



FROM THE TOWN MANAGERS DESK



2016 has been a busy year for the Town of Gibsonville and with the hard work of our Town's dedicated employees, much has been accomplished. I want to thank our employees for their service in keeping our community safe and Town operations running smoothly throughout the year.

Thanks to the efforts of the Town's employees listed below are highlights of projects and activities that occurred in 2016:

- Community Center broke ground in August 2016 and will be completed in the summer of 2017
Fire Station parking area resurfaced
Fire Station training and day room has new tile and kitchen has new cabinets and appliances
Library interior has been painted, new carpet installed, and replaced roof
Four trees and several rose beds were planted in the downtown area
Ten additional lights added on Main Street
Maintained the level of police department services through efficient practices using limited resources
Repaired existing sidewalks in various locations in Gibsonville
Maintained the level of public works department services through efficient practices using limited resources.

I would like to wish all Town employees a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and I look forward to what 2017 brings.

Lighting of the Greens



The Lighting of the Green put on by the Gibsonville Merchant's Association was held in downtown Gibsonville on November 18th. Many of the shops were open and there were rides available on the Little Blue Choo. Santa and his elves, Mrs. Claus, Frosty and Rudolph were also on hand. There was an outdoor movie screen playing 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' with a snow machine creating a fun and magical atmosphere for everyone. Citizens were entertained by music on the Town Green stage. Thanks to all the Town departments who helped this go off without a hitch. The downtown decorations put up by our Public Works are beautiful, as well as the Police Department assisting with logistics and Parks & Recreation arranging for entertainment sponsored by the Town of Gibsonville.

Officer Sykes



Gibsonville Trunk or Treat

The annual Halloween Trunk or Treat was a big success this year! This community event is held in conjunction with GUMC, FBC, and other area churches as well as the Gibsonville Police & Fire Department and the Parks & Recreation Department.

Officer Jenkins



# GIBSONVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE



Many of our townsfolk as well as those in neighboring communities look forward to the Town of **Gibsonville Christmas Parade** because of the feeling of community and of family our parade leaves them with. It is evident in the thousands of folks lining the streets along the parade route, residents setting up chairs in their yards to watch, proud parents and grandparents coming to watch their kids perform many of whom marched in the parade when they were younger. There is something for everyone at the Gibsonville parade, animals, cars, trucks, tractors, dancing groups, music, and so much more. Many thanks to the **Gibsonville Police Department, Public Works and Parks & Recreation** for making this year's parade a success!



## Fire Prevention Education

**Fire Prevention Week** is a great time to review some basic fire safety facts with students and to engage them in fire safety activities that get them talking and learning about the dangers of fire. **Gibsonville Fire Department members**, conducted several **public education programs** for the kids at **Gibsonville Elementary School** during this year's Fire Prevention Week in October. Thank you to our Fire Department for their commitment to the safety education of young people here in Gibsonville! Pictured are Ryan Chambers, Aaron Douglas, Jamie Brannock, Eric Apple, Michael Lynch, Jerry Williamson and Jesse Nikitin.



## Gibsonville Library Holiday Open House

The **Gibsonville Library Staff** had a great time visiting with everyone who joined them at the library's second annual **Holiday Open House** for seasonal treats, crafts, and a special reading of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." In the new year, Library Staff are looking forward to introducing ebooks to their library card holders - watch for updates on the library's website, [www.gibsonville.net/library](http://www.gibsonville.net/library). If you haven't checked out the updated online catalog recently, try searching for a book or DVD you're interested in. The Library gets new-to-DVD movies and New York Times bestselling books at the library every month. **They'd love to see more town employees take advantage of the convenient online reservation system, too!**



## Reminder to turn in your Healthy Lifestyle Reimbursement Logs

Now is the time to turn your monthly **Healthy Living Reimbursement participation records** in to Nurse Debra in order to be reimbursed for your **Wellness Activity for the 4th quarter 2016**. See Nurse Debra or May Hill if you need a new log for next quarter.



## Flu Shots Available

Nurse Debra still has **flu vaccines** available for anyone who hasn't gotten one yet. Getting an annual flu vaccine is the first and best way to protect yourself and your family from the flu. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations. The more people who get vaccinated, the more people will be protected from flu, including older people, very young children, pregnant women and people with certain health conditions who are more vulnerable to serious flu complications.





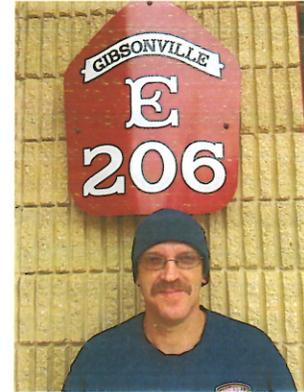
Officer B.J. Korn with Chief Parrish



## Little Pink Houses of Hope Cancer Walk

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, Lieutenant Jesse Nikitin with the Town of Gibsonville Fire Department and several others from various departments, walked several miles dressed in pink turnout gear to raise money for breast cancer. There are many opportunities to participate in breast cancer events; each one inspiring and moving in its own way. Thanks to Jesse for your participation! The fruit of your efforts will benefit a vital and worthy cause.

Fire Engineer Eric Apple



## Police Officer of the Year 2016

Officer B.J. Korn was recently unanimously voted in as Officer of the Year for the Gibsonville Police Department. Officer Korn had twice as many traffic stops this year than were done during the entire 2013 year. In addition, he is a proactive team player who is always looking out for his fellow officers. Congratulations to Officer Korn and keep up the good work!



Fire Lt. Jesse Nikitin & Colleagues

## No Shave November

The Town of Gibsonville Fire Department hosted a no-shave November contest. Several members went an entire month without shaving and produced some interesting moustaches. The entry fee to participate in the contest was donated to First Baptist Church of Gibsonville's food bank. Congratulations to Eric Apple the winner of No Shave November!

## Our Town Family Grows



Congratulations to Josh Taylor, Gibsonville Police Officer, and his wife, Alissa, on the birth of their daughter, Emily Jacklyn Taylor, on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Emily weighed in at 7lbs 14oz and was 21 inches long. Everyone is happy and healthy, and big sister Katie is thrilled to have a new best friend!



Emily Jacklyn Taylor

## Cone Health/ ARMC January 2017 Community Events & Programs



There are several classes and workshops available to our employees and members of the community coming up in January: Healthy Heart Brunch for Women, Prediabetes: What you Need to Know, Smoking Cessation Program, Cancer Survivorship Series, Prenatal Classes and a Wellness video: Decrease Stress in Five Minutes or Less as well as Guide to Healthful Food Choices.

## Fruit Day

Employees recently enjoyed veggie trays at all Town locations. Please see May Hill or Debra Ross if you have a suggestion for an upcoming healthy snack selection.



## 2017 Wellness Presentation

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 3pm in the Town's Board Chambers, when the Town's Wellness Committee will be hosting Shannon Pointer MSN, RN Community Educator with Hospice Alamance-Caswell. Ms. Pointer will be speaking with Town employees about the basics of hospice care and additional programs such as grief counseling for adults & children, dementia support services, and assistance with health care directives.

# Total Retirement News

## Calculate Your Own Retirement



The **North Carolina Retirement Systems Division** is committed to providing members with the necessary resources to plan for a financially secure retirement. Our web-based benefit estimators are tools that can help members calculate lifetime retirement benefits and service purchase costs before making final decisions. If you log-into your ORBIT account, you can obtain an estimate based on the information in your account. These estimators can be accessed on the ORBIT home page before you log in, but may not be as accurate.

Three estimators are available to members in ORBIT:

- **Retirement Benefit Estimator** - The Retirement Benefit Estimator helps members estimate their monthly (early reduced or regular unreduced) service retirement benefits. So far this year, more than 1.2 million retirement benefit estimates were calculated by members using the online estimator.
- **NC 401(k)/NC 457 Transfer Benefit Estimator** - The NC 401(k)/NC 457 Transfer Benefit Estimator helps members estimate a lifetime monthly benefit when NC 401(k) or NC 457 funds are transferred to their retirement system. More than 178,000 transfer benefit estimates have been generated this year.
- **Service Purchase Estimator** - The Service Purchase Estimator enables members to calculate the cost of purchasing additional retirement service credit for certain types of eligible prior service or other government service. More than 147,000 members used the Service Purchase calculator through September 2016.

To access estimate calculators for your Retirement Benefit, the NC 401(k)/NC 457 Transfer Benefit, or Service Purchase, visit [www.myncretirement.com](http://www.myncretirement.com) and click on the ORBIT icon. Take charge of your retirement planning today!



## Who are You Connected to?

If something happens to you, the payout of each of your NC Total Retirement Plans—including the NC pension plan and all supplemental plans—is **governed by the beneficiary designation** on file with each, different plan provider.

In most cases, payouts are **not** made based on the relationship of the beneficiary to the deceased member at the time of death.

**QUESTIONS?** Specific rules apply for each plan. In some cases, beneficiary designations may not be changed. Get the details and access forms for all plans at [MyNCRetirement.com/Beneficiaries](http://MyNCRetirement.com/Beneficiaries).

Are you an active employee with the state of North Carolina?

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**WHO ARE YOU CONNECTED TO?**

Be sure that the beneficiary on file with each of your NC Total Retirement Plans is who you would like it to be.

QUESTIONS? CALL US AT 1-877-NCSECURE



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## Coming Soon: ORBIT Redesign!

On January 7, 2017, the **NC Department of State Treasurer will launch its redesigned ORBIT site**. ORBIT provides members secure access to their personal retirement account information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The new site will have a “responsive” design – meaning it will be easier to access from mobile devices, such as cell phones. The site will also have enhanced security features, to help make members’ personal information even more secure. Lastly, the new design will incorporate NC Total Retirement branding to maintain a consistent “look and feel” across RSD websites.



New security features will include:

- **Personal email addresses will now be required** to log into ORBIT. Email sharing between members will no longer be allowed.
- For high-security activities (banking info change, beneficiary info), before members will be allowed to edit the information, they will receive an email from the ORBIT Security Team with a confirmation code they will need to enter before being allowed to make the change.

For low-security activities (phone/address change), members will be allowed to edit the information, but will receive an email from the ORBIT Security Team indicating something in their ORBIT account has changed, and the steps to take if they did not initiate the change.

Having a secure access to your information on your preferred device is important to us. We hope you like our new and improved website. We will email you again in January, once the ORBIT redesign is live.

Lt. Shepherd oversees Firefighter/Chaplain Martin



### Fire Department Extrication Training

**Gibsonville Fire Department** staff participated in Extrication Training which has grown into one of the most important, life-saving operations. As a result, tools, techniques and training are getting better each day. The **Gibsonville Fire Department** must focus on finding training opportunities to hone their extrication skills, and making the most of them—because it's very likely the skills acquired during training will make a life or death difference.

### Crisis Intervention Training

Officers **B.J. Korn** and **T.J. Monday** of the **Gibsonville Police Department** recently became certified in Crisis Intervention. The goal of CIT is to provide more efficient service to the community when responding to calls where a mentally ill person is in crisis, and to ensure the safety of all parties involved. The CIT training program has been developed in a number of U.S. states to help police officers react appropriately to situations involving mental illness or developmental disability. The Police department is working on getting all its members certified in CIT. Congratulations to Officers Korn and Monday!



Officers Jenkins & Korn and Detective Monday



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### Wastewater Certifications



Jason Lynch, Public Works Tech.

The **Town of Gibsonville** is required to have system operators in place for both the collection (sewer side) and Distribution (water side) in our **Public Works** department. Gibsonville is a Grade 2 collection system and an A-Distribution system. Employees must attend schools and sit for NC State exams for these certifications. They begin with C-Distribution and work up to A-Distribution. **Jason Lynch** has obtained his first certificate as a C-Distribution operator. **Ricky Wade** is completing his second distribution certificate and is now a B-Distribution operator. This is a great accomplishment for both of them and a benefit to the Town as well. **Congratulations to Jason and Ricky on their hard work!**



Ricky Wade, Public Works Supervisor

## Notary Public



Congratulations to **Gina Griffith** on completing the coursework and passing the test to attain her **NC Notary Public**. In North Carolina the Department of the Secretary of State Notary Public Section allows **notarial acts** including Acknowledging signatures; Administering oaths and affirmations, and ; Verifying or proving signatures.



Gina Griffith, PD Adm. Asst.. taking oath



## ACHRA Board 2017

The **Alamance County Human Resources Association (ACHRA)** builds on the HR profession by monthly educational presentations on vital employment related issues, as well as legal updates, professional development and continued support of excellence in the Human Resources field. Congratulations to the Town of Gibsonville's Human Resources Officer, **May Hill** for her election as **Secretary of ACHRA**.



2017 ACHRA Board, May Hill 2nd from right bottom row

## Safety Employees Awards 3rd Quarter

**Toney Strouth, Public Works Supervisor, Gary Owen & Terry Randleman, Public Works Technicians**, recently stepped into action and aided a fellow employee from significant blood loss during a recent accident. Thanks to their **quick thinking and actions** everything was handled by the time EMS arrived. Thanks to all three for putting safety measures into action during an emergency and Congratulations on being **Safety Employees of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016!**

Gary Owen, Terry Randleman, Toney Strouth, & Ben Baxley



Laurie Yarbrough



## 2016 Christmas Luncheon

The Town's Christmas Luncheon was held on December 21st at the **Gibsonville Fire Dept.** Delicious food and fellowship was enjoyed by all our employees. Congratulations to the door prize winners and a big thank you to **Laurie Yarbrough** for making the arrangements for a delicious luncheon and to our **Fire Dept.** for hosting our employees with food and fun!



## Merry Christmas and Happy New



PD delivered Poinsettias & Calendars to residents



Caleb Baxley delivers goodies to Seniors

