



TOWNtalk

A newsletter for Town of Chapel Hill employees

May 2013
Vol. 9, No. 9

www.townofchapelhill.org

On the Front Burner



Rog

Column from Town Manager
Roger L. Stancil

Our Value of Ethics states “We conduct ourselves in a way that is consistent with and deserving of the level of trust that has been placed in us by the community members of Chapel Hill.” We are Stewards of the Public Trust. Once that Trust is lost, it is a long and hard road to regain it.

When I meet with new employees, I emphasize the concept of Public Trust. No matter what our job for the Town, the public is trusting that we do it well without favoritism, with honesty and without using our position or Town resources for our own personal gain. While we can easily use police officers as an example of public trust (they can take our freedom; they can take our lives), we are all invested with that same level of trust by the public. The public trusts the firefighters to know what they are doing when they respond to an emergency situation. They trust bus operators to drive them safely from one point to another. They trust that the traffic signal system is working. They trust the buildings they occupy are safe because our inspectors inspected them. They trust that our planners do not make recommendations to Council on projects that might benefit them personally. The list can go on for every job we have with the Town.

Each of us is the Face of Public Trust for our Town. In today’s world, we read and hear of far too many people who violated the public’s trust. Consider every action you take on the job in the light of Public Trust and guard in all you do against conflicts of interest or perception of conflict of interest. If you have a question about something you are doing, ask your department head, or your peers, for guidance.

Phil Williams

**Mechanic Supervisor, Fleet Division
Public Works**

Joined Town: March 24, 1997

Phil Williams started working for the Town of Chapel Hill more than 16 years ago, close to the day his daughter Katy was born. During that time, his job has become more challenging due to changes in vehicle technology and increased number of vehicles and miles driven. The pace is picking up, and there is never a slow day. Fire trucks that used to travel 3,000 miles in six months now do 3,000 miles in three months or less, so more maintenance is required.

Phil says he and his team make miracles happen. He oversees fleet maintenance of Town vehicles and equipment, ranging from fire trucks and police vehicles to rear loaders, backhoes, lawn mowers and dump trucks. This includes making repairs when equipment breaks down, preventative maintenance and complying with state inspections.

Phil studied auto repair at Nashville Auto-Diesel College and business administration at Alamance Community College and Greensboro Technical and Community College. He enjoys working on a wide variety of equipment and is Master ASE-certified in Medium Heavy Duty Trucks, Automobiles, and EVT (Emergency Vehicle Technicians). These certifications require completing seven to eight tests.

His work ethic was honed during his military service in the Navy, starting as a construction mechanic in the Seabees. He would meet the requirements needed and would always help out, wherever he was sent. When assigned to his duty station at Coronado Island, Calif., in Navy Special Warfare, he volunteered to be a member

Value in the Spotlight

Safety



Photo by Barry Lowry

of a seven-man team that was deployed for a National Security Initiative working in tandem with the Navy SEALs.

Phil has been married to his wife, Kathy, since 1994, and they have a 16-year-old daughter, Katy.

He does a lot of volunteer work with military veteran groups, including the State Veterans House in Salisbury, where he visits with veterans, especially those who are wounded or suffering from PTSD.

His hobbies are quarterhorses (he has two—Apollo and Gail), and jet skis. He loves the ocean, especially Ocean Isle and the Intercoastal Waterway.

—By Melanie Miller, Communications and Public Affairs

COMING UP

Friday, May 24: Fridays on Franklin, 6–8 p.m., 140 West Plaza. Swing into Summer!

Monday, May 27: Town holiday. Most municipal offices will be closed.

Wednesday, May 29: Live@Lunch, Jazz by Doug Largent Trio, 12:30–1:40 p.m., 140 West Plaza

Wednesday, May 29: Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics

Saturday, June 15: Guardians of the Hill 5K, 9 a.m. Southern Community Park. See pg. 2



The 140 West Plaza Series offers free entertainment on Wednesdays and on the second and fourth Fridays during the summer. www.townofchapelhill.org/140west

In Brief

SPRING INTO TOBACCO FREE WELLNESS!

This program is for cigarette smokers and for smokeless tobacco users. Develop your individual treatment plan with Barbara Silver, Tobacco Treatment Specialist. You'll receive:

- Tobacco cessation medications for up to three months:
- Nicotine patch, gum, and lozenge.
- Regular follow-up support for three months
- \$100 Gift Card after being tobacco free for six months and
- \$100 gift card after being tobacco free for 12 months

To enroll, visit the Wellness@Work Portal at chapelhillwellnessatwork.org and choose "Tobacco Use Assessment" from left side menu bar. For more information, contact Barbara Silver at 445-5358 or barbara_silver@med.unc.edu



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help repair trails around the Chapel Hill Public Library in Pritchard Park. If you want to help, meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 1, in the lower parking lot. Bring work gloves. Info: 919-968-2819 or bwebster@townofchapelhill.org

The Orange County Law Enforcement **TORCH RUN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS** will be held on Wednesday, May 29. The Chapel Hill Police Department's goal is to raise \$50,000 this year. Last year, the department placed fifth in the state with \$46,472 raised for Special Olympics.

T-shirts, sweatshirts and windbreakers are available in a variety of sizes. For more information, email psmith@townofchapelhill.org or contact **Phil Smith** (Police) at 614-1852.



TOWNtalk is produced by the Communications and Public Affairs Department
Editorial/Graphics: Catherine Lazorko,
Melanie Miller

Public Arts News

Twenty imaginative works by 16 artists, creatively produced from recycled, repurposed or cast-off materials, are on display through Aug. 23 at University Mall. The Scrapel Hill exhibit was created in 2009 to celebrate and inspire imagination and creativity in the community. Visitors will be able to vote for the People's Choice Award by scanning QR codes on exhibit labels with cell phones.



Another recent installation is the "Exhale" sculpture featuring colorful lighting and fog effects at downtown Chapel Hill's new public plaza at 140 West Franklin. Designed by artist Mikyoung Kim, the piece consists of a folded and layered perforated metal skin that allows for fog to emanate through the textured surfaces of the piece.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE HILL 5K will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 15, at Southern Community Park. The run is organized by the Chapel Hill Police Department to benefit Special Olympics of North Carolina. Meet public safety personnel from our community, including the Police and Fire Departments and Orange County Emergency Services. To register, visit tinyurl.com/bvpxaa8. Info: Phil Smith at 919-968-2760 or psmith@townofchapelhill.org

WELCOME, NEW EMPLOYEES!

Keith Darman (Public Works)
Bryan Phelps (Public Works)
Jumil Smith (Transit)
Robert Key (Public Works)

RETIRED APRIL 1, 2013

Robert Carden (Police)

The Chapel Hill Police Department held a meeting on April 30 with editors and reporters from Triangle area media organizations. **Lt. Kevin Gunter** and **Sgt. Joshua Mecimore** reviewed how to access crime data on the Police2Citizen website at p2c.chpd.us. Chief Chris Blue asked for feedback on new procedures to provide the media with better access to information during weekends and after hours, and on their use of social media. "Thanks for getting us all together today," Ann Marie Breen of ABC-11 wrote to Chief Blue following the meeting. "You are the only police agency in the area that does that, and I for one appreciate it."



SMT Notes

SMT notes are posted on the Intranet within a day or two of the SMT meetings. Access the notes from the intranet at <http://intranet> by clicking on "Published Documents" on the left-hand side of the page, then clicking on "SMT Meeting Notes" under the "Teams" column.

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Please recycle with white paper.



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Compliments



Police Chief Chris Blue thanked **Police Department employees** who assisted with the Citizens Police Academy in April: “Thanks for your hard work and professionalism in delivering the citizen academy material over the last week. Thank you for representing CHPD so well and thanks for being the Guardians of the Hill!”

Resident Penny Aldridge called to compliment the public information effort on Summer 2013 Road Construction. She said the idea to put the information on a trash can hanger was “brilliant,” and the graphics and information were very professionally done. CaPA staff would like to thank their Town co-workers in **Public Works/Sanitation** for distributing the hang tags. These were designed by **Melanie Miller** with maps created by Steve Spindler Design.

Shamya Lee (Transit) was complimented for being pleasant and keeping her bus on time. “She is a true asset to the company.”

David Vanderhoof (Transit) was commended by Mrs. Barbara for providing excellent customer service.

Donna Bickford tweeted to **Traffic Engineering Division**—@chapelhillgov “Love the new left-turn signal at Fordham/Willow!”

Brian Litchfield thanked **Chapel Hill Transit employees** for assisting with Tar Heel Express Shuttles to the UNC graduation ceremony: “I was also proud to see you all provide exceptional customer service and set a positive example for our Operators - well done!!!”

Akalema Pherribo (Transit) was thanked by Jeff Brubaker for assisting with a demonstration to show passengers how to load bikes on buses.

Nathan Chambers (Police) was commended by Carl Linke for being polite and professional.

Mike Fishback and **Shanika Nickerson** (both Transit) were thanked by Mei Huang for helping her get to an appointment on time when she got on the wrong bus.



Photo by Catherine Lazorko

PLANNING DEPARTMENT PORTRAIT – Do you have a group photo to share of your department staff team? Please submit to TOWNtalk for publication! Here, we are featuring the Planning Department; pictured are Scott Simmons, Megan Wooley, Ryan Mickles, Holly Stephens, Renee Moyer, Judy Johnson, JB Culpepper, Kay Pearlstein, Eric Feld, Len Cone, Liz Jones, Loryn Clark, Karen Shaver, Phil Mason, David Bonk, Jay Heikes, Gene Poveromo and Garrett Davis. After 34-plus years (actually, he started at the Town in 1973, but it's a long story), Scott is retiring. If you're interested in viewing his personal story slideshow, contact him at simmons967@gmail.com



by **Jim Huegerich and Faith Thompson**

VALUES as OPPORTUNITY

The values of R.E.S.P.E.C.T. are real opportunities for us to learn, serve and work together to form a team to build a community where people thrive and where each of us takes the initiative and responsibility to ensure that accountability is equally applied for all persons.

While at Public Works the other day Faith and I noticed on the bulletin board in the small conference room the following quote prominently posted:

“I encourage you to challenge me if I say something or act in a way that you believe does

not reflect these values. You may share a perspective with me that I did not consider which might affect my decision or behavior. Alternatively, I may share new information with you so you might better understand the decision or my behavior.”

This quote does a wonderful job of capturing the connection between values, especially that of responsibility, and the belief that when we interact with another person each of us has information needed to most effectively deal with a situation. A spirit of inquiry provides the opportunity for shifting from what might become a difficult conversation where one or both leave frustrated to where both feel respected and part of the solution.

Take a moment and look for the opportunity in our R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Values:

In a spirit of **Responsibility**, we offer a process that allows participants to understand and maximize the chance of their choosing to act responsibly in their interactions with others.

In a spirit of **Equity**, we foster an environment characterized by justice, fairness, and impartiality in all actions, policies and procedures.

In a spirit of **Safety**, we create an environment and a process that enhance the mental and physical well-being of ourselves and those with whom we work.

In a spirit of **Professionalism**, we encourage the excellence and accountability of our own performance as well as the performance of the organization.

In a spirit of **Ethics**, we model a process that is consistent with and deserving of trust

In a spirit of **Communication**, we foster a culture of dialogue and respect for all employees in an environment that is safe and free of retribution.

In a spirit of **Teamwork**, we are committed to the building and growing of a multicultural team that works to include all others and honor and respect team members at all times.

Welcome to Your All-New Chapel Hill Public Library

The dedication and celebration of the new Chapel Hill Public Library took place on Saturday, April 20, 2013. In addition to the speeches and ceremonial ribbon cutting, there were performances from the Phillips Middle School Choir and the Sacrificial Poets.

The new and improved features of the Library include:

A new **Teen Room** includes the Young Adult collection and gathering space with four new computers, a flat screen television, study tables and comfortable chairs.

The **Digital Media Lab** enables patrons to create and share digital content for personal, academic or professional use.

The Meeting Room Complex, which has four rooms of varying size and seating capacity and an adjoining concrete patio. At this time, room reservations are being accepted for staff/public meetings of the Town of Chapel Hill. For assistance, please contact Maggie Hite at mhite@townofchapelhill.org.

- Large meeting room A: 1,100 square feet, seats ~84
- Large meeting room B: 2,000 square feet, seats ~162
- Meeting room C: 500 square feet, seats 26
- Meeting room D: 300 square feet, seats 12

The Youth Services Library features child friendly furnishings. A wall of windows overlooking Pritchard Park provides natural light and lends to an “Enchanted Forest” theme.



The library has programs and collections for all ages and interests. Do you have a library card? Employees are entitled to free library services from the Chapel Hill Public Library. Come on by!

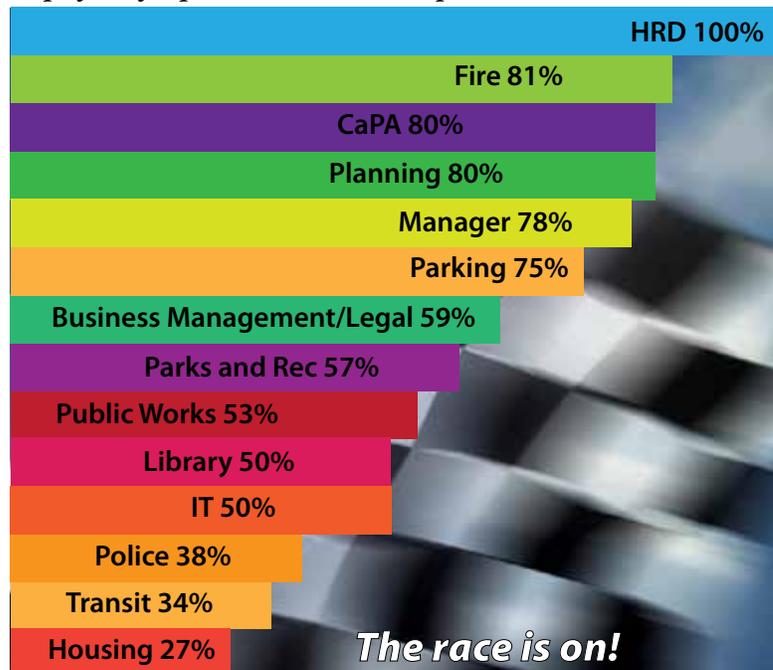
Time to do your HRA!

Do the HRA every year! When more employees complete the HRA, we can negotiate for lower insurance rates. Employees can save on healthcare costs. Our Wellness@Work clinic staff can help you manage chronic conditions like high blood pressure, with no co-pays, and you can visit the clinic on work time. Other benefits include \$5 per month for Kinetix membership and free admission to Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation pools and gyms during open gym or open swim times.

The HRA has three parts: a questionnaire you can complete online or in person, a clinic visit for bloodwork, and a followup to develop your personalized care plan. Start the process at chapelhillwellnessatwork.org.

Employees who are enrolled in BCBSNC are eligible to use the W@W clinic and do the HRA.

Employees by department who have completed the HRA



The race is on!