



Frank Park Named PENC Government Engineer of The Year



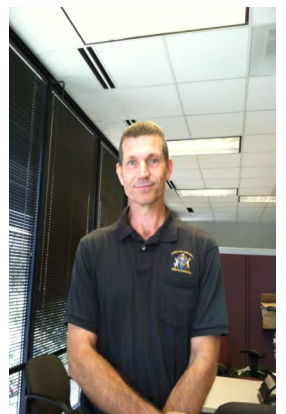
The PENC Government of the Year award recognizes the professional engineer who has made the most outstanding contribution to the advancement and practice of engineering in state and local government. Criteria for selection include: Education, Registered Professional Engineer (PE), Continuing Education, Professional/Technical Society Activities, National Society of Professional Engineers Membership, Awards or Honors, Civic & Humanitarian Activities, and Engineering Achievements.

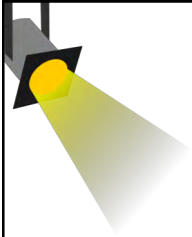
Frank has a long career displaying his commitment to the profession of engineering and the desire to further the profession as a whole. Frank has been with Guilford County for over 26 years. During those 26 years, he has proven his commitment to both structural and water resources disciplines.

Frank has held multiple positions within the American Society of Civil Engineers including being a voting member on six different structural design technical committees, as well as being elected the 1996-1997 North Carolina Northern Branch President. He is also a member of both the NC Water Resource Research Institute and the Structural Engineering Institute, as well as acting as the Secretary of the Guilford County Environmental Review Board. Frank has previously worked with the leadership of Professional Engineers of North Carolina to provide continuing education to the membership on building code changes. Frank is a shining example of continuous improvement and service above self, which are the key traits of great engineers in government. Congratulations Frank!

Casey Gerringer Elected President of the North Carolina Plumbing Inspectors Association


Our Chief Plumbing/Mechanical/Gas Inspection Casey Gerringer has been elected President of the North Carolina Plumbing Association for 2014–2015 for the term of 1 year. Casey was elected Director 3 years ago and was elected Vice-President the following year. He was elected President –Elect last year. As President, Casey will schedule and preside over meetings and assign committees. The President decides where the annual meeting will be held and is heavily involved in the hands on preparations for the annual meeting. Congratulations President Gerringer!!





Featured Employees for this issue:

Millie Langley, Jamey Walker & Elizabeth Williams in the
Soil & Water Conservation Department



Our Mission:

.....to promote the conservation of natural resources in Guilford County through education, information, technical assistance, and available economic incentives.

The Guilford Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is a governmental subdivision of the State of North Carolina, charged with the responsibility of promoting soil and water conservation and establishing conservation programs in the District. The District partners with the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to carry out these responsibilities. As a local organization, we work with citizens, agencies, and landowners to plan and direct programs for the conservation and development of our natural resources. We work closely with other state, federal, and local agencies, such as NC Department of Agriculture, NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, NC Forest Service, NC Cooperative Extension, etc. to provide effective natural resource management and environmental education.

Yes, there are still nearly 1000 farms, and 95,500 acres of farmland left in Guilford County, down from 5000 or more in the 1950. However, Guilford ranks in the top 50 (of 100 counties) for 10 major commodities, and in the top 10 for strawberries, nursery products, and milk cows. Guilford is still a top player in North Carolina's top industry, yes that is Agriculture, and has a lot to lose if our farmers and farmland goes away.

The Guilford Soil & Water Conservation District is here to assist farmers and landowners with soils information, technical assistance, environmental education and more. We can provide financial assistance to qualified landowners to help them install Best Management Practices (BMPs) on agricultural and non-agricultural land. The district staff provides technical assistance for the Voluntary Agriculture District Program, Envirothon, Division of Soil & Water Conservation, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service.

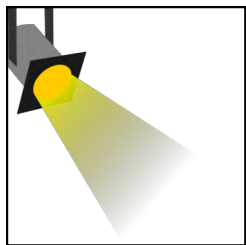


One of our winning conservation farms with BMPs installed: Grassed Waterways, Field Borders, No-Till

Milley Langley

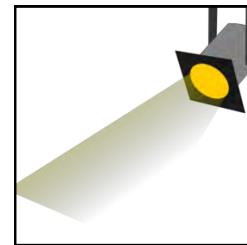
I have been working in this job for 33 years, first with USDA-Soil conservation Service in Charlotte, Smithfield then Greensboro, and 26 years as a Guilford County employee. I became a Certified Environmental Educator in 2009 and a Certified Conservation Planner in 2002. I was inducted into the NC Envirothon Hall of Fame in 2009 and named the ND, Southeastern and National District Employee of the year in 2012. I serve on the State Envirothon Committee; North American Envirothon Operating Committee. I have a wonderful husband of nearly 30 years, one daughter, 21 a senior in college; stepson 38, stepdaughter 42; two grandchildren, 2 dogs, 2 cats, 95 chickens, 13 goats! And I'm the choir director at my church!





Featured Employees for this issue:

Millie Langley, Jamey Walker & Elizabeth Williams in the
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Jamey Walker,

I have been working for Guilford County - Soil and Water Conservation for 21 years. I am 43 years OLD and a proud parent of 2, 1 son 16 years old and 1 daughter 10 years old. My favorite sport is baseball; I received a baseball scholarship from Bluefield State College in West Virginia, where I earned an Associate Degree in Architectural Engineering, and continue to play baseball in some old timer leagues. I have a farming background, and currently raise a couple acres of Burley Tobacco and small grain. I enjoy hunting, fishing, and camping when time permits. I have been a Volunteer Fireman for 15 years. My favorite foods are snapping turtle and frog legs. I love working outdoors and meeting new people.



Jamey supervising the pond dam renovation at Hines Chapel Farm. Hard hats required!



Elizabeth at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Library for Earth Day doing the Wheel of Conservation.

Elizabeth Williams, Education Coordinator with Guilford Soil & Water Conservation District, has been married 15 years and has 6 dogs and 5 cats. She lives on 11 acres north of Greensboro and enjoys gardening, going to the lake, and the beach and doing volunteer work with the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program. She was an elementary school teacher for 11 years before coming to Guilford SWCD. She did her undergraduate work at UNC-G and got her Masters at NC A&T State University. Currently, she is working on a soil science certificate online with NC State.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING:



On August 13, Theron Jackson attended a class sponsored by NC State to renew his certification: "Stormwater BMP Inspection & Maintenance".

Did you know? Pocosins consists of flat areas on hills predominant in the Croatan National Forest that typically are made up of black organic muck, thick-stunted vegetation, and highly acidic soils?

These features were formed as a result of a series of physiographic and biological changes occurring within the last 900 years. Native Americans referred to this

unique land feature as "Swamp-on-a-Hill. US Forest Service. There are theories that these features were formed by ancient meteorite impacts or whale-wallows when the sea level was much higher. E.D.

PREVIOUS NOTABLE AWARDS

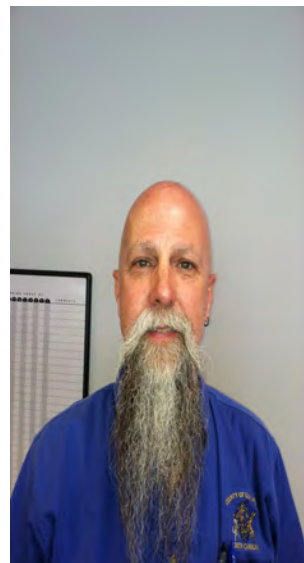
Chief Building Inspector Melvin Sutton was presented The Building Inspector of the Year Award on July 31, 2012, in recognition of Significant Contribution of Personal Integrity, Profession Skill & Devotion to duty to protect the public from hazards arising from the use of materials and methods of constructions in buildings. He was also acknowledged by the Planning & Development Department as NC Building Inspector of the Year at the County Commissioner's meeting on September 11, 2012. Melvin was a voting member of the 2013 International Code Council Public Comment Hearing in Atlantic City, New Jersey to create next generation of building & energy Codes.



The Soil & Water Conservation Department's own Millie Langley received the 2012 award for National Conservation District Professional of the Year. She received the award at the National Association of Conservation Districts Annual Meeting held in San Antonio Texas in 2012. Her plaque states: "In Recognition of Your Exceptional Leadership and Personal Commitment to Conservation and NCDEA". She is pictured with Mamie Caison, Southeastern CDEA President and NCDEA Vice President Pam Hawkins.

Community Involvement:

On July 25, 2014 Electrical Inspector Don Berckman had the privilege of representing Guilford County Electrical Inspections as a Judge for the 6th annual Starr Electric Apprentice Contest. Winners of this contest will move on to represent Starr Electric at the state level contest. We here in the Inspections Department are very appreciative to have the opportunity to have a small part in this event and by doing so to have a small impact on the future of the electrical industry.





UNITED WAY KICKOFF:

Chief Plans Engineer Frank Park is heading up the United Way Campaign this year. For only a \$1 donation you can guess how many M&Ms are in the jar& all proceeds go to the United Way. Our goal is \$900. Frank is pictured here with his faithful helpers Justin Gray and Jim Lankford on Friday August 15, 2014 at the kickoff in the Plaza.



FOR A GOOD CAUSE.....

Department Director Leslie Bell took the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge on Friday August 22, 2014 in front of the Old Courthouse. He challenged Tax Director Ben Chavis and Derrick Davis in the GIS Department to take the Challenge. Way to go Boss!



September Birthdays:

Jamey Walker - 4th
Jim Lankford - 15th
Charles Smith - 17th



October Birthdays:

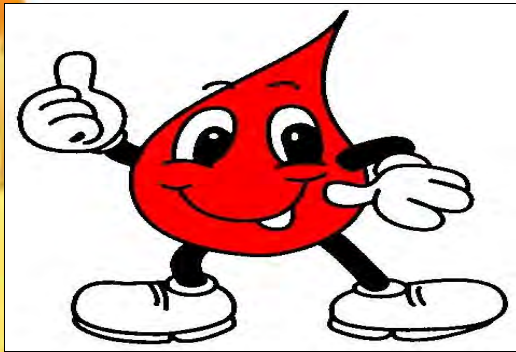
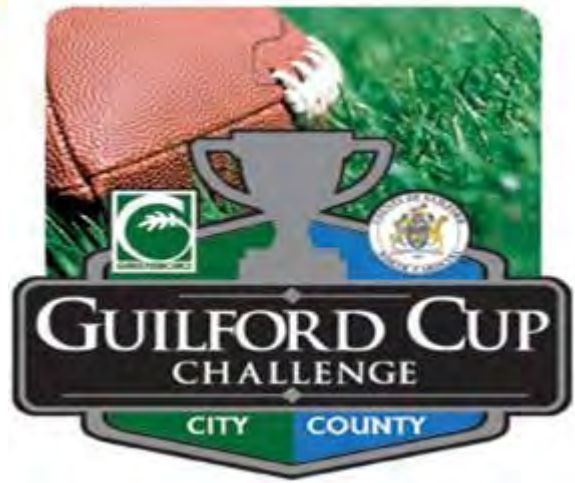
Don Berckman - 2nd
Carrie Spencer - 4th
James Brown - 14th
Italy Henderson - 15th
Terry McMasters - 27th

OTHER NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS:

Recruiting is now underway for the Fall game of the Guilford Cup - a challenge between City of Greensboro and Guilford County employees that will include a flag-football game, Food Trucks, entertainment, and more. All abilities are welcome and you can also help by encouraging your co-workers to participate. Employees and their families will be invited to attend and cheer for the County!

The game is at 11 am Saturday, September 20 at Jaycee Park, 3802 Jaycee Park Dr.

The Guilford Cup Challenge will also include a basketball game, softball game, and charitable components to determine the winner.



The Guilford County Employees Blood Drive will be held At the West Market Street United Methodist Church on Friday, September 26, 2014 from 8:00 am until 12:30 pm.

There will be a red cell machine available for donors who meet the height/weight/blood type requirements.

For an appointment, contact Brenda Keplinger in Human Resources 641-4555.

The Town of Oak Ridge now has their own Planning Department. Bill Bruce is the new Town Planner. He can be reached at 336-644-7009.

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER...

All the small victories are worth celebrating. – Sometimes we forget to pause and appreciate all our little victories. Remind yourself: It's the small things done well that make a big life.

Where you are right now is a necessary step. – Where you are right now may be where you need to be to get to where you want to go tomorrow.

You can't change situations you don't take responsibility for. – Sigmund Freud once said, "Most people do not really want freedom, because freedom involves responsibility, and most people are frightened of responsibility." Don't let this be you.

Your attitude can improve your situation, or degrade it. – No matter how bad things are, you can always make things worse. Remember this. You can't have a positive life with a negative attitude. Attitude determines altitude.

Anger is poison. – Always forgive people and move on, even if they never ask for your forgiveness. Don't do it for them – do it for you.

Everyone has their own challenges... everyone has their own journey. – It is meaningless to compare one with the other. We all need our own time to travel our own distance. Today, the only person you should try to be better than, is the person you were yesterday. You really are pretty amazing!

Excerpted from Marc Chernoff—Shared by J. Leslie Bell, Director

**The deadline to have information to Beth Anne and/or Mary
Beth is Friday, October 31st for the Holiday Edition Newsletter.**