

## Durham Rescue Mission benefits from ADP help

At the Durham/RTP Adult Degree Program location, staff, students, and faculty participated in a month-long collection to benefit the homeless and working poor who are served by the Durham Rescue Mission.

On March 29, student Paul Ksionsk, faculty member Lee Carter, and staff member Cathie McIntyre made a presentation to the Rev. Ernie Mills. They presented the Mission with \$152 and four boxes of toiletries and food.

Mills expressed appreciation

that the College selected his organization for the March project.

McIntyre said, "N.C. Wesleyan College is committed to preparing students for participation in the community, and the Durham Rescue Mission has offered help to the needy in this community for over twenty years."

Following the presentation, the NCWC volunteers participated in food preparation and Easter basket distribution. Over 450 people were served at the Good Friday activities.

## Malone to visit NCWC

(Continued from Front Page)

Dickens's novels.)

"American detective fiction was fathered in the South by Poe and Twain, and has carried that strong heritage through *Intruder in the Dust* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* to the novels of my contemporaries. To solve murders, detectives must unearth all the buried social and familial entanglements that led to the crimes. Hiding secrets, digging them up — it's a Southern tradition. The roots of our lives are tangled deep in a shared rich and painful past that is always struggling up out of its grave to haunt us.

"I think that readers today turn to the 'mystery' because they can find there the kind of storytelling they once found in general fiction. I turn to the mystery for the same reason. When you write a murder mystery, you enlarge your canvas beyond the relational and domestic, beyond the intimate confines of many modern novels.



You move your story into a public realm where plots have moral and political and social dimensions, where private acts have consequences beyond the personal. In short, you bring in a world."

For more information, contact Dr. James Bowers, assistant professor of English and director of the Visiting Writers' Series, 985-5264.

# Our goal. Hold us to it.



## Code of Ethics

### Preamble

Members of the Society of Professional Journalists believe that public enlightenment is the forerunner of justice and the foundation of democracy. The duty of the journalist is to further those ends by seeking truth and providing a fair and comprehensive account of events and issues. Conscientious journalists from all media and specialties strive to serve the public with thoroughness and honesty. Professional integrity is the cornerstone of a journalist's credibility.

Members of the Society share a dedication to ethical behavior and adopt this code to declare the Society's principles and standards of practice.

### Seek Truth and Report It

Journalists should be honest, fair and courageous in gathering, reporting and interpreting information.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Test the accuracy of information from all sources and exercise care to avoid inadvertent error. Deliberate distortion is never permissible.
- ▶ Diligently seek out subjects of news stories to give them the opportunity to respond to allegations of wrongdoing.
- ▶ Identify sources whenever feasible. The public is entitled to as much information as possible on sources' reliability.
- ▶ Always question sources' motives before promising anonymity. Clarify conditions attached to any promise made in exchange for information. Keep promises.
- ▶ Make certain that headlines, news teases and promotional material, photos, video, audio, graphics, sound bites and quotations do not misrepresent. They should not oversimplify or highlight incidents out of context.
- ▶ Never distort the content of news photos or video. Image enhancement for technical clarity is always permissible. Label montages and photo illustrations.
- ▶ Avoid misleading re-enactments or staged news events. If re-enactment is necessary to tell a story, label it.
- ▶ Avoid undercover or other surreptitious methods of gathering information except when traditional open methods will not yield information vital to the public. Use of such methods should be explained as part of the story.
- ▶ Never plagiarize.
- ▶ Tell the story of the diversity and magnitude of the human experience boldly, even when it is unpopular to do so.
- ▶ Examine their own cultural values and avoid imposing those values on others.
- ▶ Avoid stereotyping by race, gender, age, religion, ethnicity, geography, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance or social status.
- ▶ Support the open exchange of views, even views they find repugnant.
- ▶ Give voice to the voiceless; official and unofficial sources of information can be equally valid.
- ▶ Distinguish between advocacy and news reporting. Analysis and commentary should be labeled and not misrepresent fact or context.
- ▶ Distinguish news from advertising and shun hybrids that blur the lines between the two.
- ▶ Recognize a special obligation to ensure that the public's business is conducted in the open and that government records are open to inspection.

### Minimize Harm

Ethical journalists treat sources, subjects and colleagues as human beings deserving of respect.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Show compassion for those who may be affected adversely by news coverage. Use special sensitivity when dealing with children and inexperienced sources or subjects.
- ▶ Be sensitive when seeking or using interviews or photographs of those affected by tragedy or grief.
- ▶ Recognize that gathering and reporting information may cause harm or discomfort. Pursuit of the news is not a license for arrogance.
- ▶ Recognize that private people have a greater right to control information about themselves than do public officials and others who seek power, influence or attention. Only an overriding public need can justify intrusion into anyone's privacy.
- ▶ Show good taste. Avoid pandering to lurid curiosity.
- ▶ Be cautious about identifying juvenile suspects or victims of sex crimes.
- ▶ Be judicious about naming criminal suspects before the formal filing of charges.
- ▶ Balance a criminal suspect's fair trial rights with the public's right to be informed.

### Act Independently

Journalists should be free of obligation to any interest other than the public's right to know.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Avoid conflicts of interest, real or perceived.
- ▶ Remain free of associations and activities that may compromise integrity or damage credibility.
- ▶ Refuse gifts, favors, fees, free travel and special treatment, and shun secondary employment, political involvement, public office and service in community organizations if they compromise journalistic integrity.
- ▶ Disclose unavoidable conflicts.
- ▶ Be vigilant and courageous about holding those with power accountable.
- ▶ Deny favored treatment to advertisers and special interests and resist their pressure to influence news coverage.
- ▶ Be wary of sources offering information for favors or money; avoid bidding for news.

### Be Accountable

Journalists are accountable to their readers, listeners, viewers and each other.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Clarify and explain news coverage and invite dialogue with the public over journalistic conduct.
- ▶ Encourage the public to voice grievances against the news media.
- ▶ Admit mistakes and correct them promptly.
- ▶ Expose unethical practices of journalists and the news media.
- ▶ Abide by the same high standards to which they hold others.

Sigma Delta Chi's first Code of Ethics was borrowed from the American Society of Newspaper Editors in 1926. In 1973, Sigma Delta Chi wrote its own code, which was revised in 1984 and 1987. The present version of the Society of Professional Journalists' Code of Ethics was adopted in September 1996.

# The Decree

## Aiming for the highest standard

Don't Miss  
Out!!

**What's going on in the SSC?**  
Pre-Major Advising, Project Success,  
WesBridge, Disabilities Support  
Services, Supplemental Instruction  
(SI), Tutoring, VSI

Pearsall Classroom 188  
Email: [StuSupport@ncwc.edu](mailto:StuSupport@ncwc.edu)  
Telephone: 252-985-5131

### Student Support Center

The SSC is here to aid students in developing and achieving their educational goals through coordinated support activities.

**Hours of Operation:**  
Monday to Thursday:  
8:00 am - 9:00 pm  
Fridays:  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

