

## A Red Letter Day For Red Hat Ladies



April was a busy month for the Red Hat Ladies. On the first day of the month, April Fool's Day, the ladies of the Pine Knoll Shores Chapter of the Red Hat Society met (above) at the Bountiful Bagel for their monthly gathering to enjoy a luncheon spiced by fun, games, prizes and those obvious big red lips.

Then, on April 12 at the Board of Commissioners meeting (photo at right), Mayor Lamson presented to Pauly Brown, queen mother of the Pine Knoll Shores Red Hat Ladies, a proclamation officially designating April 25 as Red Hat Society Day in PKS. Queen Mother Brown, in turn, presented Mayor Lamson with a red hat and honorary membership in the Pine Knoll Shores Chapter.

Members cherish the spirit of the Red Hat Society, which has more than 37,000 chapters worldwide. All of the chapters celebrated Red Hat Society Day on April 25 with appropriate proclamations by governmental units in their area.

## George W. Smith

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Beach, Smith was a key player in this project, which eventually led to construction of the road and making Salter Path more accessible to the outside world.

George Smith was awarded a contract to transport eight high school students from Salter Path to the Morehead City School for the sum of \$40 per month. Smith was a Justice of the Peace, a local leader in the Democratic Party and also known for his quiet generosity to those in need. He was known by everyone as "Uncle George" or "Captain George".

Charles M. Smith, George's grandson, will soon be petitioning the N.C. Department of Transportation to erect dedication signage in front of Days Inn in Atlantic Beach and at the town-limits of Pine Knoll Shores and Indian Beach designating that portion of Highway 58 on Bogue Banks as the "George W. Smith Memorial Highway". The proposal will not cause any renaming of the highway within the various municipalities.

On April 4 the Carteret County Board of Commissioners wholeheartedly endorsed this dedication. Earlier support was received from Pine Knoll Shores, Atlantic Beach and Indian Beach. The Pine Knoll Shores Board of Commissioners Resolution was adopted on March 8

Ronnie Smith said, "My grandfather was a Lewis and Clark type, a guy ahead of his time."



George W. Smith was 87 when this photo was taken in 1969

## Life at Town Hall

*What d'ya know?*

By Mayor Joan Lamson

There is a popular Public Radio program called "What d'ya know?" hosted by Michael Feldman. On the program, the host asks topical questions of the participants. Most of the questions refer to items in the recent national news and with lots of good humor, participants attempt to answer the questions from multiple choice or "just plain answers."

My question for you is: what do you know, and how do you happen to know it?

Calls or emails come into Town Hall every so often with a question or a concern about something someone has heard. Often the question will have something to do with a decision the town has made about this or that, or that something has been done and the caller wonders why. We get calls about changes in ordinances, zoning questions, personnel changes, meeting schedules, waste pick-up changes, changes in the tax rate, revaluation schedule, policies, procedures, and practices and "why did you do it that way?"

First of all, we welcome the questions. (My home phone is 240-3110.) We want to know what you want to know. We want to hear what your concerns are and we want to know if you feel you might not have the whole story...or that you think you have heard the whole story and you disagree with us. Everyone on the staff at Town Hall can answer many of your

questions and he, or she, will be happy to forward your call if you need more information.

In this day of high-tech communication, we not only get our information from the newspaper, whether it be the Carteret News-Times, the J'Ville Daily, the News and Observer, the Gam, People Magazine, the Purple Page, the Yellow Sheet, the Mullet Wrapper, the Diffuser, or the Obfuscator, the radio, the back fence, or observing a town meeting, we also get it from TV, radio, the Internet, voice mail, email, and the local pub. Many of our citizens are retired (or still involved) from positions where they have learned to analyze data and turn it into information. A lot of our citizens have superb intuition skills. This is the good news. The other side of the coin is that sometimes assumptions are made about a situation that is just not so, or that enough background information is not available to lend a full understanding to the issue. This is from whence rumors are born.

If you have a question about an issue, if you have heard that something is "by golly" so, if you wonder why we made the decision we made (which we might not have made yet), please check it out. If you did not hear "pros" as well as "cons", you probably did not hear the full story. Call us.