

Mayor's Memo

By Ken Jones

Rounding up our fall season

Fall is the season many of us wait for all year. As I write this, the weather has just turned to a cooler, lower humidity, beautiful fall—but this year is quite different.

Hurricane Florence has just recently gone out the door. Our town doesn't resemble the town of August 2018, such a short time ago. So many things have been cancelled and, to a very small degree, I'm okay with it. I'll miss the fall weather as I am hauling leaves and branches. I personally will have a much higher electric bill next summer for the lack of shade trees—most likely, you will, too. But there are better days ahead.

I have heard many people across our town, county, and region say things could have been worse. They certainly could have been. Everyone is thankful for the results we got as opposed to the results we could have had. And I've heard many say they are thankful just to be alive. It's amazing how your priorities come back to the basics when sheer survival is the goal.

We are realizing just how thankful we should be. We live in the great state of North Carolina, but better than that, we live in Pine Knoll Shores. We have beautiful beaches, peaceful and clean neighborhoods, very nice facilities, and many other things that sometimes we take for granted.

It's always difficult to say thank you to all the people who made a difference during the worst time in our town's history. There are so many I almost hate to mention anyone for fear of missing someone. I am overwhelmingly happy with most of the people I have worked with and for during this emergency. To so many who made food or cooked for our emergency operators: thank you. To our emergency fire/rescue and police: thank you. To Sonny Cunningham and his entire crew: thank you. To the town hall staff who did all the important and informational communications: thank you. To the dedicated volunteers who chipped in with a moment's notice: thank you. To all the people who said thank you, my pleasure.

On Veteran's Day we express gratitude to our veterans. As a fellow veteran, I took my turn, and I want to say thank you to other veterans for taking your turn in keeping the freedoms we have.

Don't miss out on this year's Turkey Trot. It's Thanksgiving Day at 9 a.m. (registration at 8:30) and starts at McNeill Park. You do *not* have to be a turkey to participate. In December we have all kinds of fun planned, so stay tuned.

My point is there is gracious plenty for us all to be thankful for. Celebrate and enjoy the beauty of the fall season in Pine Knoll Shores. One team, one town, one Pine Knoll Shores.

In Memoriam

Harold Green

William Henry Jones III

James Merrell Jr.

PINE KNOLL SHORES

Women's Club

By Michelle Powers

The Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club looks forward to the resumption of its meetings and programs in the remaining months of 2018 and the upcoming 2019 season. During October and November, members were focused on dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Florence on their own homes, our town and the larger Carteret County community. Many members volunteered to assist their churches, nonprofit organizations and civic groups to provide services to those affected by the storm.

As we begin to return to normal in our daily lives, the Women's Club has planned for an array of speakers focusing on health and wellness issues.

Membership in the Women's Club is open to any Pine Knoll Shores female resident, but guests of any gender are always welcome at Women's Club meetings. Join us for any of the following programs. Most programs, except for the Fashion Show and the Christmas and Installation luncheons, are held at the Pine Knoll Shores town hall at 9:30 a.m. Light refreshments are served at the start of the meeting, and a short business meeting follows the presentations.

Join us for the following special presentations by guest speakers:

- **November 16**—Terri Thomas, Certified Tai Chi instructor
- **December 7**—Christmas luncheon (location and time to be determined)
- **January 25**—Kathryn Hudson, certified Reiki therapist and trainer
- **February 22**—Fundraising Fashion Show for our Scholarship Program (location and time to be determined)
- **March 22**—Stephanie Kaplan, acupuncturist
- **April 26**—Juan Pulido, certified trainer/health coach, speaking on "Maintaining Muscle, Flexibility and Balance"
- **May 17**—Bill Knecht, president of the Board of Directors of the Crystal Coastal Autism Center
- **June 7**—Installation luncheon (location and time to be determined)

PIKSCO Happenings

By Erica Reed

The PIKSCO parks were hit hard by Hurricane Florence. Tree work is complete at McNeill Park and is almost complete at Garner Park. We are on our contractors' lists to get repairs done to seawalls and docks at McNeill Park and the floating dock at Garner Park. Contractors are working on critical items first and will get to us as soon as possible. The Board is working on all other repairs at the PIKSCO parks. We are always looking for volunteers to help with our parks. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Erica Reed at pikSCO@gmail.com. We need your help to keep PIKSCO parks looking good and to suggest changes that we can make to improve our life here in paradise.

In October, President Buz Jenkins resigned and moved back to Virginia with his family. We have not voted on a new president at this time. Also, our October meeting was cancelled while we regroup and assess damages at both our parks and personal homes.

PIKSCO contact. For questions, concerns, to express a willingness to volunteer or to provide feedback, contact Erica Reed at 252-247-4818, pikSCO@gmail.com, through the website at pikSCO.com or by mail at P.O. Box 366, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512.