendy Hardy**, asst superintendent III, Polk Correctional Institution

**Geornesha Harris**, juvenile court counselor, Court Services Eastern District 7  
**Alex Hatcher**, technology support analyst, Information Technology  
**Rosland Holden**, chief probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 10  
**Eshimon Holley**, correctional officer III, Pasquotank Correctional Institution  
**Nadine Housen Wong**, psychological program manager, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Glenda Jackson**, programs supervisor, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Craig Jacobs**, sergeant I, Forsyth Correctional Institution  
**Daphne Mark**, food service officer III, Foothills Correctional Institution  
**Jonathan Mark**, correctional officer III, Foothills Correctional Institution  
**Karen Johnson**, housing unit manager I, Warren Correctional Institution  
**Kesha Johnson**, behavioral specialist II, Maury Correctional Institution  
**Cheryl Kaufman**, professional nurse, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Aaron Krahn**, probation/parole associate, Community Corrections Judicial District 15  
**Jeremy Laton**, maintenance mechanic V, Piedmont Correctional Institution  
**Tonya Lee**, sergeant III, Maury Correctional Institution  
**Lauren Little**, judicial services coordinator, Community Corrections Judicial District 10  
**Bethanie Locklear**, correctional officer III, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Lucinda Locklear**, correctional officer III, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Jeffrey Long**, chief probation and parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 18  
**Debra Lourcey**, medical records assistant IV, Foothills Correctional Institution  
**George Lunsford**, asst superintendent for programs I, Caswell Correctional Center  
**Jill Margiolas**, personnel assistant V, Human Resources Raleigh Regional Office  
**Randy Markham**, lieutenant I, Hoke Correctional Institution  
**Christopher Mauldin**, sergeant II, Southern Correctional Institution  
**Glenn McNeill**, commander, State Highway Patrol  
**Charlene Miller**, processing assistant IV, Community Corrections Judicial District 18  
**Jason Mills**, correctional officer II, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Nakia Montague**, sergeant III, Central Prison  
**Ashley Moore**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 3  
**Emily Morris**, probation/parole field specialist, Community Corrections Judicial District 22  
**Curtis Murray**, correctional officer III, Maury Correctional Institution  
**Frederick O'Neal**, asst superintendent III, North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women  
**Rickie Page**, correctional officer III, Tabor Correctional Institution  
**Daniel Police**, telecommunications shift supervisor, State Highway Patrol Troop H  
**Pamela Pratt**, probation/parole field specialist, Community Corrections Judicial District 18  
**Anna Reid**, housing unit manager I, Warren Correctional Institution  
**Tara Richardson**, judicial district manager I, Community Corrections Judicial District 20  
**Melissa Roberts**, criminal justice planner I, State Highway Patrol  
**Nelson Roman**, chief probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 10  
**Michael Rowell**, planner, Emergency Management Operations Planning  
**Eric Satchell**, juvenile court counselor, Court Services Central District 15  
**Freddrick Sidberry**, youth counselor technician, Cabarrus Detention Center  
**Stacy Smallwood**, processing assistant III, Bertie Correctional Institution

# PROMOTIONS

**James Sponsler**, sergeant I, North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women  
**Lance Stewart**, correctional officer III, Central Prison  
**Erwin Sugg**, correction enterprise supervisor IV, Correction Enterprise  
**John Swinnie**, lieutenant II, Morrison Correctional Institution  
**Christopher Tenbroek**, housing unit manager II, Central Prison  
**Richard Terrell**, sergeant II, Caswell Correctional Center  
**Ralph Thorington**, correctional officer II, Pender Correctional Institution  
**Mitchell Treadaway**, sergeant I, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**George Tucker**, public safety supervisor, State Highway Patrol

**James Vaughn**, applications analyst, State Highway Patrol  
**Charles Ward**, deputy commander, State Highway Patrol  
**Jamaar Watson**, correctional officer III, Bertie Correctional Institution  
**Dena West**, nurse supervisor, Lanesboro Correctional Institution  
**Bryan White**, sergeant III, Pasquotank Correctional Institution  
**Laquella Wilder Shaw**, housing unit manager I, Maury Correctional Institution  
**Ashley Willis**, case manager, Swannonoa Correctional Institution  
**Cynthia Woodard**, juvenile court counselor, Court Services Eastern District 8  
**Whitney Woods**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 16

# RETIREMENTS

*Name, job title, location, length of service (y=years, m=months)*

**Walter Allred**, correctional officer II, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 8y/9m  
**David Brooks**, mechanic supervisor, State Highway Patrol, 30y/0m  
**Halford Brown**, correctional officer I, Sanford Correctional Institution, 19y/9m  
**Alonzo Clark**, correctional officer II, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 21y/2m  
**Billy Clayton**, deputy commander, State Highway Patrol, 27y/6m  
**Michael Coakley**, correctional officer II, Pender Correctional Institution, 13y/7m  
**Sarah Conner**, criminal justice specialist/invest II, DPS Private Protect Services Field, 23y/10m  
**Alfred Craven**, trooper, State Highway Patrol Troop E, 19y/8m  
**Penny Evans**, administrative officer III, Correction Enterprise, 20y/1m  
**Michael Evitt**, correctional officer III, Foothills Correctional Institution, 25y/0m  
**Wayne Farmer**, programs supervisor, Odom Correctional Institution, 14y/6m  
**Curtis Fisher**, sergeant II, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 29y/3m  
**Stanley Gales**, facility maintenance supervisor IV, Polk Correctional Institution, 28y/11m  
**Carol Green**, food service supervisor III, Pasquotank Correctional Institution, 18y/5m  
**William Grey**, commander, State Highway Patrol, 25y/11m  
**Jacqueline Harvey**, case manager, Hyde Correctional Institution, 20y/9m  
**Mark Higgins**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 30, 27y/3m  
**Jennette Horn**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections Judicial District 8, 19y/5m  
**Phillip Huffman**, correctional officer II, Craven Correctional Institution, 11y/10m  
**Thomas Hunsinger**, network tech, State Highway Patrol, 28y/0m  
**Edward Jones**, plumber II, Warren Correctional Institution, 6y/10m  
**Michael Kondrosky**, food service manager II, Harnett Correctional Institution, 20y/7m  
**Robert Lawhon**, correction enterprise supervisor I, Correction Enterprise, 26y/0m  
**William Laws**, sergeant I, Marion Correctional Institution, 28y/4m  
**James Lynch**, correctional officer I, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 28y/3m  
**Mirza Ortiz**, office assistant IV, Wake Correctional Institution, 11y/3m  
**Paul Poole**, correction enterprise supervisor III, Correction Enterprise, 16y/3m  
**Marty Randall**, network specialist, State Highway Patrol, 26y/1m  
**Gerald Riddle**, maintenance mechanic IV, Mountain View Correctional Institution, 5y/8m

**David Rouse**, sergeant II, Maury Correctional Institution, 27y/8m  
**Doris Sayles**, asst superintendent III, North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, 43y/0m  
**Clifford Shaw**, housing unit manager II, Pasquotank Correctional Institution, 29y/4m  
**Terrance Shaw**, trooper, State Highway Patrol Troop E, 28y/3m  
**Renee Sigmon**, sergeant I, Alexander Correctional Institution, 13y/4m  
**Elsie Stokes**, sergeant I, Odom Correctional Institution, 14y/1m  
**Paul Taylor**, asst superintendent for programs II, Scotland Correctional Institution, 28y/7m  
**Joretta Thomas**, sergeant II, Mountain View Correctional Institution, 15y/9m  
**Paula Thompson**, school principal, Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center, 30y/1m  
**Curtis Toler**, sergeant, State Highway Patrol Troop A, 25y/11m  
**Kathy Tullis**, office assistant IV, Community Corrections Judicial District 26, 10y/2m  
**Clifford Walter**, sergeant, State Highway Patrol Troop E, 27y/9m  
**Dikki Wells**, correctional officer II, Pender Correctional Institution, 10y/10m  
**Robert West**, lieutenant colonel, State Highway Patrol, 29y/4m  
**Keith Whitener**, assistant superintendent, Prisons Administration, 29y/2m  
**Dinah Williams**, correctional officer II, Warren Correctional Institution, 27y/9m  
**Donald Winningham**, driver, State Highway Patrol, 20y/4m  
**Brenda Womack**, medical records assistant III, Hoke Correctional Institution, 28y/9m

# PASSINGS

*Name, job title, location, length of service (y=years, m=months)*

**Larry Whittenburg**, Lieutenant I, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 18y/7m