

## From the Commissioner

November was a good month in more ways than one. First, I am humbled to have been re-elected by the voters of North Carolina to continue my service as labor commissioner. What an honor is for me to continue doing what I love, and with the people with whom I love doing it. While we have accomplished a lot over the past 16 years, there is still much more to do. I am excited to have the opportunity to work with all of you to continue our mission of making North Carolina the safest state in which to work.

Based on figures released recently by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, we are well on our way. North Carolina's injury and illness rate dropped from 2.7 per 100 full-time workers in 2014 to 2.6 in 2015. This drop to 2.6 set a new record low for our state and places North Carolina as one of 12 states plus the District of Columbia with a rate statistically less than the national average of 3.0.

This decrease equates to thousands of fewer injuries and is a true testament to the work of our safety and health professionals. Keep up the great work!

*Cherie*

Occupational Injury and Illness Rate per 100 Full-time Workers  
North Carolina, Private Sector, Calendar Years 2000 Through 2015



## Employee News

- Congratulations to Shelby Stephenson, Human Resources, for receiving the Richard Caswell Award on Nov. 16. Shelby was one of 10 state government employees with 45 or more years of service to receive the award during a ceremony at the State Capitol.
- Congratulations to Lee McKinney, Consultative Services Bureau, West District, who obtained his CSP (Certified Safety Professional certification) in late September.
- Congratulations to Jerry Wood, safety compliance officer I in District 2, for receiving his MESH (Manager of Environmental, Safety and Health Programs) certificate on Nov. 1. The MESH certificate program is jointly sponsored by NCDOL, N.C. State University Industrial Extension Service, and the Safety and Health Council of North Carolina.
- Congratulations to Deborah Samad, safety compliance officer with the Complaint Desk, for completing the Las Vegas Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon. About three and a half weeks before the event, Deborah's sister Karen suggested she join her, on her birthday, in Las Vegas for



*Shelby Stephenson (right) displays her Caswell Award certificate, accompanied by Human Resources Director Renathe Cotten.*



*Chris Fombin (right), West Compliance, helped his fellow church members from the Knights of Columbus, Saint Mary's Parish, in volunteering at a Special Olympics event in Greensboro in October.*



*Congratulations to Mike Saye, West Compliance, on the birth of his latest grandchild, Salem Elizabeth Lloyd.*

the Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon. Deborah almost dismissed the idea out of hand, but since Karen had knee surgery a couple of months ago, she figured this might be her only chance to keep up with her sister. Deborah found an emergency half marathon training schedule, put on her running shoes and went outside. Also, thinking "bucket list," Deborah had never been to Las Vegas and had always wanted to see Cirque de Soleil's *O*. Deborah also signed up to fundraise for St. Jude's Children's Cancer Research Hospital (donations welcome: <http://heroes.stjude.org/deborahsamad>). Deborah has checked off all her items from her bucket list! The race was hard, but they did it! Click **here** for a photo of Deborah and her sister.

- Our condolences to the friends and family of Don Johnson, who died Nov. 10. Don was a safety compliance officer in District 7 of East Compliance from November 2010 until his death. Please click **here** for his obituary.

## Upcoming Birthdays

12-1 Jackie Haley	12-11 Frank Clements	12-17 Taylor Cambron
12-1 Dorca Araujo	12-13 Eursula Joyner	12-17 Sarah Beth Koonce
12-2 Altagracia Guzman	12-13 DaQuan Holland	12-18 Cristina Almonte-Martinez
12-3 Janie Judd	12-14 Neal O'Briant	12-20 Wanda Smitherman
12-4 Beth Henley	12-14 Brian Peterson	12-21 Cherie Berry
12-6 Phil Hooper	12-14 Donell Sanders	12-23 Lee McKinney
12-6 LaMont Smith	12-14 Jeff Wilson	12-28 Don Kinney
12-6 Anthony Pacitti	12-16 Ulysses Slade	12-30 Judyth Niconienko
12-8 Jackie Spangler	12-16 Donald Kidd	12-31 Dawn Jarman
12-11 Beau Thomas	12-17 John Kirkland	





Western Thanksgiving Social 2016-Nakato



*The Wage and Hour Bureau's Western Area celebrated Thanksgiving in unusual style at Nakato Japanese Restaurant. Top right: Taylor Cambron and Deneen Clarke. Bottom right: LaKisha Cameron, Kisha Holmes, Phil Hooper, Michael Conway and Lori Burns.*

## New Hires

- Scott Mabry, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Occupational Safety and Health, Raleigh
- Joey Godfrey, Elevator Inspector, Wake County
- George Calvery, Safety Officer I, Charlotte
- Gregory Greene, Safety Consultant II, Consultative Services, Raleigh
- Melissa Scally, Safety Standards Officer, ETTA, Raleigh

## Job Changes

- Gary Franks, from IT Manager to IT Director, Raleigh
- Ted Wall, from Elevator Inspector to Senior Inspector, Western Area B
- Jackie Stump, from Processing Assistant IV, ETTA, to Artist Illustrator II, Publications, Raleigh

## Checking State Health Plan Premium Deductions

BY BETH BENSON AND STACEY THOMPSON, HUMAN RESOURCES

Please check your December pay statements in Beacon to make sure you are being correctly deducted for your State Health Plan premiums. The December payroll deduction pays for January's coverage. You may look up your 2017 premium rates [\*here\*](#).

To view your pay statement, click on My Data ESS in Beacon, then click on My Pay. State employees get paid on Dec. 22, 2016.

OSH employees: Please email [Beth.Benson@labor.nc.gov](mailto:Beth.Benson@labor.nc.gov) if your premium deductions are incorrect. Administration and S&I employees: Please email [Stacey.Thompson@labor.nc.gov](mailto:Stacey.Thompson@labor.nc.gov) if your premium deductions are incorrect. Please notify us no later than Jan. 13, 2017, if your State Health Plan premiums are incorrect.

NCFlex 2017 premium deductions will begin in your January pay check.

## State Employees Combined Campaign

### Together We Made a Difference!

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to this year's State Employees Combined Campaign (SECC)! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following campaign coordinators: Standards and Inspections, Charity Locklear; OSH- ORB, Jackie Stump; OSH- East Compliance, Karen Kelly; & OSH- West Compliance and other OSH employees in Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Asheville, Jackie Spangler.



In 2016 for the combined campaign, the generosity of Department of Labor employees and retirees resulted in total contributions of \$7,280. As I have mentioned in my earlier emails, your continued support of the SECC helps to ensure North Carolina charitable services are available to individuals and families in need.

All DOL pledged contributors were entered in a drawing to win either a Fitbit or one of three Yeti Tumblers. Winners have been notified, and congratulations to all four!

Thank you for your generous support of the State Employees Combined Campaign!

—John Luckado

2016 NCDOL SECC Department Executive

## What's New @ Your Library

By Nick Vincelli, Librarian

### New Print Titles

- *Assigned Protection Factors for the Revised Respiratory Protection Standard* (OSHA 3352-02). USDOL-OSHA, 2009. Donated by OSH Administration.
- *Construction Chart Book...* Center for Construction Research and Training, 2013. Donated by OSH Administration
- *The Cultivator* (November 2016). NCDOL-OSH, 2016.
- *National Board Bulletin* (Fall 2016). National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, 2016.
- *Handbook of Compressed Gases* (5th edition). Compressed Gas Association, 2013.
- *Indoor Air Quality in Commercial and Institutional Buildings* (OSHA 3430-04). USDOL-OSHA, 2011. Donated by OSH Administration.
- *Rubber Welding Hose and Hose Connections for Gas Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes* (CGA E-1-2016). Compressed Gas Association, 2016.
- *Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Final Rule for Cranes and Derricks in Construction* (OSHA 3433-06). USDOL-OSHA, 2011. Donated by OSH Administration.

## Online FYIs

- *Honoring Mine Emergency Responders*  
<https://blog.dol.gov/2016/10/27/honoring-mine-emergency-responders/>
- *NIOSH List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings, 2016*  
[http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/antineoplastic/pdf/hazardous-drugs-list\\_2016-161.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/antineoplastic/pdf/hazardous-drugs-list_2016-161.pdf)
- *NIOSH Research Rounds* (November 2016)  
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/Research-Rounds/resroundsv2n5.html>
- *Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs*  
<https://www.osha.gov/shpguidelines/index.html>
- *Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard for Construction* (OSHA 3902)  
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3902.pdf>
- *Top 10 OSHA Citations of 2016*  
<https://blog.dol.gov/2016/10/18/top-10-osha-citations-of-2016-a-starting-point-for-workplace-safety/>
- *Why More People Ages 55+ Are Working*  
<https://blog.dol.gov/2016/11/18/why-more-people-ages-55-are-working/>

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# NCDOL Employees Honoring Military Family Members

The NCDOL Committee to Honor Military Family Members will be sending care packages to NCDOL employees and family members of NCDOL employees who are serving in the military away from home.

## NCDOL Office Contacts:

Asheville Field Office: Leighton Dowdle  
Charlotte Field Office: Lee Peacock  
Lake Boone Trail Field Office: Karen Kelly  
Wilmington Field Office: Howard Laurie  
Winston-Salem Field Office: Deidre Duncan

Labor Building: Jennifer Haigwood  
Labor Building: Sarah Beth Koonce  
Old Revenue Building: Tiffany Lathan  
Old Revenue Building: Anne Weaver

Please contact one of the above employees if you know of an NCDOL employee or family member of an NCDOL employee serving in the military away from home. You may also give a monetary donation to help support this effort to one of the above employees or by sending a check to:

NCDOL Committee to Honor Military Family Members  
N.C. Department of Labor  
1101 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1101