

The Shoreline



Ch Ch Changes

See page 13

Vol. 7, No. 7

A Shoreline Community, Pine Knoll Shores, N.C.

February 2011



A Different Variety of Farm

By Charlie McBriarty

Having spent several years in the Midwest states of Illinois and Indiana, I was somewhat conversant with what farming involved. In this part of the country, the land is flat and the summers are hot, humid and conducive to farming, growing acres upon acres of corn and soybeans. Wheat fields intermittently broke up the monotony. Occasionally, while driving along Midwest state byways you might also see a dairy farm where Guernseys

roamed. For me farming was defined as producing food for the marketplace.

During this past holiday season driving north on Indiana Interstate 65, I became aware of a recently introduced phenomenon that has modified my definition of farming. As we drove north of Indianapolis toward Chicago, on both sides of the highway for about 10 miles, we encountered a stretch of wind farms or wind plants. Towering high, their three blades slowly turning, these modern-day windmills, or wind turbines, stood in

sharp contrast to the snow covered land that bordered the highway. There were rows and rows as far as I could see of these giant towers, their blades moving at what might be considered a hypnotic pace. (Fortunately, I was not driving during this portion of the trip.)

This experience caused me to do a little Internet research about wind farming. Surprisingly, I found that 10 of Indiana's counties have or are constructing wind farms. Even more startling was that these

(Continued on page 3)

Riding the Rails

By Tom Powers

Once the thrill of riding a train becomes a passion, you will be hooked on it for life. So it has been for Dick and Linda Cumberland. They have ridden on many of the scenic railroads around the country, and Dick has even owned and cruised the rails in a "Speeder" car, which is a railroad maintenance vehicle that is popular with rail enthusiasts.

Recently, they have become a train host and hostess on the North Carolina passenger train the Piedmont, which runs from Raleigh to Charlotte and back. The Piedmont train, owned by the state of North Carolina, zips along tracks leased from Amtrak at speeds up to 75 mph.

Becoming a train host isn't difficult, you need to be recommended and go through one day of training, but most of all, you need to have a love of train travel because you're required to volunteer to make a run at least once every 60 days. There is no pay and are no benefits to the job other than the thrill of the ride. The Cumberlands enjoy taking the early train to Charlotte, spending the day in the city and returning on the evening train.



(Continued on page 3)

 **1610 AM** PINE KNOLL SHORES RADIO
The Pine Knoll Shores Radio Station broadcasts 24 hours a day with weather and emergency info.
EMERGENCY - CALL 911
SHERIFF'S OFFICE 504-4800 • PUBLIC SAFETY 247-2474

The Shoreline

Standard
Pre-Sort
Permit #35
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512