



Lester Betts now works in Morrison dorm ... moved from Alexander after nine years

Move from Alexander tough one for Betts

By JIM YARDLEY
Staff Writer

A UNC residence hall janitor has been moved across campus after nine years of work in the same dormitory, but he says housing officials never gave him a reason for the move. Housing officials say that Lester Betts was "a disciplinary problem," although his supervisor disagrees.

"I don't know why they moved me," Betts, 64, said. Betts was moved to Morrison after nine years of service at Alexander. "They haven't told me why I was moved or anything."

Betts said he planned to retire from the University in March, and had hoped to spend his last months at Alexander dormitory. David McCauley, a housekeeping administrator with University housing, said that Betts was moved because of disciplinary reasons, but declined to elaborate, saying he had met with Betts to discuss the problem.

"He was not cooperating with his supervisor," McCauley said. "I have to handle problems when they arise. That is part of my job." But Yvonne Baldwin, housekeeping supervisor at Alexander, said Betts was not a problem in his nine years there.

"He (Betts) did cooperate with me," Baldwin said. "He never gave me any problems at all. He was a good worker."

Russell Perry, associate director of University housing operations, said that he had assumed Betts had been told why he was moved. "I thought that he was talked to," Perry said. "I and the rest of the people in the department can discuss it. He will be talked to within the week."

Presently, Betts works under Amelia Brown, housekeeping supervisor at Morrison dormitory, who said Betts was a good and industrious worker.

"He has been beautiful," she said. "The students like him. He does a good job. He is a very likeable person and I certainly couldn't see him as being a disciplinary problem."

As for Betts' repositioning, Brown was told "that they were going to make some changes. However, I didn't ask why." Brown also had not been informed that Betts was being moved for disciplinary reasons.

Betts began working for the University in January 1968, and he had been a housekeeping assistant in Alexander since 1973. Alexander residents said they missed Betts' hard work and pleasant personality around the dormitory.

"Lester is an institution at Alexander," said senior Thomas Whisnant, an Alexander resident. "He's fun to talk to and he cares a lot about the residents of the dorm. He's a hard worker and the dorm has never been dirty as long as I have been here."

"I think they took advantage of him," he said. "What they did was basically pointless and it was insulting and disrespectful to Lester to move him to a harder working environment three months before he retires."

Whisnant and other residents said they planned to start a petition in order to bring Betts back to Alexander.

Cuisine from the East

Chinese restaurants multiply in Chapel Hill

By SHARON SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

What do the words "Chapel Hill" bring to mind? One thinks of NCAA championships, the Old Well, Franklin Street, happy hours, the Pit, court parties, Dean Smith and Chinese food. Chinese food?

Last year, four Chinese restaurants opened in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area, bringing the total to eight. While no particular reason can be cited for the recent surge in Chinese food restaurants, different owners explained their reasons for settling in the area.

"We think our style of cooking is the best and the people in Chapel Hill are more exposed to the high standards of Chinese cooking compared to other areas in North Carolina. People (here) would appreciate it (Chinese food) more," said David Lee, the owner of Lotus Inn, which opened last September.

Lilia Peng owns The Dragon's Garden and Golden Dragon. She said she first opened Golden Dragon because she lived in the area and because there were few Chinese restaurants nearby. She added that Golden Dragon was different, because it served food cafeteria-style and catered to students. She said another reason for opening a Chinese restaurant was to help provide employment for some of her relatives who had recently moved here and could not speak English.

Floyd Yee opened the China-Nite Restaurant in 1975. Before moving to North Carolina, Yee owned a restaurant in Michigan. Yee said he did not single out Chapel Hill as the town where he wanted to locate a restaurant. "We were just looking for a location with a building in it with the size we needed," he said.

While Chinese food buffs may appreciate the number of restaurants they have to choose from, the competition can make it difficult for the owners.

"It is difficult now," Peng said. "The competition is so tough. It really makes it hard for everybody. We opened the Golden Dragon and we were the only one on the street. When I opened the second one (The Dragon's Garden), it was in March (1982) and it was still all right. But after the summer, there came three more. I did not really expect that at all."

Yee pointed out that it was not just the number of other Chinese restaurants in the area that makes things difficult. "It's the economy, too," he said.

Herbert Chu opened the House of Chu in 1970 (located where the Peking Garden Restaurant is now). He later sold out because "I thought the competition was too keen."

During Christmas vacation Chu opened Four Five Six at the Franklin Street location

formerly occupied by Blimpies. Chu is an owner of several other restaurants including the Hunan Chinese Restaurant in Chapel Hill. All of these restaurants are owned by a partnership.

"You can't run a restaurant alone successfully. It's very hard," he said. "I found out I can't avoid the competition," Chu said. "That the way the game plays. The competition is very good for the consumer and improves the attitude of the merchants. I have to be better to stay on top."

"We have competition, but we found ourselves in a pretty good position," said the manager of Hunan restaurant. "We have our own customers. Most customers are repeat customers. They know the place real well."

The restaurants advertise various Chinese cuisines. Among those are Hunan, Szechuan and Cantonese styles. Hunan and Szechuan dishes are more hot and spicy and often have less sauce than the Cantonese dishes.

"The hot and spicy dishes are more popular nowadays among the American population," said Francis Chan, owner of the Jade Palace Chinese and Seafood Restaurant. He said that the Szechuan province of China is cold and damp. "People believe in order to stay healthy they have to eat a lot of red peppers to drive the wetness out of the body."

Hungry? Here's a Chinese sampler

• **Hunan Chinese Restaurant.** Herbert Chu, part-owner of the restaurant which opened in 1981, estimated the cost of the average dinner to be \$6. That includes the entree, soup and a choice of rice or lo mein. Lunch, including the entree, soup and a choice of rice or lo mein was estimated to cost \$2.75 and \$3.50 with a drink.

• **At Four Five Six.** "We have cafeteria style. You can pick out anything you want," Chu said. He said the average meal there would cost between \$2.75 and \$3.50.

• **Golden Dragon.** The average dinner of an entree, egg roll and a choice of lo mein or rice costs about \$2.95.

• **The Dragon's Garden.** Prices for a dinner entree range from \$3.95 to \$8. Lilia Peng, the owner of both Golden Dragon and The Dragon's Garden said the average lunch at both restaurants included an entree, soup and a choice of rice or lo mein and cost about \$2.55.

• **The China-Nite Restaurant.** It was one of the first Chinese restaurants to open in the area, making its debut in 1975, and it serves Cantonese Chinese food as well as some American dishes. The owner, Floyd Yee said the average dinner cost \$4.50 and the average lunch cost \$2.75. Rice and tea come with all dinners.

• **The Peking Garden Restaurant.** As Peking Garden, this restaurant has been in existence for little less than a year. But the restaurant itself has been in Chapel Hill for about eight years, said Edward Chen, one of the owners.

The average dinner price is \$5-\$5.50, Chen said. A lunch buffet is offered from 11:30-2:30 Monday through Friday for \$3.50. This includes four main dishes, soup, eggroll and lo mein. There is a Sunday buffet from 12-2:30 and from 4:30-9:30 for \$5.50. This includes five main dishes instead of four.

• **The Jade Palace.** It just opened last November. The owner, Francis Chen, said the restaurant specialized in Sino-Calabash Seafood, which means the seafood is friend with a thin layer of breading. The average dinner costs about \$5.50 and includes the main entree and rice. The average lunch costs \$2.75 and includes the entree, soup and friend rice or lo mein.

• **Lotus Inn.** This restaurant just opened in September. The average dinner costs between \$5 and \$6. It includes a main entree and fried or steamed rice. Lunch costs about \$2.69 and includes the main entree, soup, egg roll and a choice of fried rice, steamed rice or lo mein. American-style breakfast is available in the mornings.

Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the restaurants offer a gourmet type of Chinese brunch known as Dim-Sum. A type of Dim-Sum is sticky rice and meat cooked in a bamboo leaf.

Hunt

He is a true politician. His conversational tone follows the cadence of a speech, with emphasis on key phrases. He is quick to add statistics to document the state's economic progress. His pride about the state is evident when he refers to it as "we" and "us."

One of Hunt's main political assets is his warm manner. He assures listeners of his interest with the gaze of his piercing, blue eyes. He appears to be a man of the people. His Wilson County boyhood days ring through in his speech. The tan cowboy boots he wears contrast with the plush green carpeting of his

office and he apologizes for greeting visitors in his shirtsleeves.

He carries with him the values and convictions he learned as a child. He remembers being angry at a local tobacco farmer who mistreated a black tenant. The farmer's white tenants had overplanted tobacco, but the black had not, he said. However, the farmer made all the tenants cut back the tobacco an equal amount.

Today, Hunt volunteers his time at a local school, trying to fight injustice by helping young people and their families who are often victims of unfairness.

Hunt's family is very important to him. Although his favorite pastimes include jogging, fishing and hunting, he stresses tennis and horseback riding because those are activities he does with his children.

His son, Baxter, is a sophomore international studies major at UNC. His youngest

daughter, Rachel, will enter UNC in the fall. Although the structure of the Chapel Hill campus has changed since his days here, the quality of education has not, he said. "The academic excellence is as strong as it ever has been, and that encouragement of creativity, equality and the sense of indignation at wrongdoing is still there."

Hunt voiced the importance of ambition and hard work in the commencement address he made here in 1978. "This university is responsible, in large measure, for what this state has become," he said in the address. "It, and you, are responsible for what this state will be in the years to come. And, if this university has taught us anything, it is that we cannot be satisfied."

For now, Hunt skirts the issue of his own years to come. "I have one goal now, and that's to spend the next two years being the best governor I can be," he said. "I want North Carolina to be able to move forward every single step it can. Beyond that, a lot of things have been talked about, and there are a lot of possibilities that I have some interest in. But I haven't made any final decisions."

From page 1

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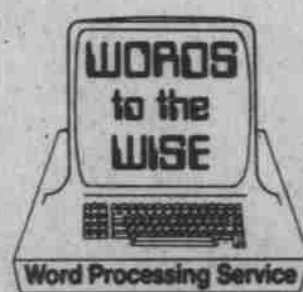
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