

## Tar Heel Citizen Times – January 2014

The Tar Heel Citizen Times is sent as an e-newsletter; for a copy of the January 2014 issue, please see below.

# The Tar Heel Citizen Times

Brought to you by The Town of Chapel Hill & The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
January 2014 Issue



Have questions? Reach out to us here:  
[goodneighbor@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:goodneighbor@townofchapelhill.org)

Find out more about living off campus here:  
<http://offcampus.unc.edu>  
<http://www.townofchapelhill.org/offcampus>

Don't know when to take your trash out? Need a residential parking permit? If you need answers to questions like these, you are living off campus. Whether you are a new or long term resident of a Chapel Hill neighborhood, you will find helpful information in the Tar Heel Citizen Times newsletter!

The Tar Heel Citizen Times provides news and information, and Town and University rules, all especially geared to students who are residents of neighborhoods. The newsletter also provides job and volunteer opportunities, so be sure to check out this month's edition and past issues at:  
[www.townofchapelhill.org/index.aspx?page=2021](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/index.aspx?page=2021)

### Town Regulation Reminders

Please be aware of several Town of Chapel Hill regulations that may impact you and your roommates:

- No more than **four** unrelated people can reside in a single-family house or four unrelated people per side of a duplex.
- Be sure that your **parking areas are clearly defined** by an all-weather surface or gravel and that the parking area only takes up 40% of your front

### Welcome back, students!

Salutations, readers of the *Tar Heel Citizen Times*, welcome back, and happy Spring semester!

This e-newsletter is a joint initiative between the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Community Involvement and the Town of Chapel Hill. The purpose of the newsletter is to reach out to students who live off campus and provide helpful information about being good neighbors, where to find resources, and open job/volunteer opportunities.

The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Community Involvement (OFSL-CI) at UNC has a couple of important jobs. OFSL-CI coordinates services to assist students established in, and transitioning to, off-campus living. We also promote authentic relationships between students and their neighbors by encouraging them to be active and responsible members of the communities in which they live. That's a simple description of a complicated job we're excited to have. We're basically here to be helpful.

Visit <http://ofslci.unc.edu/> or contact our office for a host of resources and advising related to off-campus living, including: where to find housing, signing a lease, roommates, rights & responsibilities, parking & transportation, being

yard.

- Roll your garbage bin out to the curb by 6 am and remove by 7 pm on trash collection days (check with your landlord or the Town's website for your trash collection day).
- Contact Public Works at 919-969-5100 to schedule a pick-up of furniture, appliances and other bulky items.
- Lock all doors and windows in your house and car, especially when out of town.

Also, if you live in the Northside or Pine Knolls neighborhoods be aware that a maximum of four cars are allowed to be parked on a lot (includes parking in the side and back yard). Owners of duplexes and triplexes may apply to the Planning Board for an exception to this regulation to allow up to six cars on a lot.

The Town has increased enforcement of these and other regulations. If a property is found to be in violation, the Town could seek formal action that could include fines of up to \$100 per day until the violation is corrected.

For more information, please visit the Town's Off-Campus Student Life Webpage: [www.townofchapelhill.org/offcampus](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/offcampus) or contact the Chapel Hill Planning Department at [ncd@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:ncd@townofchapelhill.org).

If you are a University student and have questions about your lease, you can contact Student Legal Services for assistance. For more information, visit: [www.unc.edu/student/orgs/sls/legal](http://www.unc.edu/student/orgs/sls/legal)



#### Health Resources by Campus Health Services

Students suffering from alcohol related illness may call Campus Health at **919-966-2281** to make an acute care appointment.

If it is after hours, the above number will connect students to HealthLink which provides nurse advice.

Campus Health Services offers extensive hours: 8am-6pm M-F and 8am-5pm Saturday and Sunday for acute care visits.

a good neighbor, and safety & security.

Living in Chapel Hill and Carrboro's residential neighborhoods is an exciting privilege; we hope you'll take the time to become involved in the places you call home.

#### Signing a Lease: Important Considerations

##### Always:

Inspect your new residence for damages and document them before you move in (the Chapel Hill Police Department can come to your home and perform a free safety inspection) Establish and sign a new lease when moving in; don't "pass down" leases Check with UNC Student Legal Services if you have any questions, concerns, or issues before, during or after you sign a lease

##### What to look for in a lease:

Specific dates of occupancy Amount of monthly rent and the date it is due each month Amount of security deposit Responsibility for payment of utilities Responsibility for general maintenance and repairs Sublease: If you sign a 12-month lease but think you may need the dwelling for a shorter period of time, make certain the lease allows you to sublease (rent your dwelling to another person who will assume the remainder of the lease) Whether or not pets are allowed and associated fees with the allowance of pets Automatic renewal clause Type of lease: joint or individual

##### What to avoid in a lease:

At management's discretion, the tenant may be asked to leave regardless whether or not the lease has been violated Tenant waives all defects in the unit Landlord shall not be responsible for injury to person, including tenant and guests, as a result of any cause Tenant is responsible for all repairs to premises Landlord may enter dwelling without notice Landlord has a lien (a legal claim on the property of another as security for the payment of a debt) on all personal property of tenant

For more information on tenants' rights and duties, the UNC Student Legal Services provides an excellent outline of these rights and duties: <http://studentlegalservices.web.unc.edu/>

#### Healthy Heels Column by Student Wellness:



#### Celebrations NOT Citations: Tips for Avoiding Legal Risk at Off-Campus Social Events

Nothing diminishes a celebratory occasion quite like a citation or an arrest, and yet drinking and drug related citations typically increase during the end and beginning of the year. So, here is some

The provider can offer medical care as well as refer to a specialist for further conversations about alcohol use if desired and/or necessary.

If you need immediate attention, go to the UNC Emergency Department for care.

**Unpacking Tip:** Did you bring a new computer or TV to your off-campus home? Though cardboard can be recycled on the curb, displaying what new items you have in your home can be an invitation for a break-in. Take boxes for these items directly to a cardboard dumpster at University Mall or Carrboro Plaza.



### Need a ride? Hop on the bus!

The Chapel Hill Transit System is free for all users and has many stops on campus. Check out the real time bus schedules at [townofchapelhill.org/transit](http://townofchapelhill.org/transit)

simple advice on how to minimize your legal risk as a party host.

### Before and during the party...

1. **Talk to your neighbors.** Letting your neighbors know about your party—and perhaps inviting them—opens the lines of communication and reduces the chance they will call in a noise complaint, which is the most common reason why police show up at your door.
2. **Guard the door.** Know who is in your home and what they are doing. In the end, you are responsible for what happens at your residence, so if people you don't know show up and start smoking marijuana or using other illegal drugs, you could be held responsible.
3. **Don't provide alcohol.** If an underage person attends your party and says that you provided the alcohol, you could be charged with aiding and abetting underage consumption. So, make it BYOB.
4. **Call 911 in an emergency.** [North Carolina's Good Samaritan Law](#) grants immunity from underage drinking charges, possession of paraphernalia, and possession of small amounts of a controlled substance for anyone who calls 911 in an overdose or medical emergency situation.

Get more info on how to handle police interactions, including videos, at <http://www.flexyourrights.org/>. To learn more about the law or for a free (that's right, folks, I said FREE) legal consultation, visit [Carolina Student Legal Services](#).

### Reduce, Reuse... then Recycle!

"Reduce, reuse, recycle," commonly known as the three R's of environmentalism, is actually the waste reduction hierarchy. Depicted as an inverted pyramid, landfilling and incineration should be the course of last resort. The Orange County Municipal Solid Waste Landfill officially closed on June 30, 2013. Our waste is now hauled to one of two transfer stations in Durham where it is then transferred to long-haul trucks and taken to remote landfills, in North Carolina, over 100 miles away. Waste disposal is more costly in cash, and in carbon footprint, and we need to be conscious of that.

Recycling (and composting) is more important than ever, but will not make our waste woes disappear! Waste reduction tops the list because it takes no resources at all. Here are some tips for waste reduction:

- REFUSE plastic straws, plastic forks, and

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Styrofoam take-out boxes, and use your own durable goods (box, bag, mug, utensils) instead

- Print on both sides of paper
- Use only one paper towel at a time or better yet use cloth
- Buy in bulk and choose items with little or no packaging
- Choose less toxic products.

When you shop! ask yourself “Do I need it? Do I want it? How can I reduce my use?” When discarding be equally self-searching, “Could someone use it?”, “Can I recycle it?” or even, “Did I need it?”

New Year’s “ReUsalutions”: Check out the treasure troves of second hand clothes and other household items at The PTA Thrift Shop, Club Nova, and consignment/vintage/trending stores like RUMORS on Graham Street in Chapel Hill. If shopping there is not your thing, at least donate to the cause. Books, housewares, and other useful items can be given and taken away for free at salvage sheds in Orange County’s Solid Waste Convenience Centers.

Are you recycling all you can? You can recycle ALL paper-- junk mail, gift cards, wrapping paper, magazines, and milk cartons in Orange County, and don’t forget that plastic drink bottles and aluminum cans are BANNED from the trash in North Carolina and must be recycled too. Electronics, used cooking oil, batteries, and other hard to recycle items are also accepted in Orange County’s program.

Check out the website

[www.orangecountync.gov/recycling/](http://www.orangecountync.gov/recycling/) for more information or email [recycling@co.orange.nc.us](mailto:recycling@co.orange.nc.us)

### Internship/Volunteer Opportunities

#### Volunteer with Preservation Chapel Hill!

Preservation Chapel Hill is dedicated to protecting the character and heritage of the Town of Chapel Hill, and the surrounding community, through the preservation and conservation of its historic buildings and cultural landscapes.

For more information about the internship opportunities below, contact Preservation Chapel Hill at [info@preservationchapelhill.org](mailto:info@preservationchapelhill.org) or by phone at 919-942-7818. For more information about Preservation Chapel Hill visit: [www.preservationchapelhill.org](http://www.preservationchapelhill.org)

#### Historic Walking Tour Guide

**Do you enjoy local history? Do you enjoy sharing that history with others?** Become an historic walking tour guide in Chapel Hill or Carrboro. *Walk This Way!* is our walking tour series, encouraging residents and visitors to get out and explore the special places in Chapel Hill and Carrboro while learning about the people who built it. Tours are given monthly or by appointment for groups of 4 or more. Participate in

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community outreach and education. We can work with your schedule. Training is provided.

### **Researcher**

**Are you a local history buff? Help by doing research about local history.** Research architecture, family records, deeds, and archival materials for projects related to historic houses in and around Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Help Preservation Chapel Hill by assisting in reports, educational tours, and outreach. Learn more about the history of Orange County!

### **Marketing and Communications Assistant**

Help Preservation Chapel Hill prepare and distribute mailings and flyers connected to membership, marketing, and fundraising efforts. Assist by entering data of the membership and e-mail communication.

### **Downtown Partnership Internship**

2nd FRIDAY ART WALK: Intern will assist the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership with coordinating monthly Art Walk. Duties will include researching and creating guide for the venues based on national best practices, writing blog entries/ press releases, creating email marketing template for monthly distribution, updating website content and databases, developing program for restaurant participation, and photographing events. Intern must be comfortable with public speaking and representing our agency in the public realm.

Must have knowledge of the Chapel Hill and Carrboro community, especially downtowns. Internship is not office-based, intern must be very self-motivated and self-directed. Contact Meg McGurk at [meg@downtownchapelhill.com](mailto:meg@downtownchapelhill.com) or 919-97-9440.