

Charleston County News Release

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See photos: <http://www.charlestoncounty.org/newsimages/beverly.html>

Charleston County Clerk of Council Named South Carolina's 2007 Outstanding Older Worker of the Year

County Council adopts resolution honoring the 20-year employee who has served 33 different elected members of Council.

Beverly Craven, Clerk of Charleston County Council, has been named the 2007 Outstanding Older Worker of the Year. The recognition came from Experience Works, a national charitable organization with a mission of improving the lives of older people through employment, community service and training.

Craven, 74, lives in downtown Charleston and has been employed as the Clerk of Council since 1987. During her tenure as Clerk of Council, she has served 33 different elected members of Charleston County Council.

To show their appreciation and support for this recognition, Charleston County Council adopted a resolution in Craven's honor at their July 24 meeting.

During the meeting, Craven was going through the agenda items as usual, when a surprise resolution was announced. The resolution was read in its entirety by Kristen Salisbury, Deputy Clerk of Charleston County Council, who has worked with Craven for six years.

Also, as a surprise at the July 24 meeting, two of Craven's three daughters and two of her five grandchildren were present to see her receive the resolution. County Council Chairman Tim Scott invited the family members to the front of Council Chambers to see Craven being presented with the resolution.

"Ms. Craven has been a joy to work with over the last decade," said Scott. "She embodies the characteristics of a true public servant. She is selfless, disciplined and determined. Her love for service has infected so many of us!"

Craven was nominated by one of her daughters, Terri Craven, who saw a newspaper article on last year's winner and immediately thought her mother was deserving of the award.

As part of the Experience Works' award, Craven will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. from Oct. 2-5 to receive her award. She will join the awardees from other states and territories in events including a news conference, meetings with U.S. legislators, and an award recognition ceremony.

Experience Works' Outstanding Older Worker of the Year is designed to honor the senior citizen who best reflects the characteristics of leadership, learning, mentoring and community service, and who continues to make meaningful contributions to their employer. There is an extensive grassroots nomination effort in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to find the person over age 65, working more than 20 hours a week, who best reflects these ideals. Many of these people are in second careers, have overcome handicaps or have taken additional training in their late years to continue to improve their working skills.

Craven is a member of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the Hat Ladies of Charleston, the Concert Association, the Low Country Women's Center, the Palmetto Cabinet, the South Carolina

Clerks to Council Association, and formerly served on the South Carolina Commission on Women. She also represents Charleston County Council on the Low Country Senior Center Board and the Community Pride Board.

Visit: www.experienceworks.org for more information on Experience Works and http://www.experienceworks.org/site/PageServer?pagename=State_PrimeTime2007_nom for more information on their Outstanding Older Worker of the Year Award.

Visit the county's Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for more information or for other news and information relating to Charleston County Government.