

# Office celebrates rave reviews

office receives from the surveys."

The Northern Virginia district earned five stars, the highest possible customer service rating. To recognize their accomplishments, postal employees received lapel pins and a static sticker to place on the front door of the office.

"It's a great honor for Northern Virginia to receive this," said Brian McIvor, the consumer affairs director for the Northern Virginia group of post offices.

To thank their customers, the Gainesville Post Office staff served cake and punch to the folks who dropped in to mail packages or buy stamps on Friday.

In front of the building, an antique mail truck got a lot of attention: The 1929 Ford Model AA mail truck starred in several impromptu photo sessions. A sign mounted on the truck explained that the vehicle had been in continuous service for 23 years in Pennsylvania, where it racked up 500,000 miles in the mission of mail delivery.

Mank said post offices across the region were throwing small receptions like the one in Gainesville. She and McIvor came out to Gainesville to recognize the small office's accomplishments.

"They have a lot of challenges and they still achieved this," Mank said.



Courtesy Photo/Gainesville Post Office

**FIVE STARS:** Postal employees pose with a vintage mail truck outside the Gainesville Post Office. The Gainesville staff was honored last month for its top ratings in customer service.

# Historic Chapman's Mill wins grant

Chapman's Mill, also known as Beverley Mill, has received \$500,000 from the Wrinkle In Time Foundation, a charitable organization in The Plains.

The money will be used to complete the stabilization of the west, north and east walls of the mill. The 63 windows and doors will also be permanently stabilized.

Cintec America, the English firm that stabilized the west wall of the mill in 2004, will start this work in the next few weeks. Cintec America is known for having developed the internal anchor system, which stabilizes structures through the insertion of steel rods and concrete into the walls, thus leaving the historical facade in its

original state. People interested in this stabilization process may learn more by visiting the mill Web site, [www.chapmansmill.org](http://www.chapmansmill.org), for pictures and explanation of the earlier stabilization of the large, south wall.

This Web site will add pictures of the current stabilization process as it ensues.

The father and son partnership of Jonathan and Nathaniel Chapman oversaw the building of Chapman's Mill by slaves in about 1742. After a fire in 1848, then-owner John Chapman, the fifth generation of Chapmans to own the mill, built it to its current height, seven stories on the western side.

Chapman's Mill is the tallest stone structure in the

United States. It is difficult for stone buildings to be erected over four stories.

Donations may be sent to Turn The Mill Around

Campaign, P.O. Box 207, Broad Run VA 20137. Ellen PercyMiller can be reached at (540) 253-5888 or [mill@chapmansmill.org](mailto:mill@chapmansmill.org).

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