

From the Commissioner

As we wrap up another school year, many of you are celebrating high school and college graduations with family and friends. I would like to congratulate the 15 graduates listed in this edition of *Labor N.C.*

I am honored to have been invited to speak to the graduating class of 2014 at St. Michael Catholic School in Gastonia on Saturday, May 31. I have been thinking a lot about this milestone and any words of wisdom I may impart as these graduates face the beginning of a new chapter. I've decided that Dr. Seuss sums this milestone up best with the last book he ever wrote—*Oh, The places You'll Go!*

While you can project this story on many different aspects of life, a graduation is perhaps the most applicable occasion. Dr. Seuss writes about the ups and downs they are certain to face on their journey through life and how important it is to make good decisions along the way. They will meet strange birds and snakes in the grass, but they can overcome these obstacles if they believe in themselves. If you haven't read it in a while, I've included a link to the words for you to share with the special graduate in your life: <http://homepages.ius.edu/HARRISLA/places.htm>. Enjoy!

And speaking of milestones, after 23 years of service to the state of North Carolina, Renathe Cotten is now leading our Human Resources Division, where she started working almost 14 years ago. Renathe joined NCDOL in 2000 as a personnel tech III after gaining invaluable HR experience at the Department of Public Instruction. Renathe brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the director position, and I know she will make the department's transition to a new director seamless. I am pleased that Renathe has agreed to join my leadership team and know we will all benefit from her guidance.



Employee News

- Congratulations to Rose Gray, PSIM, on the birth of her first grandchild. Emma Kenzie LaPlante was born May 25, weighing in at 5 pounds, 12 ounces, and 19½ inches. She is the daughter of Rose's son Ryan and his wife Amy. Ryan is currently deployed on the USS *George H.W. Bush*.
- Our condolences to the friends and family of Jim Hall, who died April 17. Jim worked in the Occupational Safety and Health Division for many years and was serving as interim chief of staff when he left NCDOL in November 1998.
- Our condolences to Allison Jay, Boiler Safety, on the death of her father, Preston Johnson, on May 4.

New Hires

- Kirby Atwood, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Winston-Salem.
- Maria Cortes, wage and hour information specialist, Wage and Hour, Raleigh.

Job Changes

- Jesse Mendoza, from education and training specialist to OSHA standards officer, ETTA, Raleigh.
- Renathe Cotten, from assistant director to director, Human Resources, Raleigh.

Separations

- Mark Earles, health compliance officer I, OSH, Charlotte.
- Kim Grayson, health compliance officer I, OSH, Raleigh.

Retirement

- Pat Freeman, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Asheville.

Pat Freeman receives a Certificate of Service from Robby Jones. The Asheville Office celebrated Pat's upcoming retirement earlier this week. Surrounded by co-workers, Pat reminisced about her 8½ years of service with the department as a compliance officer. Memorable, as well as (some) embarrassing, moments filled the conference room with laughter. "Retirement, well, I'm ready," Pat said. She plans to spend as much time as possible gardening and squeezing 'them grandbabies' until they pop. Pat's last day with us is May 31. Pat, you've been an endless source of wit and special moments. You will be missed.



Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources invites state employees to provide their input to assist with assessing North Carolina's outdoor recreation trends, needs and issues. Your responses to this survey will provide the state with a framework to address the need for improved public outdoor recreation over the next five years.

The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete. All responses will be kept confidential and you may opt out of any questions you prefer not to answer. Take the survey by clicking on the following link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ncscorp_public

Upcoming Birthdays

6-1 Mike Hodgin	6-11 John Saunders	6-28 James Spigner
6-2 Eric White	6-12 Bruce Miles	6-29 Robby Jones
6-4 Martina Gonzales	6-16 Laura Crawford	6-29 Terry Putek
6-5 Carl Burton	6-16 Becky Lusk	6-29 Peter Simon
6-5 Rusty Jones	6-17 Chris Fombin	6-29 Stacey Thompson
6-6 William Gerringer	6-17 Tom Hardesty	6-30 Linda Bullock
6-7 Renathe Cotten	6-18 Reggie Matthews	6-30 Julie Chang
6-8 Ben Harris	6-19 Ron Ellis	6-30 Twanette Haiser
6-9 Chanel Brown	6-20 Stephanie White	6-30 Darline Johnson
6-11 Irene Diaz-Clark	6-23 Lakisha Cameron	6-30 Preston White
6-11 Drew Long	6-26 Brian Browder	
6-11 Ella Moultrie	6-27 Alberta Hall	

OSHR Contests for Safety and Hazard Awareness Month

To kick off June's celebration as Safety and Hazard Awareness Month, the Office of State Human Resources recently launched two contests. The first is a poster contest for children. The theme is safety on or off the job and hazard recognition. The contest is open to the children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of state employees. More details are available at www.oshr.nc.gov/Support/Safety/hazardpostercontest.htm.

The second contest is a hazard recognition and awareness video contest for state employees. More details are available at www.oshr.nc.gov/Support/Safety/hazardvideocontest.htm. The video must be produced by a team of at least 10 state employees.



What's New @ Your Library

BY NICK VINCELLI, LIBRARIAN

Revised Standards List

- http://10.21.81.244:8080/etta_one_stop/listingDetails.cfm?&catid=16&subcatid=201

The standards list has been updated and can be accessed from OSH One Stop Shop (Library Resources page).

New Titles

- *2013 Annual Report*. NCDOL, 2014.
- *Material Placement Systems* (ASME B30.27-2014). ASME, 2014.
- *Mobile and Locomotive Cranes* (ASME B30.5-2011). ASME, 2011.
- *National Electrical Code Handbook* (2014 edition). NFPA, 2013.
- *Self-Erecting Tower Cranes* (ASME B30.29-2012). ASME, 2012.

Online FYIs

- *Flight Attendant/Cabin Crewmembers Health and Safety*
<https://www.osha.gov/faa/index.html>
- *Healthy Aging at Work*
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/healthyagingatwork/>
- *Poultry Industry Workers*
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/poultry/>
- *Safe Patient Handling: Preventing Musculoskeletal Disorders in Nursing Homes*
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3708.pdf>
- *Using Dolly Type Devices to Spread Flammable Liquid Adhesives on a Roof Can Cause Fires*
<https://www.osha.gov/dts/shib/shib031314.html>

- *Workplace Ladder Falls a Major Cause of Deaths, Injuries ...*

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory_145871.html

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

- Parrish Richardson graduated from Saint Augustine's University on May 4 with a Bachelor of Arts in visual arts with a concentration in graphics design. He is the son of Angela Richardson, Wage and Hour.
- Talia Richardson will graduate June 14 from Nash Central High School in Rocky Mount. She has been accepted at Nash Community College and plans to major in visual arts. She is the daughter of Angela Richardson, Wage and Hour.
- Bryan Henderson Council will graduate from Cleveland High School in Clayton on June 13. He will attend Johnston Community College in the fall. He is the son of Shannon Council, Wage and Hour.
- Cameron Kinney will graduate from Pinecrest High School in Southern Pines on May 31. He has been accepted into the Mechanical Engineering Program at UNC Charlotte and will be attending this fall. He is the son of Don Kinney, Boiler Safety.
- Alec Logan Smitherman, the grandson of Wanda Smitherman, Commissioner's Office, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington on Dec. 14, 2013. He will be attending graduate school at UNC-W to pursue a master's degree in accountancy.
- Travis Lucas was selected on Feb. 7 by the U.S. Air Force, Rated Board 14OT02, to attend Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala., for training to become a commissioned 2nd lieutenant and begin his career as a combat systems officer. Most officers come from the Air Force Academy or ROTC. OTS is the civilian route and for this board there were over 300 applications with 72 selected from across the country. This process took a year in the making and he just received a class date of July 1, 2014. After Montgomery, Travis will go to Pueblo, Colo., for IFS (Initial Flight Screening) and then to Pensacola, Fla., for Water Survival and Parachute Training and then 12 months of CSO Training. After all the training is complete, about 18 months, he will earn his wings and will be assigned an airframe. Travis is the son of Doug Lucas, Elevator and Amusement Device.
- Sarah Beth Koonce graduated from N.C. State University on May 10 with a Bachelor of Arts in political science with a minor in journalism. Sarah Beth is the special assistant for governmental and constituent affairs.
- Isaiah Davis will graduate from East Wake High School in Raleigh on June 10. He recently received an academic honors award presented by the school principal. He will be attending William Peace University in the fall to pursue a degree in business administration. He is the son of William Davis, OSH Compliance East.
- Kaden Michael Allen will graduate from T.C. Roberson High School in Asheville on June 14. He plans to attend Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College in the fall and study culinary arts. He is the son of Dean and Libby Allen of Hendersonville and the grandson of Sandra Allen. Sandra works in the OSH Education, Training and Technical Assistance Bureau.
- George Luming Zhao graduated May 11 from UNC Chapel Hill with double majors in business administration and mathematics, plus Chinese minor. George completed the GLOBE (Global Learning Opportunities in Business Education) program at the Kenan-Flagler Business School. He was a member of Honors Carolina. He'll start working at a software start-up company in Virginia in June. George is the son of Dafang (Daniel) Zhao, OSH Compliance West.
- Dylan Wagner received an internship with FEMA AmeriCorps that will begin July 14 in Baltimore, Md., and will last for 11 months. He is currently enrolled at Durham Tech for emergency management and will be finishing up his last two semesters upon returning from this internship. He is the son of Harold Wagner, Elevator and Amusement Device.

- Kevin Johnson will graduate from East Wake High School of the Arts and Global Studies in Wendell on June 10. He will be attending The Arts Institute of Raleigh-Durham this summer to pursue his bachelor's degree in gaming art and design. He is the son of Cathy Merideth, Budget and Management.
- Cydney Dennis will graduate from Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach on June 13. She will attend George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. She is the stepdaughter of Cathy Merideth, Budget and Management.
- Paul Leon Anderson II will graduate from Jesse O. Sanderson High School in Raleigh on June 7. While at Sanderson, he has participated in the marching band, wind ensemble, woodwind choir, theatre ensemble, Alpha and Omega step team, and the Image Club. In the fall, he will attend the University of North Carolina at Pembroke where he has been accepted into the Honors College. He plans to major in music education with aspirations of becoming a high school band director. Paul is the son of Tina Morris-Anderson (director, Research and Information Technology) and Paul L. Anderson.
- Caroline Stephenson graduated from Campbell University, Buies Creek, on May 9. She received a degree in clinical research, Bachelor of Science Research. After working at Novella Clinical, a Quintiles Company, as a clinical research assistant for four months during her last semester, the company hired Caroline as a clinical research associate on a full-time basis effective June 1. Novella Clinical is a full-service clinical research company dedicated to customers in the oncology, medical device and biopharmaceutical industries. Caroline is the granddaughter of Shelby Stephenson, Human Resources.

