

## A Letter to Marvin Residents:

Welcome to the New Year. 2010 was an active year with many significant accomplishments. First and foremost in the mind of any taxpayer is the question, "How well are your tax dollar's being managed"? We are proud to say that we are:

1. Delivering More for Less Money. After a responsible assessment of how your tax dollars are being allocated on administration and legal costs we were able to:
  - Reduced our administrative costs by \$60,000
  - Reduced our legal support costs by an average of 20%

These changes alone freed up \$90,000 for other needs of our community such as parks and recreation and land preservation. Marvin is becoming more comparable to other towns in Union County. Through 2011 your Village Council will continue to evaluate our costs and will make adjustments as necessary to continue to deliver high quality service at a lower cost.

2. Increasing access to your community leaders
  - Council members are available on Wednesdays, in the Village Hall from 11AM to 2 PM, and by appointment to discuss any issue.
  - Council also met with the Weddington Chase, Marvin Creek, Wyndham Hall, Oakbrook and Walden Pond Home Owners Associations. We contacted all HOAs and offered to meet each neighborhood. We will continue this in 2011, which will allow us to share concerns and success that will improve our community.

Residents of Marvin will always know what is happening in the community. The Council is open, transparent, and we want to hear from you. Open communication is key to us all understanding the issues we face and how to best deal with them.

3. Creating Ethical Governance
  - We adopted a Code of Ethics Policy establishing guidelines and ethical standards of conduct for the Village Council.
  - Council and all Marvin Board Members reveal any potential conflicts of interests by having signed a conflict of interest form.
4. Creating Boundaries
  - We adopted a comprehensive Annexation Policy that guides future annexation decisions and provides for an orderly and predictable extension of our municipal boundaries.
5. Building Community Assets
  - Marvin is purchasing 27.68 acres to serve as our **Marvin Park and Municipal Grounds**. This will be our first asset which will belong to the community. This park will be here for you, your children and your children's children. The park land is located on Walden Pond facing New Town Road. The park will have pastures, picnic areas, and trails for all our villagers to enjoy. We hope to close on this property by the end of February 2011.

- A new Parks, Recreation and Greenway Board was formed. This Board will continue to provide input to Council on the Parks and the Greenway Master Plan.

#### 6. Continuing Community Events

- In May 2010 the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual M.A.R.E.S. Event was held at Elysian Fields. Over 400 people attended. The event featured Equestrian Exhibitions, games, pony rides, hayrides, and a petting zoo for the children.
- Also in May, we held our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Bicycle Rodeo along with Shred Day. This event included an off-site bicycle ride to Waxhaw and back with a police presence, a bicycle ride on the newly constructed Marvin Loop, an obstacle course in the parking lot, bicycle and helmet safety inspections, music, and food. Residents were also able to bring any papers they needed shredded. This service was provided at no cost to our residents.
- In August 2010 we held our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Night Out event. This allows our police and fire departments to interact with the neighbors to learn more about safety issues.

#### 7. Looking to the Future

- We plan to update our Land Use Plan in 2011. This plan will be the foundation on how we want the Village to look in the future. Your input will be critical to the success of this plan.

In closing, this Council works for you. We are committed to being transparent, responsive and responsible for every tax dollar. All of the accomplishments in 2010 increased your access to your community leaders, lowered the cost of serving the community, and began to build our community assets, all with NO INCREASE IN TAXES!

We welcome your input and suggestions. As a reminder, a council member is available at Village Hall every Wednesday between 11 AM – 2 PM to speak with you in person or you can visit our web page at [www.marvinnc.org](http://www.marvinnc.org) for council e-mails & phone numbers.

Nick Dispenziere	- Mayor
Ron Salimao	- Mayor Pro Tem
Anthony Burman	- Council Member
Ross Overby	- Council Member