

From the Commissioner

As the familiar song goes, “It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas”—especially around the halls of the Labor Building. The Toys for Tots bins are filling up and beautiful poinsettias and decorations grace many offices. All this in preparation for the culmination of the annual Toys for Tots drive and the 2012 Christmas Open House.

Nothing will get you in the Christmas spirit more than a visit to the Labor Building on Dec. 14 for the Christmas Open House. The halls of the second floor are lined with bicycles, tricycles, dolls and games. It truly warms the heart to know that the toys will provide Christmas to many needy children throughout our state. I hope to see many of you there.

Not only do each of you do so much toward this effort, but we are pleased to have our toy partners in the Justice Department’s Labor Section and the Office of the State Auditor join us again this year.

There is one change to this year’s Christmas Open House that I’d like to share with everyone. In the past, the Christmas Open House Committee purchased, donated and prepared the food for the open house, and it has always been a very special event. This year I have asked the Department of Correction’s Apprentice Program to cater the event.

Stephanie Young, who oversees the Apprentice Program for the Department of Corrections, will bring eight apprentices with her to help prepare and serve the food. These apprentices prepare luncheons at the Governor’s Mansion and other special events and they do a fantastic job. I attended an event they catered recently and wanted to give them an opportunity to help with this year’s Christmas Open House.

The training program provides an opportunity for the inmates to learn a skill that will hopefully translate into a job and give them something to do as opposed to returning to crime. I think it is a worthy cause and a great example of how Registered Apprenticeship can transform lives.

In the coming weeks, I look forward to visiting with our satellite offices to see the toys they have collected and to share in their holiday office traditions.

Cherie

Employee News

- J. Allen McGaha, a new compliance officer in our OSH Charlotte office (District 4), received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award during his retirement ceremonies held Nov. 4 at the N.C. Air National Guard. Chief Master Sergeant McGaha received numerous awards for his 38 years of military service. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award is North Carolina’s highest civilian honor.
- Jessica René Joyner was presented to society in the Alpha Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Sorority Inc.’s 75th Annual Ball on Nov. 23 at the Raleigh Convention Center. Her father served as her chief marshal and Winston Fields of Rolesville served as her assistant marshal. Winston is the son of Arthur and Elnora Fields, an investigator with the Wage and Hour Bureau. Jessica is the daughter of Curtis and Eursula Joyner, ETTA Bureau, Recognition Program, Safety Awards Program.



Allen McGaha (right) receives the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from Lt. Colonel Jeff D. Perryman, chief of safety with the N.C. Air National Guard.

- Congratulations to Harold Wagner, Elevator and Amusement Device, for being selected the Firefighter of the Year for 2012 in the Caldwell Fire Department. Harold won the award in 2011 as well.
- Our condolences to the friends and family of Ray Boylston, who died Nov. 7. Ray was OSH director from February 1973 through March 1977.

New Hires

- Julie Hughes, employment discrimination investigator, EDB, Raleigh.
- Ryan McCarty, processing assistant V, Apprenticeship, Raleigh.

Separation

- Chip Thomas, OSH compliance officer I, Compliance West, Asheville.

Retirement

- Cohen Elgin, OSH compliance officer I, Compliance West, Charlotte.



Harold Wagner receives a plaque for Firefighter of the Year for 2012 in the Caldwell Fire Department.

Employee of the Year: Erin Gould

Congratulations to Erin Gould for being selected as the 2012 Employee of the Year. Commissioner Berry made the announcement Nov. 28 at the Employee Appreciation ceremony for Administration. Erin is the paralegal in the Legal Affairs Division. Her job duties require her to interact with almost every division of the department. Erin coordinates rulemaking activities, handles subpoenas for depositions and court dates, and pursues wages for employees. In addition, she serves as captain for the Miles for Wellness Challenge for the Labor Building and helps out with many other events. Erin truly gets great pleasure from helping her colleagues and serving the public. Congratulations to Erin for earning this recognition from her peers.



Upcoming Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 12-1 Jackie Haley | 12-10 Ron Henegar | 12-18 Gene Powell |
| 12-1 Keith Murphy | 12-11 Frankie Clements | 12-20 Wanda Smitherman |
| 12-1 Ricky Barnes | 12-12 John Koneski | 12-21 Cherie Berry |
| 12-1 Jessica Rasoulyan | 12-13 Eursula Joyner | 12-23 Lee McKinney |
| 12-2 Altagracia Guzman | 12-14 Neal O'Briant | 12-24 Justin Adams |
| 12-2 Don Anderson | 12-14 Donell Sanders | 12-26 Conrad, Terry |
| 12-3 Susan Harper | 12-14 Jeff Wilson | 12-26 Dean Lassiter |
| 12-3 Brian Walls | 12-14 Brian Peterson | 12/28 Don Kinney |
| 12-3 Janie Judd | 12-16 Donald Kidd | 12-28 Courtney Martin |
| 12-4 Nancy Lipscomb | 12-16 Ulysses Slade | 12-30 Sonya Baylor |
| 12-6 Phil Hooper | 12-17 Taylor Cambron | 12-30 Doug Radford |
| 12-6 Lamont Smith | 12-17 Melinda Jenkins | 12-31 Dawn Jarman |
| 12-8 Jackie Spangler | 12-17 John Kirkland | |
| 12-9 Alvis Chatmon | 12-18 Pat Freeman | |

News From the IT Front

BY CHRIS LEHENBAUER
APPLICATIONS SERVICES TEAM LEADER

The Research and IT Division is happy to announce that a contract for the FileNet system replacement was recently awarded to ImageSoft Inc. for its services and the OnBase software the company represents. We have used FileNet since 1999 to store electronic archives of paper records. The PSIM Bureau alone has scanned in millions of pages of OSH case files over the years. The search for a replacement began when FileNet support was discontinued by IBM. With this award, the Department of Labor will be in partnership with ImageSoft to migrate content from FileNet to OnBase over the next few months.

OnBase also includes a broad range of additional functionality beyond electronic archiving. As a result, ImageSoft, which is only a few miles from the Labor Building in Raleigh, will assist us in introducing workflow and case management automation for business processes within DOL. This is an exciting development that will have a positive impact on everyone in the department over time. Thanks to everyone who assisted in and supported the procurement effort. Stay tuned for more information in upcoming newsletters.

HAWE and Murata Apprentices Take on Mechatronics

BY PAMELA L. MCGIMPSEY
NCDOL APPRENTICESHIP CONSULTANT

Three megawatt smiles with unbridled enthusiasm became a newfound energy source in Central Piedmont Community College's mechatronics laboratory in Charlotte on Nov. 13 at the photo-op/kickoff of HAWE and Murata's new provisional Registered Apprenticeship programs.

HAWE apprentices Michael Whittaker, Daniel Gonzalez and Santiago Villablanca were more than eager to start participating in the laboratory's hands-on learning environment.

Kathryn Castellones, apprenticeship and training bureau chief, presented HAWE Hydraulics and Murata Machinery USA with certificates of Registered Apprenticeship. Upon completion of the four-year program the apprentices will be awarded an associate in applied science degree—mechatronics engineering technology and a journeyman certificate.

2013 Holiday Schedule

Holiday	Observance Date	Day of Week
New Year's Day	Jan. 1	Tuesday
Martin Luther King's Birthday	Jan. 21	Monday
Good Friday	March 29	Friday
Memorial Day	May 27	Monday
Independence Day	July 4	Thursday
Labor Day	Sept. 2	Monday
Veterans Day	Nov. 11	Monday
Thanksgiving	Nov. 28–29	Thursday and Friday
Christmas	Dec. 24–26	Tuesday–Thursday



Attendees at the provisional Registered Apprenticeship kickoff for HAWE and Murata at Central Piedmont Community College's mechatronics laboratory in Charlotte.



Apprentices Michael Whittaker, Daniel Gonzalez and Santiago Villablanca examine the technology available in Central Piedmont Community College's mechatronics laboratory.

What's New @ Your Library

By NICK VINCELLI, LIBRARIAN

New Titles

- *For the Safe Use of Lasers in Health Care* (ANSI Z136.3-2011). Laser Institute of America, 2011.
- *Living the American Dream: Economic Justice for Farmworkers*. Student Action With Farmworkers, 1998. Donated by Regina Cullen.
- *Performance Criteria for Safeguarding* (ANSI B11.19-2010). B11 Standards Inc., 2010.
- *Personal Fall Protection Used in Construction and Demolition Operations*. (ANSI/ASSE A10.32-2012). American Society of Safety Engineers, 2012.
- *Safety Hoists* (UL 1340-2012). Underwriters Laboratories, 2012.
- *Trucks, Hand, Two-Wheeled* (KKK-T-683F). GSA/DOD, 2010.

Online FYIs

- *All-Terrain Vehicles and Work*
<http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2012/10/atv/>
- *Assessment of Visual and Neurologic Effects Among Video Hub Employees ...*
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/reports/pdfs/2011-0149-3165.pdf>
- *Distracted Driving* (revised version)
<http://www.osha.gov/Publications/3416distracted-driving-flyer.pdf>
- *Worker Exposure to Silica During Hydraulic Fracturing*
https://www.osha.gov/dts/hazardalerts/hydraulic_frac_hazard_alert.html