



The CCPS All-Points Bulletin

Mission: To reduce crime, enhance public safety and assist victims throughout North Carolina.

March 2008

Message from the Secretary

The new BEACON system starts April 1st. Beginning in April, you can find your payroll information on-line, so there will be no more paper pay stubs. You also will be able to update your personal information such as change of address, marital status, number of dependents and insurance providers any time you like.



As more and more of us have become proficient with Internet and on-line access to pay bills, order supplies and fill out time sheets, BEACON is the next natural step towards making state government more efficient.



Employees working in the department's human resources and fiscal sections, as well as representatives from each division, have worked hard to make this transition as smooth as possible. Enormous volumes of data had to be keyed into the new BEACON system, and that took a lot of hard work by a number of dedicated individuals. I'd like to thank each of them for their tremendous work and diligence.

With any new system, there will probably be some glitches. Please be patient as we all adjust to this new learning curve. In the end, we will probably wonder how we could've ever managed without this system.

Bryan Beatty

The Secretary's Gold Circle Award



Julia Jarema received the Secretary's Gold Circle Award March 20th for "her outstanding job performance in developing and implementing a comprehensive statewide strategy to raise public awareness of the need for all citizens to reduce water use to mitigate the consequences to the 2007-2008 drought in North Carolina."



IRS Recognizes Chris Poole and Jason Locklear for ALE's Help in Video Poker Investigation

LEXINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service recognized two Alcohol Law Enforcement agents for their help in a major video poker investigation in 2006 that resulted in numerous arrests, confiscation of 700 video poker machines and \$30 million in cash and property.

The Criminal Investigation division of the IRS honored ALE Assistant Supervisor **Jason Locklear** and ALE Agent **Chris Poole** (shown left to right) Monday, March 10th at the Bob Timberlake Gallery.



“This may be the largest asset-forfeiture case in state history,” said Alan Fields, district supervisor of the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division's Greensboro Office. “I commend each of these agents for their efforts.

HR Gets Flex Award

Congratulations to the staff in the CCPS Benefits & Safety Office for winning first place at the annual North Carolina State Benefits Conference, which was held in Atlantic Beach, March 3-4.



CCPS won the first place award for having the highest increase (10.59%) of new enrollments for the 2008 NC Flex Benefits Plan. State agencies are placed into categories based upon their size, and CCPS won the award for agencies that employ between 1,000-5,000 employees.

Steven Lockhart, CCPS's benefits and safety officer, said that employees should consider the NC Flex products and take advantage of pre-tax savings. The annual enrollment period for all NC Flex products is each October.

*(Photo from left to right, **Gayle Stephenson**, First Sgt. **Steven Lockhart**, HR Director **Dan Domico**, Sgt. **Georgia Warren**)*

Congratulations!



The following employees were promoted:

Emergency Management: **Joyce Holley**, Program Asst. V.

NC National Guard: **Laura Sprayberry**, Adm. Asst. II.

State Highway Patrol: **Joseph Allison**, Networking Analyst;

Charlene Branch, Cook Supervisor II; **Gerard Bianco**, Auto Body Shop Supervisor;
David Hoggard, Networking Technician.

The following employees celebrate significant service milestones in their state careers:

25 years

Administration: **Janice Turner**

20 years

State Highway Patrol: Master Trooper **Buren Wright**

National Guard: **Robert Williams**



Comings and Goings



Welcome to our new employees:

Butner Public Safety: Public Safety Officers **David Aldridge**, **Steven Boraski**, **Teddy Burnette**, **Mark Ratliff** and **Talaya Vaughn**;; Police Telecommunicator **Robert Rudd**.

Emergency Management: **Douglas Remer**, Training Specialist;

NC National Guard: **Anna Behringer**, Processing Asst. IV.

State Highway Patrol: **Ralph Bartlett**, Networking Technician; **Scott McCormick**, Technology Support Tech.

Best wishes to our recent retirees:

State Highway Patrol: First Sergeant **Louis High**, Master Troopers **James Davis** and **Gibson Clements**.

NC National Guard Loses Two Soldiers in Iraq



Sgt. Thomas Ray



Sgt. David Williams

Two NC Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to the 1132 Military Police Company of the NC Army National Guard were killed near Baghdad Iraq on Sat., March 22. The 1132 Military Police Company is headquartered in Rocky Mount.

Sgt. Thomas C. Ray, 40, of Weaverville and Sgt. David Williams, 26, of Tarboro were killed when their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device while on patrol.

"All of the Guard is saddened by the loss of Sgt. Ray and Sgt. Williams and our thoughts and prayers are with their families," said Maj. Gen. William E. Ingram, Jr., adjutant general of the NC National Guard. "The NC National Guard will continue to serve with distinction wherever we are needed."

Sgt. Thomas C. Ray

NC National Guardsman and Navy veteran, Sgt. Thomas C. Ray, was assigned to the 105th Military Police Battalion in Asheville and volunteered to join the 1132nd on their deployment to Iraq.

In his Military Police training course he was recognized as "Exceeding Course Standards" and "demonstrated outstanding contributions to group work."

Ray is survived by his mother, Ozelle M. Ray, and his wife Linda Kay, and daughter Sydney Paige. With deployment to Iraq, his wife said he went hoping to make a difference.

Sgt. David Williams

NC National Guardsman and two time Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran, Sgt. David B. Williams (Blake) served in the Rocky Mount Headquartered, 1132nd Military Police Company.

Blake is survived by his mother, Ms. Susan L. Williams, and sister, Mary Beth Williams and he had lived in Tarboro since 1988.

Ms. Williams remembers that the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd prompted Blake to join the National Guard. "He wanted to help," she said. "He felt like he had a calling to serve." Other family members said, "He loved what he did."

BEACON HR/Payroll System Offers Multiple Direct Deposit Accounts



When the BEACON HR/Payroll system goes live April 1st, you will have the option, through the Employee Self Service (ESS) function, to deposit your pay into as many as four different financial institution accounts.

To make this feature as user-friendly as possible, you will only need to know your account number when setting up additional accounts. The system provides a list of financial institutions that you will choose from to automatically identify that institution's routing number. However, if you do know your routing number, you will be able to enter it as well. Once you have opened an account, you will have the ability through ESS to designate a set amount or percentage of your pay to be distributed to that account.

For example, you can decide to deposit \$150 per month into one of your secondary accounts, while the remainder of the balance will automatically be deposited into your primary account.

It is important to note that you should set up an account with a financial institution prior to attempting to divert funds. If you are not using ESS you will be able to set up these accounts by filling out and submitting the appropriate paperwork to your agency human resources department or directly to a BEST (BEACON Enterprise Support Team) Shared Services agent. You may obtain the necessary forms from your human resources department or from the BEST website at www.ncosc.net/best.

For more information about the BEACON HR/Payroll Project, please visit www.beacon.nc.gov or email the BEACON Project Team at BEACON@ncosc.net.

The new BEACON system will be live on April 1. Remember to authenticate your NCID.

After April 1st, review your information displayed in BEACON to make sure it is correct. Leave balances will not be updated until a later date.

BEACON is an acronym for – Building Enterprise Access for North Carolina's Core Operation Needs

Designed to transform the way the state conducts business by modernizing and standardizing key business processes.

Helicopter Team Rescues Rock Climber in Mountains



RALEIGH - Members of the N.C. National Guard and the NC Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team lifted an injured rock climber out of a deep ravine of the Pisgah Mountains in Jackson County Sunday afternoon, March 9.

Christopher Wilcox, 35, of Tuckasegee, fell 50 feet in a 450-foot ravine, breaking his leg in multiple places. Local Emergency Services personnel were called to the Canada Area of Jackson County, north of Big Pisgah Mountain and the Jackson - Transylvania County line.

Jackson County Emergency Management Coordinator Todd Dillard contacted the N.C. Division of Emergency Management to request help from NCHART, the rescue helicopter team. The rescuers helped medical personnel secure Wilcox, and he was then hoisted into the aircraft and taken to a waiting ambulance.

“NCHART is a highly specialized rescue team,” said Doug Hoell, director of the Division of Emergency Management. “I applaud them for this and other courageous rescues like the ones during hurricanes Frances and Ivan.”

NCHART is a mission-ready package comprised of members of the NC Emergency Management Division, local emergency services volunteers from around the state and the NC National Guard. The Guard supplies the UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, the hoist and rescue equipment and the radios that provide communications to emergency services ground personnel on any State Emergency Communications channel.



Employee Spotlight



Margaret Murga, personnel analyst for the CCPS Human Resources division, has been working on the state's new BEACON project for more than a year. She's been gathering information, determining who will have access to the new HR and payroll system, and entering data.

Information that needed to be added to BEACON, had to be first entered into the Personnel Management Information System (PMIS) to ensure a successful conversion of data the system scheduled to go live on April 1st.

"We do a lot of processing in HR because we get new hires, people who transfer, salary adjustments and benefit changes," Murga said. "BEACON will give employees access and control over their own information."

In 1994, Murga graduated from the University of Maryland, University College, with a BS in Information Systems Management. She is now taking classes on-line to get her masters in Human Resource Management from the same school. She hopes to graduate in 2009.

Murga worked in the HR department for Magellan Health in Columbia, Maryland, then started working for the American Federation of Teachers in Washington D.C. as a help desk analyst and as an HR recruiter. "I wound up going back into HR and I liked that better than IT," Murga said.

Born in Washington D.C., Murga's parents had moved from North Carolina in the 1950's. Her father worked for Walter Reed Army Hospital for thirty years, before retiring to the tiny town of Hollister in Halifax County. Murga and her husband, Alex, liked North Carolina and purchased 18 acres of land next to her parent's property. They and their youngest son, Nicholas, moved to North Carolina in 2005. Their elder son, Esau, 25, lives in Maryland.

Murga and her husband love to garden and have already planted 80 trees as well as many shrubs, bulbs and perennials. Her husband designated a spot for Murga's flower-cutting garden.

"I was going through the Master Gardener program in Halifax County before I took this job," Murga said.

The commute from Hollister to Raleigh takes more than an hour, but Murga enjoys her work. "I work with a lot of good people," Murga said.

When she's not working on BEACON, she analyzes job descriptions and conducts desk audits, determining final job classification levels. She also oversees the training of new supervisors and other projects as they come along.

"She's easy going, always willing to help and answer questions," said Chariss Jones, a fellow personnel analyst. "We make sure we have one good laugh a day to keep things in perspective. She's an awesome person."

Murga is a member of the Haliwa Saponi Indian Tribe. Members of the tribe are concentrated in Halifax and Warren counties, and their annual Pow-Wow is always the third week in April in Hollister.

Murga enjoys collecting Native American artwork from different tribes. Last week, Murga entered one of her flower pictures in the Indian Unity Art Contest last week. The yellow and orange flower she photographed below is a gaillardia, also known as Indian Blanket.

"North Carolina is definitely slower paced, but I would rather look out and see trees and flowers than town houses," Murga said. "I like that in North Carolina you can go to the beach and to the mountains. There is so much to see and do, even though I never get out of Hollister," Murga laughed.



The *All-Points Bulletin* is your newsletter! If you have information you would like included, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 919-733-5027 or send e-mail to pmcquillan@nccrimecontrol.org before the 15th of each month.