



## TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE RECOGNIZED AS “OUTSTANDING PUBLIC STAFF” by THE HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF RALEIGH-WAKE COUNTY**

(Knightdale, NC) – The Town of Knightdale received accolades from the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County last week when it was presented with the “Outstanding Public Staff” award at the organization’s year end ceremony. Knightdale was nominated for its participation in the renovation of the home of Chris Chapman and Rachelle Friedman, which was featured on the NBC television show *George to the Rescue*.

Chapman and Friedman were engaged when Friedman suffered a spinal cord injury just a month before the wedding. Six months later the couple was interviewed on the *Today Show*, where they met the *George to the Rescue* Star George Oliphant. NBC and Oliphant quickly teamed up with the Remodelers Council of the Home Builders Association to begin planning the home fit up.

“We contacted the Town, told them what we wanted to do and that it would require some special consideration to construct the improvements while the couple was put up in nearby accommodations, said Suzanne Harris, VP of Government Affairs for the Association. This had to happen fast and everyone worked together to see that it did.” More than 40 contractors donated labor and materials to the project.

“I want to thank the Association for recognizing the Town, our staff was just one part of a very large effort to get this done,” stated Knightdale Town Manager Seth Lawless. Lawless cited the couple’s Planter’s Walk neighbors and Homeowners Association as well as Wake County Building Inspections and the Knightdale Chamber of Commerce for helping everything come together. “We knew these folks had assembled all of this volunteer labor to work on this house, and we just asked how the Town could help.” Lawless said employees from every department were eager to participate.

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