



TOWNtalk

A newsletter for Town of Chapel Hill employees

December 2006
Vol. 3, No. 4

www.townofchapelhill.org

A Short Report

By Roger L. Stancil,
Town Manager

Respect

One reason I came to Chapel Hill was the respect extended to me as a candidate by the Town Council and staff. This respect was reflected in the honest answers I received to my questions. It was also demonstrated in the consistent actions everyone took to ensure that I had all the information I needed about Chapel Hill to make a very important decision in my life. As a result, I was able to make an informed commitment, and I have had no surprises. That is the kind of place I want to work.

When we all assume the responsibility for demonstrating such respect for each other in the work place, we ensure that this is a place we will all want to work. How do we do that?

- Recognize that we are all different. We come from different places and times. Those differences have an effect on what we think and how we express those thoughts.
- Try to understand our differences and appreciate the value they bring to our Town and our organization.
- Advocate what we think, but be willing to invite others to ask questions so they can understand our thoughts better.
- When we make a decision that affects other people, be willing to share the information available to us and why we reached the conclusion we did.
- Whenever possible, involve people in decision-making that affects them.
- Be willing to change our minds if we receive better or more complete information.
- Be willing to try on new ideas to see how they fit.
- Try thinking about things from a both/and perspective versus an either/or perspective.

Be inclusive, not exclusive.
Try it. You'll like it.

In the Spotlight



Catherine Lazorko photo

30 Years and Counting — Some of our longest-serving employees were honored at a Dec. 1 breakfast. Pictured above are those with 30-plus years, left to right: **Susan McClure** (Library), **Dayle Gibson** (Public Works), Town Manager **Roger Stancil** (who M.C.'ed the event), **Louise Pettis** (Inspections), **Jim Huegerich** (Police), **Flora Parrish** (Police), **Richard Terrell** (Public Works), **Nate Davis** (Parks and Recreation), **Gregg Jarvies** (Police), and **Larry Stroud** (Public Works). All employees with 20 years and more were thanked for their service and received various cash awards. Flora received a standing ovation for reaching 37 years. Manager Stancil said he is proud to be leading an organization with the degree of loyalty and longevity as that shown in Chapel Hill.

COMING UP

- Dec. 8: Service Awards, 10 a.m., Town Hall**
- Dec. 9: Chapel Hill-Carrboro Holiday Parade, 10 a.m., Franklin Street.**
- Dec. 14: Sugar and Spice Employee Appreciation Event, 9 to 11 a.m. at Hargraves Center. Information: 968-2787 ext. 211**
- Dec. 15: Employee Holiday Breakfast, 9 a.m., Town Hall HR Training Room.**
- Dec. 22, 24-25: Town Holiday**



In Brief

The Town of Chapel Hill received the 2006 Outstanding North Carolina Traffic Safety Community Award, given to the Police Department from the Carolina Motor Club's Foundation for Traffic Safety in recognition of an excellent record of traffic safety, low accident rates and traffic safety education efforts.

The Chapel Hill Police Department raised \$62,104 (the third highest amount in the state) for the 2006 North Carolina Law Enforcement Torch Run Campaign for Special Olympics. Law enforcement agencies across the state raised more than \$1.07 million for Special Olympics North Carolina.



Bill Terry (Public Works) shows off a walleyed pike he caught during his

summer vacation at Lake Jeanette in Ontario, Canada.

Coco Hall (Finance) is pictured below, second from right, during a reunion at Nags Head in September with a group of 12 friends from high school. The group has been meeting for the past 15 years, but Hall had moved and lost touch with her friends. She reunited with them three years ago, and they now meet every year for a vacation on the beach.



Holiday Challenge

North Carolinians are being encouraged to resist the temptation to overindulge over the holidays, even if they promise themselves they'll make up for it in the new year. It is also suggested that people don't try to diet because

day season is for people to strive to maintain their weight.

The Eat Smart, Move More: Maintain, Don't Gain Holiday Challenge

is a way for North Carolinians to do just that. The challenge runs through Dec. 31 and is for everyone. Town employees will want to know that although the challenge officially began on Nov. 13, they can sign up at anytime. Those interested in participating can sign up for free online at www.MyEatSmart-MoveMore.com.

Challenge participants will receive a weekly newsletter filled with tips, recipes and other items to help them successfully complete the challenge. They will also be able to chat with others across the state taking the challenge and ask the experts questions about healthy eating and physical activity. Information: 969-2728 or lcone@townofchapelhill.org.

the holidays are stressful enough without the added pressure of trying to lose weight. Instead, experts agree that the best strategy for the holi-



Honoring Our Veterans — Mayor Kevin Foy and the Town Council recognized employees who are veterans at a Nov. 6 Council meeting. The proclamation stated that the Council "expresses its gratitude, appreciation, and respect for the service of veterans and members of the United States Armed Forces." Those who attended, pictured above left to right (back row), include: **Bill Terry** (Public Works), **George Small** (Engineering), **Jim Huegrich** (Police), **Bobby Pettiford** (Inspections), **Woody Meadows** (Engineering), **Brian Curran** (Police), **Henry Wilson Jr.** (Transportation) and **Kurt Neufang** (Transportation). Accepting the proclamation on behalf of all is **Bob Avery** (Information Technology), at front, with Mayor Foy.

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TOWNtalk is produced by the Town Information Office with assistance from the Human Resources Department and Clerk's Office. Editorial/Graphics: Catherine Lazorko, Melanie Miller Copying: Tanita Howard

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Employee Forum



Congratulations to the winners of the Employee Forum computer loan lottery! The winners, who will receive a one-year loan of a computer, are:

Julie Waller (Human Resources)

Mike Rempson (Engineering)

Ken McDouall (Library)

Belmon Dean (Public Works)

Jackie Fuller (Parks and Recreation)

Lauren Draughon (Engineering)

Kumar Neppalli (Engineering)

Diana Harris (Fire)

Tracey Link (Parks and Recreation)

If you are interested in participating in the next lottery in the summer of 2007, please contact your Employee Forum Representative.

If you need a home computer, there is another opportunity. If you wish to purchase a previously used computer or other government surplus equipment, you can log on to www.govdeals.com and bid for any items which interest you.

New employee representatives were selected to the Employee Forum in the election process held September through November. At our Dec. 14 meeting, outgoing members will receive thanks and praise for their service, and new members will be provided orientation.

Thank you **Deborah Squires** (Engineering), **Kristi McClellan** (Finance), **Norman Clark** (Fire), **Wendy Walsh** (Human Resources), **Scott Cantrell** (IT), **Chelsea Laws** (Inspections), **Donnie Rhoades** (Police), **Mike West** (Public Works), **Ceberettia Hinton** (Transportation) and **Lee Harris** (Transportation).

Please help us welcome new and continuing members: **Amy Harvey** (Administration), **Lauren Draughon** (Engineering), **Heather Robinson** (Fire), **Bill Rehm** (IT), **Luther Nash** (Inspections), **Mark Geerken** (Police), **Mike Riggsbee** (Public Works), **Wilbert Mason** (Transportation), and **Tyrone Edwards** (Transportation).



Holiday Lunch
Employees gathered at Fire Station No. 1 for a bountiful Thanksgiving potluck on Nov. 17. Pictured, **Johny Parker** (Fire), far left, fills his plate with turkey and all the trimmings, while **Frost**



Rollins (Planning), left, samples the desserts, and **Keith Bowen and Algernon Smith** (Housing Maintenance), lower left, l-r, enjoy a few moments of conversation. Be sure to attend the **Sugar and Spice Employee Appreciation Event** set for 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, at Hargraves Community Center. For more information, call 968-2787 ext. 211.

Compliments



Carol Sharpe expressed her appreciation for **Beverly Baldwin's** (Transportation) compassion. Baldwin helped an elderly passenger to cross the road in heavy traffic.

Anne Brown (Transportation) was commended by Debra J. Barksdale for her assistance on Nov. 10. Brown needed to arrange bus transportation for her child to Smith Middle School, and Brown "...went above duty... to make the trip happen."

Martha Barbee expressed her appreciation for **William Carter's** (Transportation) concern over her safety. He noticed her patio door was open and waited until he was sure she was safe before departing.

Ellen Perry expressed her thanks for **Evangeline Howard's** (Transportation) assistance of disabled passengers. Perry was deeply appreciative of Howard's help.

Kumar Neppalli (Engineering) was complimented by Pat Brooks for his work with the Fordham Boulevard Safety Work Group. "From process to product, you gave us the leadership that we needed."

Recycling

Mixed paper is being added to curbside recycling collection in Chapel Hill and Orange County. Each of the 30,000 households now eligible for curbside recycling will receive a second bin between now and January 2007. Use one bin for clean, dry paper and put cans and bottles in the other bin. If you live in Orange County and have curbside recycling service, start putting out junk mail, cereal boxes and other paper with newspapers and magazines. Place any shredded paper in a paper bag and staple shut. Corrugated cardboard must be taken to dropoff sites.

— Blair Pollock (Orange Community Recycling)

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS to TOWNtalk! The next deadline is Dec. 18 for the January issue. If you have photos, send those also! Send to tio@townofchapelhill.org or by mail to Catherine Lazorko (Manager's Office).

Everyone's a Winner!

Town employees contributed generously to the Combined Campaign, raising more than \$18,400 for local and national charitable organizations, including the Triangle United Way, Community Health Charities, Earth Share of North Carolina, and North Carolina Community Shares. Automatic payroll deductions will begin on Jan. 5, 2007, for those who participated. Thanks to everyone who donated time, money, baked goods and items to be used as prizes during the kickoff event. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Winners of Raffle Items

Luther Nash (Inspections): Pampered Chef, Avon Basket
Coco Hall (Finance): Margaret's Cantina gift card
Tom Bick (Engineering): K.C. jean jacket
Kay MacDaniel (Public Works): Photo by V. Taylor
Scott Newton (Engineering): K.C. jean jacket
Lisa Taylor (Finance): Knitted scarf
Sandy Kline (Clerk's Office): Wreath
Flora Parrish (Police): Blue scarf
Zakia Alam (Finance): Wreath
Robert Minick (Public Works): Autumn wreath
Flo Miller (Manager's Office): Autumn wreath
Catherine Lazorko (Manager's Office): Necklace
Myra Worth-Evans (Parking Services): Storytelling
Tanita Howard (Clerk's Office): Cutting board



Catherine Lazorko photos

Game Winners

REGULAR DARTS

First Prize, \$25 Breadmen's Gift Certificate: **Mark Bayles** (Library)

Second Prize, \$15 Market Street Books Gift Certificate: **George Small** (Engineering)

Third Prize, \$5 Buffalo Wild Wings Gift Certificate: **Cathy Andrews** (Planning)

DARTS FOR DOLLARS

First Prize, \$25 Weaver Street Market Gift Certificate: TIE **Gordon Sutherland** (Planning) and **Bob Avery** (IT)

Second Prize, UNC Dry Erase Board from The Shrunken Head Boutique: **Bruce Heflin** (Manager's Office)

Third Prize, \$5 Buffalo Wild Wings Gift Certificate: **Gordon Sutherland** (Planning) (if he does not take 1st place—otherwise, **Matt Rowles** (Engineering))

OPERATION KICK OFF

First Prize, Bag of groceries from Whole Foods \$25 Value: **Chelsea Laws** (Inspections)

Second Prize, Two Bear Rock Café Certificates: **Brenda Jones** (Parking)

Third Prize, \$5 Buffalo Wild Wings Gift Certificate: **Tanita Howard** (Clerk's Office)

PIN THE TAIL ON DONKEY

First Prize, McFarling Oil and Filter change: **George Small** (Engineering)



The Organizing Team for the Combined Campaign celebrated the conclusion of the Town's annual fundraising efforts last month at a lunch hosted by Town Manager Roger Stancil.

Winners of Door Prizes

Lisa Baaske (Parks & Rec): Gift bag of Whole Foods groceries

Megan Hall (Finance): Plant and coffee cups

Brenda Jones (Parking): 2 Bear Rock Café coupons

Mark Bayles (Library): 2 Bear Rock Café coupons

Frost Rollins (Planning): Buffalo Wild Wings certificate and Justin Karpinos music CD

Cary Degraffenreidt (Public Works): Buffalo Wild Wings certificate and Justin Karpinos music CD

Ralph Karpinos (Town Attorney): Christmas ornaments and napkin rings

Mike Rempson (Engineering): Photo frame and Panera coupon

Buck Johnson (Engineering): Candy dish and Panera coupon

Jerry Battle (Public Works): Notecards and Panera coupon

Myra Worth-Evans (Parking Services): Rebound movie DVD



Employees played games for fun and charity. The games were led by **Jeannette Taylor** (Engineering), **Maggie Bowers** (Inspections), at left with **Cary Degraffenreidt** (Public Works), and **Gordon Sutherland** (Planning), at right.