

This special edition of The Daily Tar Heel explores criminal justice issues.



# The first innocent man

## The group that gave Greg Taylor his freedom risks losing its funding

By Stephanie Lamm  
Assistant University Editor

It was the little things that overwhelmed him. Gregory Taylor said he remembers opening the refrigerator door only to become lost in the sea of options. Unable to make a decision, he closed the door and went to lie down, exhausted. “In prison they tell you what you’re going to eat and out here they ask you what you want to eat,” he said. “That sums up the difference between being inside prison and out free.” After serving 17 years of a life sentence, Taylor was the first convicted felon to be exonerated by a state-mandated innocence commission. Now, the agency that granted him freedom is in jeopardy of losing access to vital resources.

The North Carolina Innocence Inquiry Commission is the only state-mandated agency in the country to grant exonerations based on proof of innocence. The majority of its funding for

SEE EXONERATION PAGE 11

DTH/HALLE SINNOTT

Greg Taylor, who served time in prison for 17 years, was the first person to be exonerated by the North Carolina Innocence Inquiry Commission. The commission is in danger of losing funding.

# Prisons offer up inmates as cheap laborers

By Claire Williams  
Senior Writer

During the day, Jimmy “Moe” Penny prepared dishes at K&W Cafeterias in a neatly pressed cook’s apron. For many years, at the end of his shift, Penny was shuttled back to Orange Correctional Center, a minimum security prison for men where he served time for multiple offenses. He has spent eight years of his life in prison. “When I got out, I had enough money to catch up on my bills,” said Penny, who is no longer incarcerated. “I know people who get out and have nothing to do. When you get out, you’ve basically got nothing.” Penny left the prison in the morning on a work release program while he was incarcerated. He said he made \$7.50 an hour. Of his roughly \$400 biweekly paycheck, Penny said he saw only \$200 of that go into his bank account after transportation costs and other fees. Still, that’s more than most inmates who work can expect. Most prisoners earn 40 cents, 70 cents or \$1 a day, depending on the job, said Keith Acree, spokesman for the N.C. Department of Public Safety. These prisoners work incentive wage jobs, meaning they have jobs within the prison as cooks or janitors. “It keeps the inmates occupied,” Acree said. “Inmates that sit around and do nothing tend to get in trouble.” Earl Smith, a professor emeritus of sociology at Wake Forest University who has done research on prison labor, said inmate work is exploited by the state and companies. “Prisoners don’t have the ability to say yes or no,” he said. “Prisons often need things done — anything from mopping the floors to serving food or building furniture for the open market that ends up in college dormitories.” Penny said the money from incentive wage jobs goes to inmates’ commissary accounts, where items like food and hygiene products can be bought. “I don’t know how they make it,” Penny said. “That ain’t enough to get your soap or if you want a sandwich or something like that. If you ain’t got no money coming in, then you suffer.” Now Penny works as the supervisor of the stockroom at K&W, where he was hired after his release. He is in charge of ordering the food, making sure it is seasoned and opening the building at 6 a.m. Penny said he has set his sights on a management position. Most former prisoners face a difficult job search after release. Smith said the experience gained in work programs usually isn’t enough to balance the criminal record.



DTH/JORDAN NASH

After being released from prison, Jimmy “Moe” Penny was hired at K&W Cafeterias. He started his job there while he served eight years in prison.

Penny initially got the K&W job through the culinary program at Orange Correctional Center. Alicia Hughes, a program director at Orange Correctional Center, said the culinary program, which is 20 weeks long and sponsored through Piedmont Community College, is competitive for inmates to enroll in. “There’s always a backlog,” she said. Penny was one of 18 students in his class. He finished at the top of his class and was kept on as an assistant teacher. “I wanted to go to cook school to get out of the other dump of a prison, Durham Correctional (Center),” he said. Jerry Spuruill, a manager who has worked at K&W in the area for more than 25 years, said K&W still employs inmates from Orange Correctional Center, picked mostly through Penny’s recommendations. “They work harder because they are just so happy to be out of the camp,” Spuruill said. “They tend to be a lot neater. Their uniforms are creased, and transportation makes sure they are here on time.”

Smith said prisons are able to sell labor for little or no money, sometimes to large corporations and local companies, including Tarheel Linen. “They aren’t breaking rocks anymore,” Smith said. “Some of these jobs are very important to the economy.” And prisoners work for public agencies and private companies without substantial pay. “As a general and public society, we don’t know about this institution that is basically hidden from us,” Smith said. Inmates who work for labor contracts leave the prison for the day, some working alongside state highway crews. Other inmates work for county or local governments doing maintenance. Correctional officers do not supervise these inmates. The agency that employs them goes through training and is responsible for them for the day. Hughes said the work programs in the prison have been successful with the inmates. “Most of the time they are very receptive,” she said. “They don’t want to be idle.” But there are risks. Last year, Kenneth

Lussier, an inmate at Orange Correctional Center, escaped from one of the work crews. “That’s just the potential all of them have,” Hughes said. “It’s just as easy to escape out of a work crew or jump out the fence over here.” Government agencies can also use the services of Correction Enterprises. In these jobs, inmates make goods for the agencies, including license plates and furniture. The least-restricted and highest-paid opportunities are work-release for inmates, which Penny took advantage of. Acree said a lot of work-release inmates in the state work for fast food restaurants or in manufacturing. Acree said the positives of inmate work programs far outweigh the negatives. “They are paying back in a significant way,” he said. But Smith said the prisoner gets very few benefits from participating in this system. “Everyone benefits except the prisoner,” he said. “It’s easy economics.”

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### RECIDIVISM

A closer look at the state’s recidivism rates. See page 6 for story.

### REHABILITATION

Advocates provide resources to help inmates re-enter society. See page 7 for story.

### CHURCH MOB

A gay student said members of his church beat him. See page 12 for story.

### OFFICERS

A look at the tough job of a correctional officer. See page 6 for story.

“In my country we go to prison first and then become president.”

NELSON MANDELA



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Google does it again

From staff and wire reports

And productivity has just gone down the toilet. Google, aka the company where people who never want to grow up work, has debuted Pac-Man on Google Maps. This is not a drill. You can now click on a small icon on the Google Maps home screen, and before you know it, you will have done just as much during the day as a second-semester underloading senior. In fact, you might have accomplished more because you will have eaten ghosts and navigated your way safely through the dangerous world of Pac-Man on the streets. So instead of writing that history paper, you can navigate your Pac-Man through the UNC’s campus. Perfection. We can only hope that this is not an April Fools’ Day stunt and that it will still be there tomorrow.

**NOTED.** It is truly a sad day in the nerd and introvert world. The inventor of the Pet Rock, Gary Dahl, has died at the age of 78. During his life, Dahl sold more than 1.5 million Pet Rocks. He came up with the idea in 1975. Dahl is also the mind behind “Advertising for Dummies.” Rest in peace.

**QUOTED.** “This is a church to show a proper way of life, a loving way to live life. We are called ‘cannataerians.” — Bill Levin, the founder of the First Church of Cannabis Inc., which was approved in Indiana after the state recently passed the controversial religious exemptions law. So light up, Indiana.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**TODAY**

**World War I Lecture: The Yanks are Coming (Eventually):** Michael Lasser will be discussing the songs of World War I and their importance to society and culture during World War I, from attitudes of isolationism to patriotism. This talk is part of the World War I Centenary Project. The event is free and open to the public.  
**Time:** 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Hyde Hall, University Room

**‘Communities of Song’ Keynote:** Glenn Hinson, an American studies professor at UNC, will deliver a speech, entitled “Signifying Style: Ecologies of Social Critique in African American Poetics.” This talk will be part of a music department conference taking place Thursday and Friday, entitled “Communities of Song: Performing Sung Poetry in the Modern World.” The event will be free and open to the public.  
**Time:** 3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Location:** Person Hall

**FRIDAY**

**Guest Artist Concert:** Juan Carlos Urena and Jeana Paul-Urena will perform as part of the conference, “Communities of Song: Performing Sung Poetry in the Modern World.” The duo has performed their music all over the world. Their energetic music is a combination of Afro-Caribbean and Central American folk music. The event is free and open to the public.  
**Time:** 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**Location:** Hyde Hall, University Room

*To make a calendar submission, email calendar@dailytarheel.com. Please include the date of the event in the subject line, and attach a photo if you wish. Events will be published in the newspaper on either the day or the day before they take place.*

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- The Daily Tar Heel reports any inaccurate information published as soon as the error is discovered.
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- Contact Managing Editor Katie Reilly at managing.editor@dailytarheel.com with issues about this policy.

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LET’S TALK ABOUT IT



TNS/TRAVIS LONG

Duke students Levi Edouna Obama (left) and Anna Marie Keppel Benson embrace following a university-wide forum held Wednesday after a noose was discovered hanging from a tree outside a student center on campus.

POLICE LOG

- Two people trespassed at Akai Hana restaurant at 206 W. Main St. at 7:26 a.m. Monday, according to Carrboro police reports.
- Someone reported an attempted robbery and assault with a dangerous weapon at the 500 block of Jones Ferry Road at 10:20 p.m. Monday, according to Carrboro police reports. The person who attempted robbery wore a facial covering and pointed a gun, reports state.
- Someone reported a robbery with a dangerous weapon at the 400 block of N.C. 54 at 10:47 p.m. Monday, according to Carrboro police reports. A wallet with a car key, driver's license and visa credit card was stolen, reports state.
- Someone kicked and broke the front door of a Kangaroo Express located at 500 Jones Ferry Drive at 2:10 a.m. on Tuesday, according to Carrboro police reports. The person caused \$500 in damage to the door, reports state.
- Someone reported simple possession of a Schedule III controlled substance and drug paraphernalia at the 300 block of N.C. 54 at 2:23 p.m. Tuesday, according to Carrboro police reports. Cotton, spoons, a brillo pad and Suboxone were found during an investigative traffic stop, reports state.
- Someone reported a suspicious condition at the 100 block of West Main Street near the PTA Thrift Shop at 4:21 p.m. Tuesday, according to Carrboro police reports. The person said she was being harassed by two men, reports state.

Jesus Christ is Risen Indeed!

Active and retired faculty who are followers of Jesus Christ wish you a Happy Easter!

If you have any questions about what it means to have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ visit <http://beaconsonthehill.org/>

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# Eating meat is a matter of taste

Animal rights is a tricky subject for me. I try to be a moderate on most issues, but the meat industry is where I suddenly become a tree-hugging radical.

Look, I get it. Folks grew up eating burgers, raised by parents who did the same, who are the ancestors of people who couldn't live off of anything except seal blubber in the ice age.

I was raised in a vegetarian family and have been one since I was 13. Truth be told, that's probably the reason I'm vegetarian now and can remain one without a whole lot of difficulty.

I consume milk, eggs and honey. If I were totally true to my own beliefs, I wouldn't. But that's an addiction of mine; it's harder to avoid milk and eggs than it is meat, especially since most restaurants offer vegetarian options nowadays.

Discussing the meat industry never leads into a logical debate. It's just not something that can be justified.

Moreover, in spite of the massive environmental and moral consequences of factory farming, people just don't think about it.

In casual settings, people shirk the thought of it with the “I got to have my burger” response.

At least those people recognize, on some level, that eating meat (or at least factory farming) can't be morally justified. It's just not something they can bring themselves to think about that often.

Other times, if someone passionately disagrees, they'll go with any number of counterarguments.

Every single one of those counterarguments in support of eating meat parallels those Southern politicians used to justify slavery: It's the natural order of things, some vague science or pseudoscience relating to evolution, questions about the intelligence of the victims, the Bible, tradition, the activists are looney.

When justifying the nature of the meat industry, people say a lot of things, but the core reason is that they like to eat meat.

And despite factory farming's massive contribution of greenhouse gases, utterly sadistic practices used against huge populations of animals on factory farms and ag-gag laws that silence whistleblowers who would expose them, they will have it.

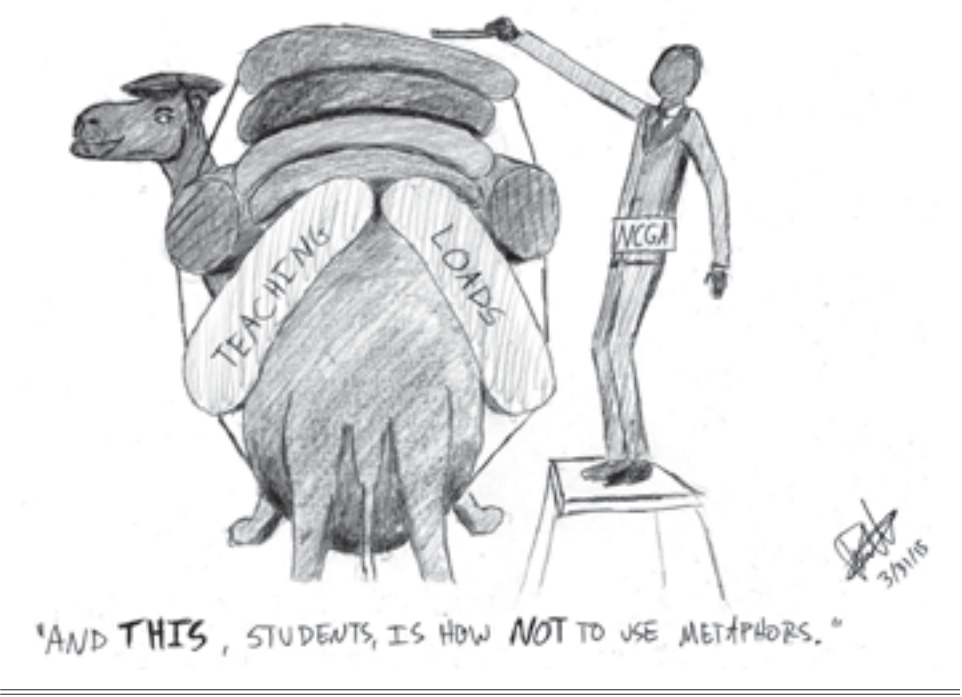
If animals tasted like concrete, no matter how much existentially critical protein or vitamin B 12 they had, we wouldn't have these discussions in the first place.

The plain and simple fact is this: The way this society treats animals is unjustifiable, yet few people actively question it. On a politically-conscious campus, the animal rights scene is virtually nonexistent.

I understand why. People raised from childhood to do things or eat certain foods have a hard time stopping and often don't want to, especially in a society that supports it.

I don't think anyone will go vegetarian just by reading this. Just think about the issue a bit more.

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Daniel Pinelli, pinelli@live.unc.edu



## A promise unfulfilled

### UNC must take real action to ensure employee rights.

On March 26, a former housekeeping employee filed a lawsuit against the University, reminding it of a transgression that has yet to be fully reconciled. A transgression that is unique from previous ones but also indicative of a broader problem: a lack of adequate oversight within the administrative structure to prevent exploitation.

In a lawsuit, Clifton Leon Webb, a former zone manager in the housekeeping department, said he was demoted and eventually fired by the department because he blew the whistle on a sex-for-hire scheme run by former housekeeping director Bill Burston.

In order to preserve the values that this university supposedly upholds, the University must reform its reporting and enforcement mechanisms to ensure this can never happen again.

The allegations in the lawsuit also highlight inequities in gender power dynamics in the workplace.

Ben Triplett, assistant director in the housekeeping services department as well as a defendant in the lawsuit, attended a discussion on Tuesday about making the workplace for women more inclusive.

“Most of our department is women, but we have challenges internally in terms of trying to encourage women to apply for and seek leadership positions,” Triplett said at

the event.

But if the case filed last week is any indication, administrators will have to take action much more substantive than attending a discussion and lamenting the department's lack of inclusivity.

The department requires a sea change in its culture.

Webb's lawsuit is only the latest documentation of corruption in the housekeeping department. In 2011, an outside consulting firm found the department was riddled with problems. That report found that non-English speaking employees feared retaliation if they ever told anyone about the management structure they felt cared little for them. The report also said employees witnessed or were targeted by inappropriate sexual behavior on the job.

Employees overwhelmingly told the consulting firm they didn't know the policies UNC put in place to protect them — making it impossible for the employees to raise or address the problems that wracked the department.

Following the release of the 2011 report, UNC said it would create a committee of housekeeping employees to advise administrators on issues facing the department.

The University also promised to commission a study that would determine pay discrepancies in the housekeeping department.

Finally, the University said it would continuously review the department's recruiting and hiring practices.

But if Webb is to be believed, any attempts to rectify these problems have been ineffective. It's time for the University to follow through on these promises and to make new, more actionable promises that will impose integrity.

Many housekeepers are Burmese refugees with little English comprehension or language skills and almost no financial stability.

Going forward, the University should ensure employees with little English skills have adequate training to understand their rights.

Furthermore, it should do better to educate its employees about their options for disclosing complaints to administrators above their direct supervisors — options the University so proudly touted as remedies already in place to ensure another athletic-academic scandal wouldn't happen again upon the release of the Wainstein report.

The University obviously failed to address the rampant problems in the housekeeping department after the 2011 review.

This lawsuit dually serves as a means to get justice for Webb and as a reminder that the University has not fulfilled its promises to fully protect its employees. Without completely addressing the systemic issues within the administrative structure and the unprincipled culture that pervades the University's response to whistleblowing, it will be unable to move on from this dark period.

QuickHits

Our only Knope

Of course something like this happens as soon as “Parks and Recreation” goes off the air. Indiana's discriminatory “religious freedom” law isn't an isolated incident, but we're certain this brand of stupidity wouldn't have spread to Indiana if Leslie Knope had anything to say about it. We suspect Councilman Jamm.

Dinner's on Dean

Dean Smith's legend only grows. As we've all heard by now, he left \$200 to each of his former players for a nice dinner out. We're pretty sure there's nowhere in town someone could drop \$200 on a single dinner, so, former players: We offer ourselves up as dinner companions. We're chatty and fun. We promise.

A sad farewell

Some reactions to Ishmael Bishop's final column beautifully illustrated his point: Many people aren't comfortable listening to black people talk about what it's like to be black. We're grateful to Ishmael, and we hope people of color who write for the DTH in the future are listened to and treated with more grace.

Jackson's back

Tar Heel fans everywhere starving for some good basketball news pretended to be pleasantly surprised Wednesday when Justin Jackson announced he'd be returning for his sophomore season. Secretly we were just flattered someone, somewhere had considered at least one of our players to have NBA potential.

Bad guys win

How is it that three of the Final Four teams are the three teams UNC fans were probably rooting against from the start? Granted, the odds were in favor of Duke and Kentucky, but adding Michigan State and Wisconsin into the mix — a team UNC fans have only recently started rooting against — is just insult to injury.

Carolina Zoo

It's springtime, and prospective students and grade schoolers alike are swarming campus. On one hand, it's cool to feel like your school is worthy of being a field trip destination. On the other, it's hard being constantly reminded that you and your gross sweatpants are these kids' first impression of college life.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The incentives are not there for students to learn how to perform abortions anyway, and this (bill) would just make it worse.”

Corey Frost, on a proposal to stop teaching abortions at UNC

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

“I'm very tired of hearing about how the legislators in this state support the community college system. They do not.”

CCProf, on the General Assembly's support of community colleges

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Bishop's struggle is not an anomaly**

TO THE EDITOR:

American sociologist W.E.B. Dubois lamented about blacks' imprisonment from self-identity: “...the Negro is a sort of seventh son, born with a veil, and gifted with second-sight in this American world — a world which yields him no self-consciousness, but only lets him see himself through the revelation of the other world. It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one's soul by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt and pity.”

At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and beyond, white members of the institution of power have historically created an exclusive environment denying equal opportunity, equal representation and equal consciousness for minorities in thought, expression, organization and action — particularly those who identify as politically black.

It has been only 60 years since the first African-American undergraduate was allowed to enroll at the University of North Carolina. As recently as 2013, there were only 98 black males enrolled in the class of 2017 compared to 1,054 white males.

Author Ishmael Bishop's resignation from The Daily Tar Heel as a result of verbal subjugation from his peers is a symbol that this historical trend of exclusiveness at the University of North Carolina and beyond continues today and into the future. While Bishop used his column to create a social representation of black solidarity — an opportunity for black people to find emotional strength in common memories of suffering — Bishop's peers expressed disdain for his defense against generations of white degradation toward his people.

As a white student who proudly majors in African-American Studies at the University of North Carolina, I believe self-identified black people have a contribution to make to civilization and humanity that no other race can make. If we as human beings cannot provide writers, like Ishmael Bishop, the safety to express their own perspectives, their own consciousness, our University and our humanity will continue to be incarcerated by the ignorance of seeing our world through the eyes of one power.

Jen Myers  
Senior  
Women's and gender studies

**Research among UNC's greatest draws**

TO THE EDITOR:

Sen. Tom McInnis's proposal to require UNC system faculty to teach eight classes per year is just another example of the devaluation of higher education by the North Carolina state legislature. Although ensuring that professors are as devoted to their classes as their research can be of concern, this proposal clearly misunderstands the role of research in universities.

As a UNC student, I know many of my professors have been involved in their own research. This did not prevent them from providing high-quality instruction; often, they were able to incorporate their research into the class, helping to explain relevant concepts and show that what we were learning had important applications. But that is not the only value of faculty research; it is what attracts excellent faculty to UNC and ultimately keeps UNC a premiere research university.

As an out-of-state student, I was attracted by UNC's stellar reputation in programs across the board, none of which would be possible without cutting-edge research. I have watched the attacks on the UNC system from the state legislature before I became a student and throughout this year, but I remained confident that such an exceptional institution would ultimately not lose the support of its state government. This latest attack, however, combined with budget cuts to the UNC system, leaves me unsure of this.

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SPEAK OUT

**WRITING GUIDELINES**

- Please type: Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- Sign and date: No more than two people should sign letters.
- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

**SUBMISSION**

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- Email: opinion@dailytarheel.com

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# Black women address challenges at UNC

**By Luman Ouyang**  
Staff Writer

Many UNC students of color consistently face the question of grouping themselves with people of their own race or merging into the majority culture of white students.

That was one part of the discussion at an event hosted by the Celebration of Black Womanhood on Wednesday.

About 20 students joined the conversation on “The Token Black Girl: Your Assumed Role at a PWI.” PWI stands for predominately white institution.

Freshman Jada Weathers said she went to a predominantly black high school in Greensboro where people did not believe she got into UNC at first.

“I’m going to UNC with your daughter. It’s OK. Don’t be upset. I think it’s the fact that people assumed that since I am from that part of the town, I got to go to (N.C. Agricultural & Technical State University), which is five minutes away. No,” Weathers said.

Senior Kiyah McDermid said black students all have a similar experience of being specifically asked about their thoughts on black history when the topic is touched in class.

“I just felt like that’s how you navigate UNC,” McDermid said. “We’re always kind of looked at to represent our race at all times, especially when you’re with somebody or a group of students that are not your own race or ethnicity.”

Freshman Trinity Johnson said she experienced some culture shock at UNC after she came out of a high school with a diverse mix of peers.

“You’re trying to make friends with some people; they are not that open for some reason,” Jonson said.

Johnson said she has more confidence in her race than she did before.

“Maybe I’ve talked to the wrong people, but I do find a lot more comfort in my race,”

*“Maybe I’ve talked to the wrong people, but I do find more comfort in my race.”*

**Trinity Johnson,**  
UNC freshman

she said.

Junior Katrice Mitchell, who is biracial, said she is open to interracial dating, but she gets comments about merely walking with someone white.

“Even when people see us together, we’re just friends, they are like, ‘Oh, you know, she’s black, and you’re super white,’” Mitchell said.

“I don’t know if there’s a super-white spectrum, but apparently there is.”

Freshman Isatta Feika said people should be more open-minded about embracing other communities.

“I believe people generally just have questions; they just don’t know. But if we are just angry at them for any



DTH/KYLE HODGES

Asia Gandy (left) and Joia Freeman share experiences at the Token Black Girl event Wednesday.

little thing they say, it doesn’t solve anything,” Feika said.

“We should be more open to each other.”

Weathers said she came to the event because, as a freshman and a female minority student, she wanted to know more about what others are experiencing at UNC.

She said she learned from the event to always embrace others, even people who are not like her.

“Everyone’s situation is different,” Weathers said. “No one is exactly the same. To be inclusive and not exclude people.”

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# Dean Smith ensures all will have seat at table

The arc of a life rises, then slopes, then falls, because time is the curvature that ensures nothing is forever. And then there is the exception: the flat line that extends beyond sight, in perpetuity, faithful to its path

and resolute in its straight purpose. Dean Smith is the line that flattens the arc.

J.R. Reid was a 12-year-old sixth grader from Virginia Beach when he and his family first met Smith. For Reid, this is where the line starts: a mid-

dle schooler meeting a man from the school of higher love.

It was 35 years before Smith bequeathed \$200 to Reid and the 179 other lettermen who played for North Carolina during Smith’s 36-year reign. Mailed on March 23 — almost two months after Smith’s death at 83 — to all players who amassed enough time on the varsity roster, the gift included a Smithian directive: “Enjoy a dinner out compliments of Dean Smith.” The \$36,000 bequest wasn’t so much a bill as it was a gratuity. When it came to those closest to his heart, Smith could never tip enough.

“It’s very rarely,” Reid said, “that you meet someone that is truly as good as advertised.”

In the fall of 1986, Reid made his official visit to Chapel Hill. Smith had plenty on his mind, or at least he should have. He asked Reid about his favorite food. “New York strip steak,” Reid said. Smith said he’d make sure Reid would get it. And when Reid dined with Smith at Slugs At The Pines, his plate hosted a slab of New York strip. The future forward would have more steak that weekend — along with



**Dylan Howlett**  
Senior Writer

salad and sweet potatoes — at Smith’s home, where Smith and his wife, Linnea, hosted Reid and his parents, Herman and Cora Jean. Little else provides as much sustenance for the soul, Smith knew, as a meal among friends.

“When I think about the deeper meaning from Coach Smith’s perspective, I would surmise that he lived with the recognition that relationships needed to be more than surface,” said Eric Montross, a center on UNC’s 1993 national championship team and a UNC basketball analyst for Tar Heel Sports Network.

It started with team meals — at the training table, before games, on the road, where Smith always managed to find a steakhouse in whatever city his team visited. Buzz Peterson,

a guard on UNC’s 1982 championship team and now a scout and consultant for the NBA’s Charlotte Hornets, would return to Chapel Hill for summertime coaching summits that Smith would hold for his disciples. The dinners sometimes lasted three-and-a-half hours, with Smith keeping a rapt audience the whole time.

Reid would also decamp to Chapel Hill during the summer to train with former players and meet with Smith. Their old coach would insist on taking the players out for lunch, whereupon he managed, without fail, to snag the bill before any player could so much as breathe on their wallet.

“Sometimes you could sneak and maybe get one in on him,” Reid said, “but most of the time I think his record was pretty good at snatching meals.”

And now he has snatched another 180, because the line has no ruts, and a generous hand is best unseen. Smith attended Binkley Baptist Church in Chapel Hill up until the Sunday before he died. That’s why Richard Vinroot, the former Charlotte mayor who played for Smith

in the ‘60s, told the Charlotte Observer he’d donate his \$200 to Binkley. Peterson says he’ll do the same if he doesn’t take his wife or family out to eat.

“He wasn’t just only a member: He was a very significant part of the ethos of this place,” said Rev. Marcus McFaul, Binkley’s interim pastor. “And their recognition of that is very sweet, and very tender, and very nice.”

Yet Smith wouldn’t have cared for the attention devoted to his gift. A photo of the letter zipped around social media with the name and Wilmington address of Dante Calabria, a sharpshooter on UNC’s ‘93 title team. But whether Calabria posted the photo remains uncertain.

The letter doesn’t appear on his Twitter timeline, and he no longer lives in Wilmington: Calabria, who declined to comment, coaches a basketball prep team in Montverde, Fla., about 20 miles west of Orlando. The letter arrived in North Carolina. “My family loves UNC and Coach and opened the letter. They were very deeply moved and shared it,” he tweeted March 26. “Just another reminder of how special of a person Coach Smith remains.” The letter’s photo originates from a Twitter user named Jim Dempsey, whose March 26 tweet at 11:55 a.m. has garnered almost 6,000 retweets. Sources close to Calabria said he still hasn’t seen the letter in person and therefore wouldn’t have had the chance to upload a photo.

Nor would have Smith cared for the widespread praise. Tim Breedlove, the trustee of Smith’s estate, says the coach’s generosity isn’t rare — that while uncommon, there are other Deans out there with hearts as big as their rolodexes. Maybe that’s the greatest lesson of all: Kindness shouldn’t be extraordinary. It should be the norm. Draw a line, not an arc.

“When your playing career is over, you’re not done with him,” Peterson said. “It’s kind of like it almost started with him at that time. It’s time for him to help you out.”

“He walked it and he talked it,” Reid said, “and what you saw is what you got.”

“He’s still finding ways to teach and demonstrate by example,” said Montross, who plans to take either his wife or family to dinner. “Who knows what’s next, what someone will unearth that is an additional lasting legacy?”

For J.R. Reid, this will do for now. He celebrated his 47th birthday Tuesday by returning to the beginning of the line: Reid took his \$200 check and gathered his family and friends at Aberdeen Barn, a Virginia Beach steakhouse. Smith, Reid said, loved more than any steakhouse fare a plate of Osso Buco. Yet for Tuesday’s purposes, something far less extravagant would do. Because there is nothing simpler than a fond memory, and nothing more precious than thinking of another human being.

Reid ordered a New York strip steak. He thought of his coach.

It is clear the line’s end is nowhere near.

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# CHispA, Sangam host fake wedding

By Trevor Lenzmeier  
Staff Writer

Prior to their mock engagement, junior Pratik Patel and sophomore Vanessa Delvillar had never even met.

But wedding bells rang yesterday on the steps of South Building as Patel and Delvillar jokingly tied the knot in a cross-cultural celebration. The event — co-sponsored by Sangam, UNC’s largest South Asian awareness organization, and CHispA, the Carolina Hispanic Association — was aimed at jointly celebrating Indian and Latino culture. The ceremony featured traditional food, dress, and wedding practices from both cultures.

Patel and Delvillar are not the first “couple” to get married on the steps of South — according to Sangam cultural co-chairwoman Navina Venugopal, the organization has been putting on mock weddings for several years, partnering with a different cultural organization each time.

Sangam cultural co-chairwoman Saumya Goel thinks the rotating partnership is one of the best facets of the event.

“I love that we incorporate all these different cultures,” Goel said. “The traditions vary every year, and so every year it’s a different wedding. No two crowds ever see quite the same thing.”

The variety of cultures featured speaks to the ultimate purpose of the wedding — a celebration of cultural diversity.

“I think mock wedding is about showing people a blending of traditions while celebrating differences,” Venugopal said. “Sangam is primarily about Indian and South Asian cultures, but through mock wedding we can see so many different cultures that we aren’t familiar with. That’s a really special thing to celebrate.”

And the word celebrate is no exaggeration — past weddings have involved the jubilant procession of the baraatt, the bridegroom’s wedding party in a traditional Indian

wedding, through the Pit to begin the ceremony.

“When we had the wedding in the Pit, random people would walk by and ask about the wedding and the traditions, and hopefully they learned something new,” Venugopal said.

Delvillar wasn’t just learning a new culture — she was learning about her new fiancée.

“It was awesome — he’s a really cool guy, and going through the process of our engagement and wedding was fun and easy,” Delvillar said. “We had a great dedication to a mutual cause, so it worked out very harmoniously, and we had a wonderful time.”

Delvillar, a member of CHispA, and Patel, a member of Sangam, are hopefully another couple in a long line of happy marriages presented by Sangam. For Venugopal, the party can always get bigger.

“A few years ago we actually brought a horse to the ceremony, and though we can’t do that anymore, I hope we continue to think of new ways to improve the event,” Venugopal said.

“I just hope it stays an intimate enough thing that people can still walk by, get curious, and come join us for a bit.”



DTH/CLAIRE COLLINS

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Sophomore psychology major Alopi Modi (right) applies henna on freshman public health major Simran Khadka Wednesday afternoon.

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DTH/BEN LEWIS

North Carolina prisons have seen their populations skyrocket and decline in the past 10 years due to state legislation. Currently there are about 38,000 people who are incarcerated in 56 state prisons.

# NC prisons short-staffed

## Correctional officers face low pay, violence in prisons

By Lindsey Brunson  
Senior Writer

"All inmates line up outside," Sergeant Earvin Harrelson calls across the intercom from inside the control office.

It's 9:20 a.m., and time for the 220 inmates at Orange Correctional Center, a minimum custody prison in Hillsborough, to be accounted for. Dressed in grey sweats and green jackets in the cool morning, the inmates in the yard set down what they're doing and gather in a large circle around the red coral fence. They lounge against the posts as they wait to be counted. This is just another day.

A correctional officer pops her head into the control room.

"I've got 90 in the yard," she says. The officer coming in behind her says he does, too. Harrelson shakes his head. That's one too many. They've got to count again.

"Better one too many than one too few," says Harrelson.

The Orange Correctional Center is working short-staffed. There are 74 total staff members, 38 of whom are correctional officers, and Harrelson said he has six

vacant positions. And Orange Correctional Center is not the only prison in the state with vacancies.

"Imagine this process in a facility with 1,800 inmates," said Armistead Hodges, superintendent of Orange Correctional Center.

The N.C. Department of Public Safety employs about 12,000 correctional officers in its 56 prison facilities and has about 1,000 vacancies it needs to fill, said Keith Acree, a spokesman for DPS.

Data from the N.C. Department of Corrections show that on average, about 60 percent of correctional officers working at close custody prisons have five years of experience or fewer. About 43 percent at medium custody prisons have five years of experience or fewer, and 29 percent at minimum custody have that experience.

"We've got to find a way to retain people. We can no longer continue to have all of these vacancies — we're losing more than we're hiring," said David Guice, commissioner of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice.

But Gov. Pat McCrory's

proposed budget could change things for the department. In his State of the State address, McCrory cited a statistic saying a correctional officer was assaulted every 11 hours in 2014, and nearly 300 of those incidents involved weapons.

"Correctional officers are confronting the most violent people in our state every minute of their day," he said. "Some live under death threats, not only to them, but to their family. Working in this environment comes at a price."

Correctional officers work 12-hour days, coming into work by 5:45 a.m. and not leaving until 5:30 p.m.

"It's a tough job," said Wendell Powell, a correctional sergeant at Wake Correctional Center in Raleigh. "You leave home when it's dark, and when you leave the prison, it's dark."

Powell said correctional officers have a very attention-oriented job where they have to be conscious of every task they're working on. They have the lives of inmates and officers in their hands, and even the smallest of mistakes can put someone in danger.

"Our staff works very hard not to make those mistakes,

but they don't get the credit of protecting our population the way police and sheriffs do," he said.

McCrory's proposal sets aside \$21 million for the Department of Public Safety to update their pay schedule and increase the pay of 10,000 correctional officers, spokeswoman for the Office of State Budget and Management.

"This is significant because it's the first time the pay scale for correctional officers has been updated since the mid-1980s," Jennings said.

The current starting salary for a correctional officer in the state is around \$29,000, a number that hasn't been adjusted over the years for inflation. The proposed plan to restructure the DPS pay schedule would distinguish increased salaries by the level of security at which correctional officers are employed. In that case, close custody prisons would have the highest starting salary, then medium, and minimum custody would have the lowest starting salary.

"All our experienced officers are working in minimum cus-

tody and where we really need them is in close custody, so we're trying to provide some financial incentive to turn that around," Acree said.

But low retention rates are due to more than just an issue of low pay. Increased numbers of gang-involved inmates and inmates with mental illness add to the stress and dangers of the position.

In 1994, the N.C. General Assembly passed a law that restructured the way inmates serve their sentences.

The law aimed to ensure they served the amount of time originally ordered, limiting reduced sentences, thereby keeping prisons full.

"As a result of that, we've seen more violence within the system, we have more gang activity within the system, and we're dealing with a more difficult offender," Guice said.

In addition, because of the gaps in the state's mental health care system — in which some people don't qualify for Medicaid services but are also not able to afford private mental health care — many people suffering from mental illness end up in prisons.

The governor's budget pro-



DTH/BEN LEWIS

N.C. Gov. Pat McCrory has set aside \$21 million for the Department of Public Safety in his budget proposal this year.

positional addresses this issue by proposing to open beds previously unused in the healthcare wing of Central Prison in Raleigh. Even so, Guice said correctional officers would need to receive new training in dealing with offenders with special needs.

"Pay is just a start. You've got to feel comfortable in your job, and you've got to feel safe in your job," he said. "So we've got to be able to provide that level of training, that opportunity for advancement."

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DTH/BEN LEWIS

The Orange Correctional Center in Hillsborough is understaffed, with 74 total staff members. There are six vacant positions.

### Correctional work by the numbers

- Correctional officer retention is often impacted by the challenges of assault on staff and inmate gang affiliation.
- Staff assaults by inmates in close custody increased 10.3 percent from 2009 to 2013.
  - There were 804 assaults on staff in N.C. prisons in 2014.
  - Employees in close custody prisons are eight times more likely to be assaulted than employees in minimum custody facilities.
  - Since 2012, there has been an 18 percent increase in the number of N.C. inmates with a formal affiliation with Security Threat Groups.
  - The statewide turnover rate for correctional officers was 17 percent in fiscal year 2013. Comparatively, overall turnover rate for state employees was 9.7 percent.

# Easing the transition

## Various state organizations work to improve incarcerated people's re-entry to society

By Cain Twyman  
Senior Writer

There are 56 state prisons in North Carolina and nearly 38,000 people in the system.

Within most prisons there are a number of programs implemented to rehabilitate incarcerated people and prepare them for successful reentry into society. These efforts are meant to prevent people from returning to crime.

This effort isn't just the work of one entity. Nonprofits, the N.C. Department of Public Safety and advocacy groups also work with people who are or have been incarcerated.

The Daily Tar Heel profiled a few of these organizations and the work they do, as well as the challenges they face.

### N.C. CURE seeks equality

To see some of the brokenness of the criminal justice system, Elizabeth Forbes says all people have to do is sit down at a courthouse and watch what happens.

Throughout the day, an obvious racial disparity between people brought in front of a judge can be seen, said Forbes, director of the North Carolina chapter of Citizens United for Restorative Effectiveness.

"Criminal justice is a complicated system and a broken system," she said.

The group is dedicated to ensuring incarcerated persons have the necessary tools to successfully transition back into society after being released, a process known as reentry.

Not having proper resources leads to a return to a criminal lifestyle and ultimately a return to prison, a phenomenon known as recidivism.

Forbes said this resource gap stems from a lack of state funding for reentry programs like hers.

She and her advocacy group have worked with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety to raise awareness and provide information to create more effective programs for people once they leave prison.

"They are taking steps in the right direction, but it is still underserved," she said.

She said many of the people want to leave their criminal history in the past, but the stigmas around people with felonies on their criminal record hinders their progress.

The group works with state legislators and the Department of Public Safety to bring awareness to the needs of the prison population.

Forbes said with some administrations are more supportive than others.

"With (former Gov. Bev) Perdue in office we were lucky to have a sympathetic ear," she said. "The (Gov.) McCrory administration has been very closed."

### Rehabilitation starts in prisons

Nicole Sullivan, director of Rehabilitative Programs and Services for the N.C. Department of Public Safety, said the department works to pair prisoners with the most appropriate rehabilitative program.

The Department of Public Safety provides vocational training, counseling services and substance abuse treatment based on an individual's need.

"In North Carolina, we've offered various types of programs to reduce recidivism for a number of years, and we are always paying attention to correctional research and best practices from other states to identify new programs that could be implemented here," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said the programs are voluntary, but the department encourages all inmates to utilize them.

"We do try to offer as many programs and job opportunities to all incarcerated individuals to assist in their rehabilitation and preparation for release back into society," she said.

Reentry programs start the day someone is incarcerated in order to start the process of transitioning back into the community as early as possible, Sullivan said.

Part of that is preparing inmates for jobs.

At each prison there are jobs that inmates can have, such as those in the kitchen, and there are programs under the Department of Public Safety that provide technical training for incarcerated people.

Karen Brown, director of Correction Enterprises, which provides jobs in 17 industries, said the program employs 2,200 prisoners at any given time. Correction Enterprises employs about 5,000 people annually.

The program works with companies operating in North Carolina to get people jobs in the industries they work once they are released.

"We're concerned about inmates staying in North Carolina," she said.

### REHABILITATION DATA

- 56** Correctional facilities in North Carolina
- 38,000** People in the prison system in North Carolina
- 5,000** People employed by Correction Enterprises Inc.
- 400** Companies that will consider people with a criminal background

"We want them to get a job and earn a living wage."

Brown said there are around 400 companies in the state that are willing to interview or hire people with a criminal record.

According to Brown, the incentive for companies to work with the Department of Public Safety's programs is the eligibility for tax breaks.

### Farms use therapy, job training

Other transition programs, geared toward both jobs and general well-being, include nonprofits — but the road to effectiveness can be difficult in a state with dwindling funds.

Benevolence Farms, which is located in Graham, has worked since 2007 to start providing transitional assistance to people who have been incarcerated.

The farm hopes to secure its funding and open this year, said Tanya Jisa, the founder.

She was inspired to start the prison after learning about the number of incarcerated people in the United States.

Her farm will give residence and work to women recently released from prison.

"Those are the two biggest obstacles, they cannot find a place to live or work," she said, adding that she hopes Benevolence Farm will be a model for other programs. "We definitely want to provide support."

As an avid gardener, Jisa knows first-hand how healing and therapeutic nature can be.

She hopes to allow former people who have been incarcerated a chance to live on the farm for anywhere from six months to two years — longer than the average reentry program.

"Through the experience the women will create the skills needed in areas such as customer service (and) marketing," Jisa said. "They will be able to explore different career paths."

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# Recidivism a familiar obstacle for law enforcement

By Jenny Surane  
and Amanda Albright  
Senior Writers

Over the course of five years, UNC professor Feng Liu found four lost dogs on nightly walks with his wife and successfully returned them to their owners.

It's a beautiful image — the quiet genius happening upon

a lost soul and using that intellect to return the wanderer to a safe place.

But in July, Liu happened upon a different kind of lost soul. Two men, who had spent the better part of their adult lives with the North Carolina Department of Corrections.

Two lost souls, who, after robbing Liu, beat him with a land-

scaping block and left him for dead on West University Drive. Liu later died from his injuries at UNC Hospitals.

Police ultimately charged Durham resident Derick Davis II, 23, and Chapel Hill resident Troy Arrington Jr., 27, with first degree murder and felony counts of robbery in connection with Liu's death.

And the image everyone clung to in the days following the news of Liu's killing was this — when Arrington first faced a judge for his charges, he was still wearing a GPS ankle bracelet from a pre-trial release from Durham County on larceny charges.

Davis spent 30 months in correctional facilities for crimes including breaking and entering properties, assaulting a female and larceny of motor vehicles in the five years leading up to October 2013. Arrington spent 27 months in correctional facilities for crimes including obtaining property by false pretenses and possessing a firearm as a convicted felon, in the four years leading up to November 2013.

Orange County District Attorney Jim Woodall said probation in reality isn't like the movies, where law enforcement is able to track a former criminal's every move.

"There are a lot of limitations and unfortunately people are going to commit crimes on probation or soon after jail or prison," he said, not speaking specifically about Arrington and Davis' homicide cases because they are pending.

"Those things are going to happen. That's wrong, and you don't want it to happen. But the flip side of it (is), I tell people all the time when they say, 'Somebody broke into my house, and they should be in

jail till their case is handled.' I tell them, 'We literally do not have enough jail space to put everybody in jail while their case is handled.'"

Recidivism — when someone relapses into criminal behavior after they are punished for a separate crime — is a challenging phenomenon for N.C. law enforcement.

The state's rearrest rate was about 40.7 percent in the 2010-11 fiscal year, an increase in 9.2 percentage points since 2001-02, according to a 2014 study by the N.C. Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission.

The commission sampled more than 57,000 inmates and considered recidivism to be an arrest, conviction or incarceration during a two-year follow-up period.

Part of the reason for the increase is being able to count arrests with fingerprinting technology, the report states.

### Front lines of the issue

For the people on the front lines of the issue — police officers and others in law enforcement — recidivism is an issue handled case-by-case.

"Occasionally we'll pull individual data by name if we start realizing we've arrested the same person ten times in the last two months," said Lt. Josh Mecimore, a spokesman for the Chapel Hill Police Department. "We're looking if we need to

start doing something different than just rearresting the same person for the same thing."

But for more serious crimes like breaking and enterings, Mecimore said the department tries to be proactive and track repeat offenders as they're released from the Department of Corrections.

"We'll occasionally set up alerts for people that we know have a long history of (breaking and entering.) Frequently if we have someone who has a long history released from prison we'll see an uptick in (breaking and entering.)" Mecimore said.

Armed with the information from the notification network, Mecimore said officers are better equipped to police crime.

Assistant Police Chief Jabe Hunter works to combat recidivism in another way. Hunter is the Chapel Hill Police Department's representative on Project Safe Orange, a local version of a national effort called Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Project Safe Neighborhoods was designed to reduce illegal gun and gang-related violent crimes. The project brings law enforcement and prosecutors together to meet with people recently released from the N.C. Department of Corrections.

"We just tell them, 'Look, as a felon, you can't even own a bullet, and we take them through the wide range of sentencing that they can face for

just owning a bullet,' Hunter said. "We're trying to change behavior by educating folks."

### Life in the trenches

Project Safe Orange works with Fathers on the Move, a one-of-a-kind program in Orange County that provides support groups for men who are incarcerated.

"Even when I deal with a gang or something they're looking for that nucleus, that family structure," said Bishop Victor Glover, the chief executive officer of Fathers on the Move. "But it's all a facade. Then I visit them in prison, and that's when you really figure out who your bloods are."

The support group helps participants set achievable goals for their future employment, parenting and educational opportunities.

"While they're in prison, I tell these guys, 'You don't start your plan when you get out. You start your plan before you get out.'"

When Orange County opted to remove the questions about prior felony convictions from its preliminary applications, it was at the request of the advocates in Fathers on the Move.

"Nobody will hire them, especially because they have a record," Glover said. "In our brotherhood, we can encourage them. They can get 100 nos, and all it takes is one yes."

"Literally, some of our guys are on the brink of going back out there, and we say no and encourage them, and the next week they get a job."

After helping one participant put the finishing touches on his resume, Glover said the man framed the document because he was so proud of it.

Fred Wilson, the president of Fathers on the Move, said it's successful because its leaders and participants share many of the same experiences.

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### The main battlefield

As a district attorney who spends a lot of time in the courtroom, Woodall said North Carolina's justice system has become less of a "revolving door." Though his office doesn't track data about recidivism in



DTH/HENRY GARGAN

Bishop Victor Glover provides a leadership training for the Fathers on the Move program, which helps men who've been incarcerated.

the county, he sees fewer familiar people come through the court system than ever before.

"No matter what you do, there's no system that's going to prevent people from coming into the system over and over," he said. Woodall first noticed the changes after the 2011 Justice Reinvestment Act.

The law aimed to reduce the inmate population of more than 40,000 inmates; spending on the correctional system, which surpassed \$1 billion; and the crime rate. A high recidivism rate fed into all of that, so the state added

175 probation officers and changed the supervision of inmates after they left prison.

Woodall said probation officers now assess a prisoner's risk and needs upon release, ranking their risk on a scale. People who are ranked high are the least likely to commit crimes, and the lower scores signify that the prisoner is likely to commit a crime again.

The state focuses its resources on inmates who fall in the middle. It's not a wise use of resources to focus on those who are extremely likely to return to crime, Woodall said.

"We've learned that no matter how many resources you put behind them, they are almost certainly going to re-offend," he said. "That doesn't mean you give up on them."

Susan Katzenelson, director of the N.C. Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, said it was too soon to tell if the new approach to probation was reducing recidivism. Unlike the prison population size, the recidivism rate in the state has held steady for the past few years, she said.

"We're hoping that our next cycle, we will have enough

probationers who have gone through this new approach," she said. "That will be the ultimate test."

She said many factors work against rehabilitating former prisoners: substance abuse, mental illness and a skills gap that makes it challenging to secure a job.

"A lot of offenders don't have good habits of getting up in the morning, knowing how to get to work," she said. "It's often a vicious cycle. Once you solve one problem you have another."

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DTH/BEN LEWIS

North Carolina prisons have seen their populations skyrocket and decline in the past 10 years due to state legislation. Currently there are about 38,000 people who are incarcerated in 56 state prisons.

# NC prisons short-staffed

## Correctional officers face low pay, violence in prisons

By Lindsey Brunson  
Senior Writer

"All inmates line up outside," Sergeant Earvin Harrelson calls across the intercom from inside the control office.

It's 9:20 a.m., and time for the 220 inmates at Orange Correctional Center, a minimum custody prison in Hillsborough, to be accounted for. Dressed in grey sweats and green jackets in the cool morning, the inmates in the yard set down what they're doing and gather in a large circle around the red coral fence. They lounge against the posts as they wait to be counted. This is just another day.

A correctional officer pops her head into the control room.

"I've got 90 in the yard," she says. The officer coming in behind her says he does, too. Harrelson shakes his head. That's one too many. They've got to count again.

"Better one too many than one too few," says Harrelson. The Orange Correctional Center is working short-staffed. There are 74 total staff members, 38 of whom are correctional officers, and Harrelson said he has six

vacant positions. And Orange Correctional Center is not the only prison in the state with vacancies.

"Imagine this process in a facility with 1,800 inmates," said Armistead Hodges, superintendent of Orange Correctional Center.

The N.C. Department of Public Safety employs about 12,000 correctional officers in its 56 prison facilities and has about 1,000 vacancies it needs to fill, said Keith Acree, a spokesman for DPS.

Data from the N.C. Department of Corrections show that on average, about 60 percent of correctional officers working at close custody prisons have five years of experience or fewer. About 43 percent at medium custody prisons have five years of experience or fewer, and 29 percent at minimum custody have that experience.

"We've got to find a way to retain people. We can no longer continue to have all of these vacancies — we're losing more than we're hiring," said David Guice, commissioner of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice.

But Gov. Pat McCrory's

proposed budget could change things for the department. In his State of the State address, McCrory cited a statistic saying a correctional officer was assaulted every 11 hours in 2014, and nearly 300 of those incidents involved weapons.

"Correctional officers are confronting the most violent people in our state every minute of their day," he said. "Some live under death threats, not only to them, but to their family. Working in this environment comes at a price."

Correctional officers work 12-hour days, coming into work by 5:45 a.m. and not leaving until 5:30 p.m.

"It's a tough job," said Wendell Powell, a correctional sergeant at Wake Correctional Center in Raleigh. "You leave home when it's dark, and when you leave the prison, it's dark."

Powell said correctional officers have a very attention-oriented job where they have to be conscious of every task they're working on. They have the lives of inmates and officers in their hands, and even the smallest of mistakes can put someone in danger.

"Our staff works very hard not to make those mistakes,

but they don't get the credit of protecting our population the way police and sheriffs do," he said.

McCrory's proposal sets aside \$21 million for the Department of Public Safety to update their pay schedule and increase the pay of 10,000 correctional officers, spokeswoman for the Office of State Budget and Management.

"This is significant because it's the first time the pay scale for correctional officers has been updated since the mid-1980s," Jennings said.

The current starting salary for a correctional officer in the state is around \$29,000, a number that hasn't been adjusted over the years for inflation. The proposed plan to restructure the DPS pay schedule would distinguish increased salaries by the level of security at which correctional officers are employed. In that case, close custody prisons would have the highest starting salary, then medium, and minimum custody would have the lowest starting salary.

"All our experienced officers are working in minimum cus-

tody and where we really need them is in close custody, so we're trying to provide some financial incentive to turn that around," Acree said.

But low retention rates are due to more than just an issue of low pay. Increased numbers of gang-involved inmates and inmates with mental illness add to the stress and dangers of the position.

In 1994, the N.C. General Assembly passed a law that restructured the way inmates serve their sentences.

The law aimed to ensure they served the amount of time originally ordered, limiting reduced sentences, thereby keeping prisons full.

"As a result of that, we've seen more violence within the system, we have more gang activity within the system, and we're dealing with a more difficult offender," Guice said.

In addition, because of the gaps in the state's mental health care system — in which some people don't qualify for Medicaid services but are also not able to afford private mental health care — many people suffering from mental illness end up in prisons.

The governor's budget pro-



DTH/BEN LEWIS

N.C. Gov. Pat McCrory has set aside \$21 million for the Department of Public Safety in his budget proposal this year.

positional addresses this issue by proposing to open beds previously unused in the healthcare wing of Central Prison in Raleigh. Even so, Guice said correctional officers would need to receive new training in dealing with offenders with special needs.

"Pay is just a start. You've got to feel comfortable in your job, and you've got to feel safe in your job," he said. "So we've got to be able to provide that level of training, that opportunity for advancement."

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DTH/BEN LEWIS

The Orange Correctional Center in Hillsborough is understaffed, with 74 total staff members. There are six vacant positions.

### Correctional work by the numbers

Correctional officer retention is often impacted by the challenges of assault on staff and inmate gang affiliation.

- Staff assaults by inmates in close custody increased 10.3 percent from 2009 to 2013.

- There were 804 assaults on staff in N.C. prisons in 2014.

- Employees in close custody prisons are eight times more likely to be assaulted

than employees in minimum custody facilities.

- Since 2012, there has been an 18 percent increase in the number of N.C. inmates with a formal affiliation with Security Threat Groups.

- The statewide turnover rate for correctional officers was 17 percent in fiscal year 2013. Comparatively, overall turnover rate for state employees was 9.7 percent.

# Easing the transition

## Various state organizations work to improve incarcerated people's re-entry to society

By Cain Twyman  
Senior Writer

There are 56 state prisons in North Carolina and nearly 38,000 people in the system.

Within most prisons there are a number of programs implemented to rehabilitate incarcerated people and prepare them for successful reentry into society. These efforts are meant to prevent people from returning to crime.

This effort isn't just the work of one entity. Nonprofits, the N.C. Department of Public Safety and advocacy groups also work with people who are or have been incarcerated.

The Daily Tar Heel profiled a few of these organizations and the work they do, as well as the challenges they face.

### N.C. CURE seeks equality

To see some of the brokenness of the criminal justice system, Elizabeth Forbes says all people have to do is sit down at a courthouse and watch what happens.

Throughout the day, an obvious racial disparity between people brought in front of a judge can be seen, said Forbes, director of the North Carolina chapter of Citizens United for Restorative Effectiveness.

"Criminal justice is a complicated system and a broken system," she said.

The group is dedicated to ensuring incarcerated persons have the necessary tools to successfully transition back into society after being released, a process known as reentry.

Not having proper resources leads to a return to a criminal lifestyle and ultimately a return to prison, a phenomenon known as recidivism.

Forbes said this resource gap stems from a lack of state funding for reentry programs like hers.

She and her advocacy group have worked with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety to raise awareness and provide information to create more effective programs for people once they leave prison.

"They are taking steps in the right direction, but it is still underserved," she said.

She said many of the people want to leave their criminal history in the past, but the stigmas around people with felonies on their criminal record hinders their progress.

The group works with state legislators and the Department of Public Safety to bring awareness to the needs of the prison population.

Forbes said with some administrations are more supportive than others.

"With (former Gov. Bev) Perdue in office we were lucky to have a sympathetic ear," she said. "The (Gov.) McCrory administration has been very closed."

### Rehabilitation starts in prisons

Nicole Sullivan, director of Rehabilitative Programs and Services for the N.C. Department of Public Safety, said the department works to pair prisoners with the most appropriate rehabilitative program.

The Department of Public Safety provides vocational training, counseling services and substance abuse treatment based on an individual's need.

"In North Carolina, we've offered various types of programs to reduce recidivism for a number of years, and we are always paying attention to correctional research and best practices from other states to identify new programs that could be implemented here," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said the programs are voluntary, but the department encourages all inmates to utilize them.

"We do try to offer as many programs and job opportunities to all incarcerated individuals to assist in their rehabilitation and preparation for release back into society," she said.

Reentry programs start the

day someone is incarcerated in order to start the process of transitioning back into the community as early as possible, Sullivan said.

Part of that is preparing inmates for jobs.

At each prison there are jobs that inmates can have, such as those in the kitchen, and there are programs under the Department of Public Safety that provide technical training for incarcerated people.

Karen Brown, director of Correction Enterprises, which provides jobs in 17 industries, said the program employs 2,200 prisoners at any given time. Correction Enterprises employs about 5,000 people annually.

The program works with companies operating in North Carolina to get people jobs in the industries they work once they are released.

"We're concerned about inmates staying in North Carolina," she said.

### REHABILITATION DATA

56

Correctional facilities in North Carolina

38,000

People in the prison system in North Carolina

5,000

People employed by Correction Enterprises Inc.

400

Companies that will consider people with a criminal background

"We want them to get a job and earn a living wage."

Brown said there are around 400 companies in the state that are willing to interview or hire people with a criminal record.

According to Brown, the incentive for companies to work with the Department of Public Safety's programs is the eligibility for tax breaks.

### Farms use therapy, job training

Other transition programs, geared toward both jobs and general well-being, include nonprofits — but the road to effectiveness can be difficult in a state with dwindling funds.

Benevolence Farms, which is located in Graham, has worked since 2007 to start providing transitional assistance to people who have been incarcerated.

The farm hopes to secure its funding and open this year, said Tanya Jisa, the founder.

She was inspired to start the prison after learning about the number of incarcerated people in the United States.

Her farm will give residence and work to women recently released from prison.

"Those are the two biggest obstacles, they cannot find a place to live or work," she said, adding that she hopes Benevolence Farm will be a model for other programs. "We definitely want to provide support."

As an avid gardener, Jisa knows first-hand how healing and therapeutic nature can be.

She hopes to allow former people who have been incarcerated a chance to live on the farm for anywhere from six months to two years — longer than the average reentry program.

"Through the experience the women will create the skills needed in areas such as customer service (and) marketing," Jisa said. "They will be able to explore different career paths."

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# Recidivism a familiar obstacle for law enforcement

By Jenny Surane  
and Amanda Albright  
Senior Writers

Over the course of five years, UNC professor Feng Liu found four lost dogs on nightly walks with his wife and successfully returned them to their owners.

It's a beautiful image — the quiet genius happening upon

a lost soul and using that intellect to return the wanderer to a safe place.

But in July, Liu happened upon a different kind of lost soul. Two men, who had spent the better part of their adult lives with the North Carolina Department of Corrections.

Two lost souls, who, after robbing Liu, beat him with a land-

scaping block and left him for dead on West University Drive. Liu later died from his injuries at UNC Hospitals.

Police ultimately charged Durham resident Derrick Davis II, 23, and Chapel Hill resident Troy Arrington Jr., 27, with first degree murder and felony counts of robbery in connection with Liu's death.

And the image everyone clung to in the days following the news of Liu's killing was this — when Arrington first faced a judge for his charges, he was still wearing a GPS ankle bracelet from a pre-trial release from Durham County on larceny charges.

Davis spent 30 months in correctional facilities for crimes including breaking and entering properties, assaulting a female and larceny of motor vehicles in the five years leading up to October 2013. Arrington spent 27 months in correctional facilities for crimes including obtaining property by false pretenses and possessing a firearm as a convicted felon, in the four years leading up to November 2013.

Orange County District Attorney Jim Woodall said probation in reality isn't like the movies, where law enforcement is able to track a former criminal's every move.

"There are a lot of limitations and unfortunately people are going to commit crimes on probation or soon after jail or prison," he said, not speaking specifically about Arrington and Davis' homicide cases because they are pending.

"Those things are going to happen. That's wrong, and you don't want it to happen. But the flip side of it (is), I tell people all the time when they say, 'Somebody broke into my house, and they should be in

jail till their case is handled.' I tell them, 'We literally do not have enough jail space to put everybody in jail while their case is handled.'"

Recidivism — when someone relapses into criminal behavior after they are punished for a separate crime — is a challenging phenomenon for N.C. law enforcement.

The state's rearest rate was about 40.7 percent in the 2010-11 fiscal year, an increase in 9.2 percentage points since 2001-02, according to a 2014 study by the N.C. Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission.

The commission sampled more than 57,000 inmates and considered recidivism to be an arrest, conviction or incarceration during a two-year follow-up period.

Part of the reason for the increase is being able to count arrests with fingerprinting technology, the report states.

### Front lines of the issue

For the people on the front lines of the issue — police officers and others in law enforcement — recidivism is an issue handled case-by-case.

"Occasionally we'll pull individual data by name if we start realizing we've arrested the same person ten times in the last two months," said Lt. Josh Mecimore, a spokesman for the Chapel Hill Police Department. "We're looking if we need to

start doing something different than just re-arresting the same person for the same thing."

But for more serious crimes like breaking and enterings, Mecimore said the department tries to be proactive and track repeat offenders as they're released from the Department of Corrections.

"We'll occasionally set up alerts for people that we know have a long history of (breaking and entering.) Frequently if we have someone who has a long history released from prison we'll see an uptick in (breaking and entering.)" Mecimore said.

Armed with the information from the notification network, Mecimore said officers are better equipped to police crime.

Assistant Police Chief Jabe Hunter works to combat recidivism in another way. Hunter is the Chapel Hill Police Department's representative on Project Safe Orange, a local version of a national effort called Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Project Safe Neighborhoods was designed to reduce illegal gun and gang-related violent crimes. The project brings law enforcement and prosecutors together to meet with people recently released from the N.C. Department of Corrections.

"We just tell them, 'Look, as a felon, you can't even own a bullet, and we take them through the wide range of sentencing that they can face for

just owning a bullet,' Hunter said. "We're trying to change behavior by educating folks."

### Life in the trenches

Project Safe Orange works with Fathers on the Move, a one-of-a-kind program in Orange County that provides support groups for men who are incarcerated.

"Even when I deal with a gang or something they're looking for that nucleus, that family structure," said Bishop Victor Glover, the chief executive officer of Fathers on the Move. "But it's all a facade. Then I visit them in prison, and that's when you really figure out who your bloods are."

The support group helps participants set achievable goals for their future employment, parenting and educational opportunities.

"While they're in prison, I tell these guys, 'You don't start your plan when you get out. You start your plan before you get out.'"

When Orange County opted to remove the questions about prior felony convictions from its preliminary applications, it was at the request of the advocates in Fathers on the Move.

"Nobody will hire them, especially because they have a record," Glover said. "In our brotherhood, we can encourage them. They can get 100 nos, and all it takes is one yes.

"Literally, some of our guys are on the brink of going back out there, and we say no and encourage them, and the next week they get a job."

After helping one participant put the finishing touches on his resume, Glover said the man framed the document because he was so proud of it.

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DTH/HENRY GARGAN

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# Cat's Cradle helped draw alt-J to Raleigh

**By Jamie Stuart**  
Staff Writer

When alt-J plays Raleigh's Red Hat Amphitheater on Friday, concertgoers will have Cat's Cradle to thank for the pairing of artist and venue. Cat's Cradle has been a staple in the Triangle's music scene for more than 40 years. The venue has hosted its fair share of premier music acts such as Nirvana, Public Enemy and John Mayer before they were fully established because the intimate setting provides a good space for up-and-coming artists. As bands develop, many of them maintain their relationship with Cat's Cradle.

Sometimes they outgrow the confines of the approximately 700-person space, but Cat's Cradle maintains its relationship with these artists by outsourcing them to larger venues. This is the case for Friday's alt-J concert, which was outsourced to the 6,000-person Red Hat Amphitheater, through the venues' partnership with promoter Live Nation. Alt-J, a popular indie-rock band, sold out the show, which is Red Hat's first of the season. "It's always good to kick off the season with maybe our biggest show of the year, and the Cradle has given us this opportunity," said Taylor Traversari, manager of Red

Hat Amphitheater. Alt-J, Questlove and Alabama Shakes are some of the acts that have previously played at and currently have relationships with Cat's Cradle but have now outgrown the space, said Glenn Boothe, Cat's Cradle manager. Bands are sometimes outsourced to venues that are smaller than the Cradle, such as Motorco. Such cases are usually due to scheduling conflicts or bands that have played several times in Carrboro and are looking to play elsewhere in the Triangle. "Ultimately, our goal is if a band wants to play in the area, we want them to play and try to be involved in that

show any way we can," Boothe said. "So the venues work together — that's one of the things about the venues in this market: there's a lot of cooperation. It's competitive on one side, but we also cooperate on another side." Boothe said outsourcing shows to other venues benefits both parties because Cat's Cradle helps to bring business to another venue. And it gives the artist the opportunity to play in a market it might not have had access to otherwise. "It's mutually beneficial," Boothe said. "We get to do the show, and they get to be open and have a big night." The cooperation between venues exemplifies the artist-

friendly nature of the Chapel Hill and Triangle areas, he said. "UNC as a whole is already pretty open-minded, so I think that combined with the local community makes this area pretty diverse and appealing for artists," said Mary Claire

Brogden, a sophomore advertising major at UNC who will be attending the concert. "Red Hat is a sweet venue, and alt-J does a great live show. I'm really excited."

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## Survivors promote 'Hunting Ground' film

**By Katia Martinez**  
Staff Writer

A lot has happened since Andrea Pino and Annie Clark were last in Chapel Hill. For the first time since their film "The Hunting Ground" was released, Pino and Clark — both UNC graduates who filed a federal complaint against the University for the handling of their sexual assault cases — screened their film on campus sexual violence in Chapel Hill. "It's really emotional to be back," Pino said. "This is the first school we've been to that's featured in the film — and this place means a lot to us." Pino and Clark spoke to the audience after the Chelsea Theater screening Wednesday night about the film and their campus violence coalition, End Rape on Campus. They also spoke about on- and off-campus resources for sexual assault survivors. "People are caught between two systems that don't work and that are essentially broken," Pino said. "The justice system isn't working, and the university systems aren't working."

One of the film's major story arcs was a case that involved a student-athlete at Florida State University, and audience were curious about what Pino and Clark had found in their research outside the case highlighted in the film. "It's shown that in these cases where athletes were concerned, 25 percent of schools that we surveyed were having the athletic department handle them," Clark said. "In these cases it looked like a 'you're going to do some extra laps after practice' sort of situation." Nancy Register, a former UNC nurse practitioner, started a program with a coworker in 1997 that brought rape resources for students, including rape kits and 24-hour service, to UNC's campus health building. The program went on for about two years, but when Register left her position, the resources returned exclusively to UNC's hospital. "I'd get calls at all hours of the night about it, and I had students with varying degrees of experiences," Register said. "We'd take care of them and do what we can, but it's hard to help when it's so difficult to



DTH/KATIA MARTINEZ  
Andrea Pino (right) and Annie Clark speak to the audience after screening their film, "The Hunting Ground," at the Chelsea Theatre.

report it." Pino and Clark also spoke about their work with Title IX coordinators around the country, and they said they believe discussions about sexual violence needs to start much earlier than college. "If you're hearing about this for the first time at college orientation, it's already too late," Clark said. "This should start with age-appropriate conversations at the elementary school level and work its way through middle and high school." "It's really important for us

to think outside the box and outside just Title IX because these are our kids being assaulted," Pino said. The final question during the panel came from a mother, who asked Pino and Clark what she should tell her daughter when she called her that night. "Tell her you'd support her and tell her to know her rights," Clark said. "And don't just call your daughters — call your sons."

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## Abortion bill targets UNC medical school

**By Sarah Brown**  
State & National Editor

UNC School of Medicine doctors may no longer be able to perform abortions or teach medical students how to perform them, if a new proposal in the N.C. General Assembly becomes law. House Bill 465, filed Wednesday, would prevent employees at the state's two public medical schools — UNC and East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine — from performing or supervising abortion procedures. Jennifer James, spokeswoman for UNC Health Care, said the system and the school are reviewing the bill and its potential effects. The national accrediting body for medical schools requires OB/GYN residents to be educated in performing abortion procedures, James said in an email. "They further state that experience with management of complications of abortion must be provided to all residents," she said. She said UNC doesn't currently use any state money to perform abortions. Corey Frost, a UNC law student who's part of UNC Feminist Students United, said he thinks the ban would likely affect a small number of UNC medical students. But there is already a shortage of abortion providers nationwide and in North Carolina, Frost said — in part because doctors in the field often receive threats and deal with verbal and violent attacks from anti-abortion activists. "The incentives are not there for students to learn how to perform abortions anyway, and this (bill) would just make it worse," he said. Cara Schumann, co-chairwoman of UNC's Students United for Reproductive Justice, said she's concerned that restricting abortion education would lead to fewer clinics, fewer abortion doctors and fewer options for women who need the procedure. UNC's OB/GYN residency is the top-ranked program in the South, James added. If the bill became law, she said it

could have an impact on their recruitment of residents. Other provisions in the bill would increase the waiting period before women could receive an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours and prevent doctors who aren't licensed gynecologists or obstetricians from performing abortions. The bill also requires doctors who perform abortions between 16 and 20 weeks of pregnancy to provide a detailed report to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, including an ultrasound, the "probable gestational age" and measurements of the fetus. "I have no idea what that's about and how it in any way protects women or improves women's health," Frost said. Republican lawmakers have addressed abortion several times since taking control of the legislature in 2010 — including passing the Woman's Right to Know Act, which required doctors to display and explain an ultrasound to a pregnant woman

before she could receive an abortion. A legal case against it continues. Gov. Pat McCrory ran in the 2012 election on a campaign promise not to enact further abortion restrictions, though he has already been tested during his tenure — particularly by a 2013 bill that attached stricter regulations for abortion clinics in the state to a motorcycle safety measure. McCrory eventually signed it into law. On the latest abortion proposal, Schumann said SURJ will be aligning with Planned Parenthood to rally against the bill. She said she's not surprised that the bill cropped up in the current legislature. "From the moment we got a Republican majority and Pat McCrory became governor, again and again and again they have chipped away at abortion coverage," she said. "It's pretty heavy-handed control of our university system."

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## Come Worship the Risen Lord!

**Holy Thursday, April 2**  
Worship, 2 & 7:30 pm

On the night before he was crucified, Jesus shared a Last Supper with his disciples. We will remember Jesus' lessons of love and service with worship services offering Holy Communion and footwashing.

**Good Friday, April 3**  
Cantata, 7:30 pm

Jesus sacrificed his life for us, dying on a cross. We will commemorate his life-giving sacrifice with a cantata — "Saint Mark Passion" — on Good Friday. The cantata by composer Charles Wood is a passion play based on the Gospel of Mark, beginning with the Last Supper and concluding with the crucifixion.

**Easter Sunday, April 5**  
Sunrise Service, 6:30 am  
Traditional Worship, 9 & 11 am

Christ is risen! Celebrate his resurrection with us on Easter Sunday!

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# Conference kicks off sexual assault awareness month

By Olivia Bane  
Staff Writer

For the first day of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, an assistant vice chancellor made a case for why the University should still be involved in addressing the issue.

"The University has a set of tools that you can't access from the community," said aid Christi Hurt, assistant vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

Hurt described tools like the University's ability to expel students, change a student's housing situation if he or she no longer feels safe and shift a student's classes or exams.

Hurt also spoke about the changes in the University's sexual assault policy.

"One thing that's very important is that no mat-

ter who someone reports to — whether it's a (resident adviser), the Women's Center, or a Title IX officer — is that they get the same range of options," Hurt said.

She said she is frequently asked what the law needs to be regarding sexual violence.

"It's already illegal to rape people and that's pretty clear," she said. "I don't think there's a legal solution in terms of changing laws, but there's a lot we can do to respond."

Professor Sandra Martin, associate dean for research at the Gillings School of Global Public Health, spoke about risk factors for both sexual assailants and victims.

Alcohol use, particularly binge drinking, is a risk factor for both assailants and victims.

The National Institute on

Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism has found that research shows 34 to 74 percent of perpetrators are intoxicated at the time of the assault.

Victims of sexual assaults are often younger college students, due to naivete or a combination of other factors, Martin said.

"Year of study is important when we're talking about sexual assaults. There's a much higher rate of sexual assault freshman year than the later years of study," she said.

A new Association of American Universities survey on campus sexual assault will be emailed to all UNC students today to assess their experiences and thoughts on this issue to inform future prevention and response efforts.

The survey received criticism earlier this year by some experts who thought it was too secretive and generalized.

Students will have access to the survey, which Martin helped to develop, until April 22. Half of the participants will receive a \$5 Amazon gift card, and the other half will be entered into a drawing to win \$500 in cash.

"Students will get about one reminder per week about the survey. We'll also start pushing out word about it on social media," said Hilary Delbridge, spokeswoman for the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office.

UNC will be one of 28 schools in the U.S. administering the survey.

university@dailytarheel.com



DTH/KATIA MARTINEZ

Doctoral student Cara Person explains her research on judge assistance in domestic violence cases on Wednesday afternoon.

# DTH Classifieds

DTH office is open Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm

<b>To Place a Line Classified Ad Log Onto</b> <b>www.dailytarheel.com/classifieds or Call 919-962-0252</b>		<b>Deadlines</b> <b>Line Ads:</b> Noon, one business day prior to publication <b>Display Classified Ads:</b> 3pm, two business days prior to publication
<b>Line Classified Ad Rates</b> <b>Private Party (Non-Profit)</b> 25 Words.....\$20.00/week Extra words...25¢/word/day <b>EXTRAS: Box:</b> \$1/day • <b>Bold:</b> \$3/day	<b>Commercial (For-Profit)</b> 25 Words.....\$42.50/week Extra words...25¢/word/day	<b>Legend:</b> BR = Bedroom • BA = Bath • mo = month • hr = hour • wk = week • W/D = washer/dryer • OBO = or best offer • AC = air conditioning • w/ = with • LR = living room

### Help Wanted

Photo Specialties has multiple openings for office work from approximately May 4th-May 29th. We offer a casual working environment just minutes from the UNC campus. The amount of hours that you could work are flexible, ranging from 20-50 hours per week. Work around another job/summer school or build up the hours and take the rest of the summer off. The choice is yours! Pay is \$9.50/hr. Please call Joel at 919-967-9576.

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GOVERNORS CLUB GOLF OPERATION: Team member at premiere private club. Benefits include free meals and playing privileges. Location close to campus. Contact Matt, 919-918-7214.

LIFEGUARDS: Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation now hiring part-time lifeguards. Apply online at [www.townofchapelhill.org](http://www.townofchapelhill.org). Call 919-968-2798 or 919-968-2789 for additional information.

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PERFECT SUMMER JOB: Work in a TOY STORE! Flexible hours; pleasant surroundings. Apply in person at The Children's Store, 243 South Elliott Road, Chapel Hill or via email: becky@thechildrenstoreinc.com.

ELMO'S DINER CARRBORO Now hiring part-time HOSTS, SERVERS AND LINE COOKS. Please apply online at: [elmoscarrboro-cafesymetry.com](http://elmoscarrboro-cafesymetry.com) or 919-929-2909.

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### Summer Jobs

PART-TIME LAB ASSISTANTS: 2 positions available for biology majors at Karyologic, Inc., Durham. 1 early May thru June 1 late June thru mid-August. \$12/hr. Flexible schedule. Requirements: Complete 50 credit hours before start, interest in learning human karyotyping and pass visual discrimination test at interview. Email interest and recent grade report to [info@karyologic.com](mailto:info@karyologic.com).

SUMMER CAMP HEAD COUNSELOR: Stoneridge Club in Chapel Hill is now hiring a head camp counselor. This position requires at least 2 years of previous counselor experience. club.manager.sssrc@gmail.com, 919-967-0915.

### Wheels for Sale

2008 SCION XB, 51K MILES. Manual transmission, original owner, non-smoker, new tires in September 2014, 28 MPG. Clean title. Runs great. \$9,500. 919-452-9184.

### Lost & Found Ads Run Free in DTH Classifieds!

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MCCAULEY TRAIL TOWNHOMES. Newly renovated, spacious. 3BR/1.5-2BA. 2 stories. Great front porches, hardwood floors, W/D. Walk to campus. \$1,755-\$1,845/mo. \$1,000 OFF the security deposit Call 919-968-7226, [rentals@millhouseproperties.com](mailto:rentals@millhouseproperties.com).

4 BLOCKS TO FRANKLIN STREET and campus, this is a 2BR/1BA apartment at 415 North Columbia Street. For more information, text Fran Holland Properties at 919-630-3229 or email [thollandprop@gmail.com](mailto:thollandprop@gmail.com).

WALK TO CAMPUS, GREAT LOCATION, RENT REDUCED! 5BR/3.5BA W/D, dishwasher, central heat and air. Off street parking. \$2,500/mo. Water included. Available June. 203-B Carver Street. 919-933-8143, [mpatmore@hotmail.com](mailto:mpatmore@hotmail.com).

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**QUESTIONS? 962-0252**

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EXPERIENCED SITTER NEEDED: 20-30 hrs/wk caring for boy (7) and girl (11) in Chapel Hill near UNC campus. School pick up and activities weekdays until 6pm, some evenings. Excellent pay. Clean driving record. Cooking a plus. Contact: [battlepark68@gmail.com](mailto:battlepark68@gmail.com).

AFTER SCHOOL SITTER needed. 2 boys (age 7 and 10) for 3 hrs/day 3-5 day/wk (flexible), occasional evening. Grad student or grad student spouse preferred. To be picked up from school at 2:30pm. Some cooking would be great, not necessary. Need to be able to drive to activities (tennis, soccer, etc), and enjoy kids. Contact: [hroth@neurology.unc.edu](mailto:hroth@neurology.unc.edu).

### Announcements

**The DTH will be closed Friday 4/3 for Easter**  
Deadline for 4/7 Paper: Today!

### Announcements

**NOTICE TO ALL DTH CUSTOMERS**  
Deadlines are NOON one business day prior to publication for classified ads. We publish Monday thru Friday when classes are in session. A university holiday is a DTH holiday too (i.e. this affects deadlines). We reserve the right to reject, edit, or reclassify any ad. Please check your ad on the first run date, as we are only responsible for errors on the first day of the ad. Acceptance of ad copy or prepayment does not imply agreement to publish an ad. You may stop your ad at any time, but NO REFUNDS or credits for stopped ads will be provided. No advertising for housing or employment, in accordance with federal law, can state a preference based on sex, race, creed, color, religion, national origin, handicap, marital status.

### If April 2nd is Your Birthday...

Play full out this year. Go for love, health and prosperity. Share epic adventures and magical moments. Collaboration requires adaptation after 4/4. Work together for a shared dream. Doors appear after Saturn goes direct (6/14). Reach a new level professionally after 10/13. Schedule personal time for after 10/27. Grow from your heart.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)**  
Today is a 9 — Get in communication and together you can move mountains. Long distance charges apply. Tap hidden resources. Good news arrives from far away. A little persuasion is all it takes. Solve a work puzzle, and harvest the profits.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**  
Today is an 8 — All the pieces line up today. Follow a passion and benefits arise with long-lasting impact. Accept a sweet deal. Make decisions together with your partner. Track the spending. Fall in love all over again.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**  
Today is a 7 — Invest in your family's comfort. Add long-lasting beauty. Do the homework and research a fabulous bargain. A lucky break solves the puzzle. You have what you need. Friends teach you the rules. Together, you can handle anything.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**  
Today is a 7 — Profit through communications and networking today. Invest in quality equipment for your business. Creative work pays well. You're learning something fascinating, and more study is required. A lucky break reveals the missing puzzle piece. Friends teach you.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
Today is a 9 — It's a good time to ask for money. Results are better than expected. Study the situation, and then choose. Long-distance travels and communications flow with ease. You have what you need. Miracles do happen. Expand your territory.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
Today is a 9 — You're the star, with more attention than expected. Get what you've been saving for. Family fortunes seem to be expanding. Friends are there for you. Rely on experience. Throw another plate on the table for unexpected company.  
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**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
Today is a 7 — Your partner can get further today. Let someone else answer the phone. Clean house and organize. Set aside worries for now. Relax and pamper yourself. Creative insight arises in the shower. Make a decision you can live with.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
Today is an 8 — Meetings and collaborations get extra-productive today. Work together. Provide excellent service. Your reputation precedes you. Creative collaborations provide long-lasting, shared benefit. An unexpected bonus surprises the team. Share treats and celebrate.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
Today is an 8 — Explore a subject for the fun of it, and unexpected profits arise. Your growing talents increase your professional status. Make long-range plans. Accept accolades. Do what you love, and let people know what you're up to.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
Today is an 8 — Find what you need for home and family. Help arrives from afar. Prepare for change. Learn from experience. Finishing old projects helps, too. Do what worked before. The truth gets revealed. Put together a fabulous deal.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
Today is an 8 — Collaboration flows today. Write, record and produce a masterpiece. Get the word out. The money is your motivation, and it's good. Keep your team in the loop. Accept a compliment from an adversary and assistance from your friends.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
Today is a 9 — You and a partner can rake in the dough today. Put together a strong pitch. Behind-the-scenes negotiations lead to a sweet deal. Ask for what you really want. Finishing old tasks is rewarding. Everything seems possible.

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Chapel Hill, NC 27516

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# Longtime Chapel Hill chiropractor leaves town

By Marisa Bakker  
Staff Writer

The chiropractor is in, and he has your back — just from a new location.

Dr. Chas Gaertner, owner of North Carolina Chiropractic, reopened his practice Wednesday from a new location in Carrboro. Formerly located in downtown Chapel Hill, N.C. Chiropractic has been in business exactly 20 years as of Wednesday.

“I’ve been doing this so long that I’m treating college kids who I had as patients when they were babies — it’s strange to think that I’ve had my practice for 20 years,” he said.

Chas Gaertner’s office offers a distinct fusion of chiropractic technique and massage therapy, a factor he said likely contributed to the eight INDY awards N.C. Chiropractic has taken home since it opened in 1995.

Chas Gaertner said the move resulted from a couple

of different factors, largely related to simplicity and practicality. In addition to being more cost effective, the new location is closer to where Chas Gaertner lives with his wife and two children in Carrboro.

He said Carrboro also offers a community of people and businesses he didn’t experience in Chapel Hill — all of the small business owners on East Weaver Street, where N.C. Chiropractic is located, frequent each other’s establishments, from pet care to physical therapy.

“I look out the window and I see patients walking past because I’m working right beside the people I treat,” he said.

“Carrboro has become what Chapel Hill wishes it could be. It’s an ideal space for a small business like mine because of the community — the evolving business community is just incredible.”

Elaine Gaertner, Chas Gaertner’s wife, said Carrboro

provides a different atmosphere than Chapel Hill, one that better fits N.C. Chiropractic.

“Chapel Hill is very bustling. There’s always a lot of things happening, and it’s very exciting — Carrboro is more serene, more peaceful,” she said.

“The town is very full, but it’s more of a community feeling rather than a transient feeling. It’s the difference between an urban feel and a village feel.”

Since N.C. Chiropractic opened 20 years ago, Chas Gaertner said he has treated almost 9,000 patients, many of them UNC students. He described many of his patients as healthy people who want to be healthier, such as yoga enthusiasts and athletes who eat well, exercise and have a healthy skepticism of medication.

“It’s the repetitive stress that takes a toll — running, for example — and causes people to use their bodies in

a certain way and wake up in pain,” he said. “I take them on and help in a drugless way.”

Linda Kampel, a Chapel Hill resident and patient of Gaertner’s for the past seven years, said she’s thrilled about the move, since it’ll bring the chiropractor closer to her home.

“One of the things we like a lot is that he spends a lot of time with us — whatever time you need, he’ll spend enough time going over everything and making sure you feel comfortable and welcome,” she said.

Elaine Gaertner said she and her husband have received positive feedback about the move and are excited for the opportunities the new location could bring.

“It feels very homey for us to be here and have our home, our whole life and business here — we really love Chapel Hill — we just felt like we belonged more in Carrboro.”

city@dailytarheel.com



DTH/CLAIRE COLLINS

Dr. Chas Gaertner moved his chiropractic practice, North Carolina Chiropractic, to Carrboro from downtown Chapel Hill.

## EXONERATION

FROM PAGE 1

forensic testing comes from a federal grant that will expire at the end of 2015. In order to continue investigating claims of innocence, the commission needs the state legislature to increase its budget by \$100,000.

### A storm of misfortune

Taylor describes the events that led to his conviction as a perfect storm of misfortune.

“Ultimately, I just feel like that if there was a person in power that would look at my case in its totality, they would see I was innocent and do something about it if they had any integrity,” Taylor said. “What I didn’t realize at the time was that there wasn’t anybody like that.”

Taylor was tried and convicted of murder after his truck was found 150 feet away from the dead body of a prostitute. His attorney believed the state’s case was so weak that it would be dismissed, but the case went on.

The state connected blood spots on Taylor’s vehicle back to the victim. However, tests conducted by the state revealed the blood on the truck was not human blood — a fact the state left out of the courtroom and Taylor’s lawyer never received.

After two hours of deliberation, the jury came back with a guilty verdict. Taylor’s mouth dropped as he turned to face his family.

“(My lawyer) had the truth on his side, threw it away and at that point the truth became unavailable to the appellate courts,” Taylor said.

He filed two appeals, but both were denied. In an effort to discredit the blood spots on his vehicle, Taylor’s lawyer filed a motion to conduct DNA testing, but it was denied as well. In many states, Taylor would have been out of options.

“The system is not set up for innocent people, and when an innocent person gets caught up in the system, the system doesn’t know how to act,” Taylor said. “An innocent person doesn’t have the same options as a guilty person. I couldn’t take any pleas — there was nobody I could testify against. While I’m claiming my innocence, that’s not what people want to hear.”

“It wasn’t doing anybody any good to be innocent.”

### The first innocent man

Taylor filed a claim with the North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence, a nonprofit agency that investigates claims of innocence and recommends legislative reform. His application sat in a stack of more than 900 cases waiting to be read.

Christine Mumma, director of the Center on Actual Innocence, helped write legislation establishing the Innocence Inquiry Commission. Unlike a court of appeals, the commission may review new evidence such as DNA samples and updated testimony. The commission has the authority to exonerate individuals based on proof of innocence.

Mumma heard about Taylor’s case and felt compelled to investigate. The Center on Actual Innocence handled the case for two years before turn-

ing it over to the Innocence Inquiry Commission as one of its first cases.

First, the commission’s staff presents the case under review to an eight-member panel, which determines whether the case is strong enough to move on to a three-judge panel. The panel hears the case and determines whether there is “clear and convincing evidence of innocence” to exonerate.

The proof of innocence standard is unique to the Innocence Inquiry Commission.

“It sort of takes the entire judicial process and turns it on its head,” Taylor said. “Rather than the plaintiff proving guilt, the defendant or convict, has to prove innocence.”

Taylor became the first person in U.S. history to be declared legally innocent.

“When that third judge declared him innocent we had proven the success of the Innocence Inquiry Commission process,” Mumma said.

### The price of justice

The Innocence Inquiry Commission has received 1664 claims, leading to eight exonerations.

In 2012, the commission received a federal grant of \$761,111 to support DNA testing. This grant, which expires at the end of 2015, also pays for the cost of investigations and expert witnesses.

The commission’s executive director, Kendra Montgomery-Blinn, said the future of funding is unknown.

“We will reapply for the federal grant as well, but the federal funds are shrinking and we do not know if we will receive funding again,” Montgomery-Blinn said in an email.

The commission spends an average of \$85,000 on DNA testing each year. The state budget covers 10 percent of this cost.

Due to the rising cost of DNA testing, the commission had to cut one of its DNA specialists. Without this funding, Montgomery-Blinn said two additional staff positions will be cut and future DNA testing is in jeopardy.

The commission is asking the N.C. General Assembly to provide an additional

\$100,000 to pay for DNA testing and experts on staff. The commission’s total state-funded budget is \$414,012. With this budget, the commission manages an average of 200 cases per year.

The General Assembly will review the commission’s request this year.

“Unfortunately, with the leadership here now, we are all over the place in terms of our priorities,” said N.C. Rep. Ralph Johnson, D-Guilford. “I just don’t know what it will have to compete against for funding.”

Mumma said the commission was founded on bipartisanship, passing with outspoken Republican support in a Democrat-controlled legislature.

“It shouldn’t be partisan because these are people who never belonged in prison,” said N.C. Sen. Floyd McKissick, Jr., D-Durham. “I don’t think there is too high a price for our state to overturn wrongful convictions.”

McKissick said he worries that some senators don’t understand the commission’s purpose.

“Last year a colleague said, ‘I’m tired of all these people getting out of jail,’ and I reminded him, ‘They’re getting released because they’re innocent! They weren’t supposed to be in there to start with!’” he said.

### In prison anywhere else

Most states have independent centers set up to investigate claims of innocence, but they only take cases that can be overturned through the appeals process.

“Usually, when an innocent person is convicted, something has happened where there was a violation in courtroom procedure or some constitutional question at play that makes it qualify for an appeal,” said Theresa Newman, associate dean of Duke Law School and board member of the Innocence Network, an association of innocence advocacy organizations.

Newman praised the Innocence Inquiry Commission and said she hopes other states will adopt similar systems.

“It’s a model that is catching

on and other states are paying attention, but it’s resource intensive,” Newman said.

While it cannot exonerate based on innocence alone, the N.C. Center on Actual Innocence has led to reforms in preserving biological evidence, exoneree compensation, access to post-conviction forensic testing and interrogation recording.

“The center itself doesn’t mitigate the problems — it identifies them afterward, and corrects them,” Mumma said. “The solutions that could prevent these wrongful convictions would be recording interrogations, changing ID laws, increasing liability in informant testimony, making sure biological data is preserved and making improvements to the criminal justice system.”

Taylor said more states need to adopt ways to correct wrongful convictions on the basis of innocence.

“If I was in prison in any other state, I would still be in prison,” Taylor said.

enterprise@dailytarheel.com

games



SUDOKU

THE HAZARD OF PUZZLES By The Mephem Group

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Level: 

1

2

3

4

7		1	4			8		6
	8		1				2	
		6	2			3		
				8	4			
4								3
			5	9				
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

1	5	3	4	9	8	2	7	6
7	2	4	6	1	5	8	9	3
8	9	6	3	2	7	4	5	1
2	4	9	7	6	3	1	8	5
5	6	1	2	8	4	7	3	9
3	8	7	1	5	9	6	4	2
4	3	2	5	7	1	9	6	8
9	1	5	8	4	6	3	2	7
6	7	8	9	3	2	5	1	4



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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Sweet Spanish wine

7 Work unit: Abbr.

11 Mendel's sci.

14 Place to surf

15 Washbowl partner

16 Protein-building molecule

17 Holy woman sculpted by Bernini

19 Battleship letters

20 Self-conscious question

21 Preceder of old age?

22 Peoria-to-Decatur dir.

25 It may call for lateral thinking

28 Iconic figure with an anchor tattoo

31 Zenith

32 Chanted phrase

35 Van Gogh painting depicting peasants

41 Hostile advance

42 Toe loop kin

43 Not around much

46 Campaign ad urging

48 Many a sofa

52 Common animal in "The Far Side" comics

53 Participated in a poetry slam

54 Holey reef dweller

56 Give \_\_\_\_ pay attention

57 Words spoken often this time of year, one of which is

DOWN

1 High pts.

2 "So that's the answer!"

3 Island souvenir

4 Years in the Roman legion

5 Manages

6 It's worn

7 Physics Nobelist of 1938

8 Typical "Divergent" reader

9 Guitar man Paul

10 Beach top

11 Banana blemish

12 How many artists work

13 Police weapons

anagrammed four times in this puzzle

62 Whirlpool site

63 \_\_\_\_ nitrate

64 Allow

65 Lush

66 In the wrong business?

67 Scone fruit

18 Greek vowel

21 Gangster film sound effect

22 Cross words

23 Junior-to-be

24 Sport with double touches

26 Museum that awards the Turner Prize

27 Biblical scribe

29 No longer valid

32 "Nixon in China" tenor role

33 \_\_\_\_ moment's notice

34 Auction bid, often

36 Formerly

37 Half of seis

38 Board member, usually

39 Slots spot

40 Impede

43 Overachiever's concern

44 Chintzy

45 Turkish peak

46 Thin layer

47 "Star Wars" surname

49 Best Angler and Best Jockey, e.g.

50 Ask (for), as a job

51 First car, for many

55 Actor Morales

57 Harrison role

58 Ovid's "I love"

59 CNN launcher

60 Wearer of a "Y" sweatshirt

61 Stimp'y's chum

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THE SEARCH BEGINS

APRIL 6

#WheresRameses





DTH/CAMERON ROBERT

UNC junior Matthew Fenner says he was beaten and choked by members of his church in January 2013 after they found out he was gay. The trial for the case will reconvene this week in Rutherford County.

# Double-crossed

A UNC junior said members of his church attacked him for being gay

By Mary Helen Moore  
Senior Writer

Two years ago, Matthew Fenner was beaten and choked by members of his own church. Three months ago, his mother and brother testified against him when his attackers were indicted on charges of kidnapping and assault. And today, he will face them all again when the case goes to trial.

Fenner, a junior anthropology major at UNC, said his homosexuality is what spurred the January 2013 attack inside the Word of Faith Fellowship church in Spindale, N.C.

"I don't like to be defined just as the gay kid," he said. "I've told everyone that I don't want to make it about me being gay. This is the only thing I can do to stand up and say, 'I know what's going on there.'"

Word of Faith Fellowship, a Protestant church just three hours from Chapel Hill in Rutherford County, has built a following since it was established in 1979. It has been the subject of lawsuits and investigations by local authorities and the State Bureau of Investigation for its unusual practices, though the church has been cleared in each instance.

Fenner had lived in Rutherford County all his life but joined Word of Faith with his mom and brother at 16.

Fenner gave The Daily Tar Heel the following account of what occurred on Jan. 27, 2013, when he was 20 years old.

He was in the sanctuary after a service at Word of Faith when Brooke Covington, a high-ranking minister; her adopted daughter Sarah Anderson; and Anderson's husband approached him and led him to a corner of the large room, where they all sat down.

Fenner, who had been living in Covington's home, knew they loved him even though he's gay. He didn't know what they wanted, but he wasn't afraid. Not yet.

Anderson told Fenner the spirit of God came to her and said he had done something — "some big sin, or whatever," he recalled thinking.

"I didn't know what she wanted me to say," he recalled. "I mean, I obviously knew it was something to do with the whole gay thing because that's what they were constantly on me about."

He looked around, his slim, 5-foot-9-inch frame sinking further into his seat. He looked down. He locked eyes with all three. He didn't know what to tell them.

"I'm sorry, but I can't think of anything," he replied, seeing rage fill Anderson's eyes as he spoke. She wasn't much older than he was, and Fenner thought of her as a sister.

"You're a liar!" she screamed as she slapped him across the face. "You're disgusting!"

Fenner realized then that things were out of hand. He plied them with made-up explanations — he'd had a dream about a man, unclean thoughts, an inappropriate hug. Anything to make it stop.

Then they began to "blast" him. Blasting, high-pitched screaming, is the form of prayer the Word of Faith employs to drive out devils. The practice was the subject of a 1995 investigation by "Inside Edition" and has been associated with the church ever since.

About 15 members of the congregation gathered to help

blast the "homosexual demons" away, and with the screaming came blows.

Fenner remembers being pushed out of his chair and dragged around by his arm. He remembers Covington driving one of her rings into his chest and calling him a pervert. He remembers losing his vision as Anderson choked him. He remembers the betrayal he felt as he was struck in the chest, neck, arms and stomach by at least five people he'd gone to church with for more than two years.

"Matthew, I'm tired of this homosexual stuff. You're either going to get it out of you, or I'm going to beat it out of you," Covington told him. "You're going to sit here for the next two days if you have to."

He remembers fearing for his life.

"In the middle of all this, I'm sitting there thinking to myself, 'I'm going to die. I'm going to die. I'm going to die,'" Fenner recalled.

The attack continued for two hours before his attackers tired and he was taken home.

"People always ask me, 'Why didn't you just get up and leave?' You can't do that," he said. "I'm fast. I'm a fast runner. I could've gotten up and tried to run, but there's people standing outside of the door, and there's like a quarter-mile driveway. I would've gotten caught then."

"But also, where am I going to go from there?"

Fenner had spent the last three years alienated from his friends and extended family who weren't part of the church. But two days after the attack, at 2 a.m., he ran away from Word of Faith for good, moving in with his aunt and grandmother in Rutherfordton.

Joshua Farmer, the lawyer representing the five defendants from Word of Faith, said they are innocent of the charges. A statement on Word of Faith's website said they consider Fenner's allegations part of a plot to destroy the church.

"The church is not a cult, and we love everyone," said Farmer, a member of Word of Faith, in an email.

The other members of the church involved in the incident deferred all comment to Farmer.

Fenner's allegations are just one example of more than 2,000 incidents of anti-LGBTQ violence reported in 2013, according to a report by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs. The report stated 32 percent of survivors reported experiencing hostile attitudes from police that year.

The day after the attack, Fenner said he told a police officer what happened but said he held off on filing an official report because he was so overwhelmed.

When he decided to press charges, he said he was told by the sheriff and district attorney that the crimes were misdemeanors and he should go to the magistrate. But he said the magistrate, who deals with minor offenses and holds preliminary hearings for more serious ones, told him they were felonies and he must go through law enforcement.

"I tried doing something for a year and a half, and I kept getting the runaround," he said. "I kept pushing and pushing, and they were finally like, 'You know what, we'll let you go before a grand jury, and we'll see what they want to do, misdemeanors or felonies.'"

He said after he gave his account in November, seven members of the church — including his mother and brother — testified against him at a special session called by Judge Thomas Davis in December, where five people were indicted for both felonies and misdemeanors.

Adam Bartley, Brooke Covington, Justin Covington, Robert Walker Jr. and Anderson are all charged with felony second-degree kidnapping and misdemeanor simple assault. Anderson was charged with a second felony for strangulation.

In January, newly elected district attorney Ted Bell chose to re-indict all five on the same charges due to questions he had about December's special session.

"We were especially concerned about the judge and others making inquiries as to what was discussed, and we were afraid that would cause some problems," Bell told the Forest City Daily Courier. "We wanted clean indictments."

It is unknown whether the judge will be the same, though Davis is the only superior court judge in Rutherford County.

Fenner said Bell told him the defendants' attorney had filed a motion to change the location in which the case will be heard and that the motion would be heard in July. No one from the district's attorney office would comment on the case.

When Fenner's family joined Word of Faith Fellowship, he said his mom wanted the church to help "cure" his homosexuality.

"She was at a low place in her life," Fenner's aunt, Melanie Lynn Rape, said of her sister's decision to join Word of Faith. "There's not very many people that actually live in this county and were raised here that go to that church."

A majority of the church's members come from the prison system where Word of Faith has a ministry, said Nancy Burnette, who advocates for victims who have left the church. She said they give them lives they might not be able to have otherwise — with steady jobs, nice cars and security — which assures their loyalty.

UNC student Bronwyn Fadem, a friend of Fenner's who also grew up in Rutherford County, said most people in the area think Word of Faith is a crazy cult.

"They're not Christians. They're not practicing Jesus's love," she said.

Upon joining, Fenner surrendered all his possessions, as was required, and adapted to a new lifestyle. Listening to music, dancing, watching TV, reading anything but the Bible and nonfiction, spending time with people outside the church — Fenner said none of these were allowed.

Fenner said they were very accepting in the beginning, but when they began to attend regularly, church members criticized how he dressed and talked and carried himself.

"Ninety percent of the people I've spoken with are male and at some point have been accused of being gay and punished because of that," Burnette said. "Because of the way they wore their hair — oh, that's a homosexual demon. Because of the way they rolled their pants up — oh, that's a homosexual demon. Anything can be a homosexual demon. Homosexuality is a fixation that they have there."

Fenner, who wants to go to medical school, said his experience makes him want to fight for justice — not for him but for the people still in the church, including his mother and brother.

"This has nothing to do with me. I'm a very forgiving person, but I also realize that these people have gone a very long time without having to face repercussions for their actions," he said, alluding to others he said he witnessed being mistreated or heard stories about. "They've got to stop. You can't use religion to permit abusing someone."

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