

The Country Club of the Crystal Coast

...where friends connect

By the time you read this, most schools and colleges will have already started their fall semester and summer will soon be over. Please celebrate and drive safely during the upcoming Labor Day weekend.

The highly successful annual Crystal Coast Artisans Show was held at the club on Saturday, August 6. Thirty vendors were there selling their pottery, wood carving and nautical décor, jewelry, canvas works of art, textiles, photography and much more. I hope you were able to be there. If you weren't, there is always next year's event, which will be held on August 5, 2017, so save the date.

The tennis Mixed Doubles Championship is being held at the club on September 16, 17 and 18. Visitors are always welcome to come, watch and support their favorite amateur tennis player. The LGA 9-Hole President's Cup Tournament is being held at the club on September 6 and 13, and the LGA 18-Hole Championship is being held on September 23 and 30.

On October 26, club member and Pine Knoll Shores resident Peter Makuck will speak at the club about his two latest books, to be released in October. The event will be open to the public. The first is *Wins and Losses: Stories*, which is a collection of short stories filled with humor, heartbreak and compassion. As stated by others, Peter explores the territory of small, rural American towns, and delves into their everyday lives to reveal unexpectedly vulnerable and compassionate characters. His stories explore characters struggling with questions of what really matters in life.

Peter's other new book, *Mandatory Evacuation*, is a collection of original poems. As stated by Betty Adcock, a renowned American poet and 2002-03 Guggenheim Fellow, "In *Mandatory Evacuation* . . . , a deeply accomplished poet faces memory and mortality, earth, sea, and spirit with the quiet energy of a lyric voyager. Beginning with the wildflowers and enveloping art of France, a stray melody in a blood-red Spanish sunset, and backed by the red-tiled roofs of Greece where a priest relaxes into the ordinary, the poems move to America's canyons and distances, and finally to 'Barrier Island,' the place where two immensities meet, a spiritual home."

Peter is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus at East Carolina University. He previously wrote *Long Lens: New and Selected Poems* (2010), *Off Season in the Promised Land* (2005), *Against Distance* (1997), *The Sunken Lightship* (1990) and *Where We Live* (1982), among others.

The club's next open house for prospective new members is September 9 from 5 to 6 p.m. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. Bring a friend and come see what the club has to offer. We are looking forward to seeing you at the club—where friends connect.



During the recent Member-Guest Golf Tournament at The Country Club of the Crystal Coast, the team of Pine Knoll Shores resident Jason Wordsworth and guest Troy Forguites from Morehead City held on to win the competition. Pictured from left: Jason, country club General Manager Chip Chamberlain and Troy.—Photo by Sandy Hale

Court Cases Affect November Election

By Phyllis Makuck

This article is part of the continuing efforts of the Voter Rights Coalition of Carteret County to make citizens aware of laws and court cases related to voting in North Carolina.

Court cases concerning redistricting, the election of judges and North Carolina's 2013 Voting Law have already affected the November General Election and could potentially affect it further. What should you know concerning these cases?

Voting Law

On July 29, the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals repealed North Carolina's 2013 Voting Law, finding that the North Carolina legislature had written it with discriminatory intent. Based on the Circuit Court's instructions, the U.S. District Court is rewriting the law:

- To eliminate the photo ID requirement
- To count out-of-precinct provisional ballots
- To permit registration during Early Voting
- To hold Early Voting over three weeks rather than two and
- To reinstate pre-registration of 16-year-olds by DMV.

Governor McCrory's request that the appeals court stay the ruling for November was denied; however, on August 15, he asked Chief Justice Roberts for a stay, allowing the photo ID, shortened early voting and elimination of pre-registration to remain in effect for the November General Election. Governor McCrory has said he plans to appeal the 4th Circuit Court decision to the full 15-person appeals court or to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Redistricting

- The June 7 Congressional Primary reflected a redrawn map of North Carolina's U.S. Congressional Districts based on a U.S. District Court decision ruling that North Carolina's 2011 redistricting was racially gerrymandered. However, North Carolina has appealed that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. The case, *McCrory v. Harris*, is on the docket for the U.S. Supreme Court's October 2016 session and could nullify the June 7 vote for U.S. Congressional candidates who are expected to be on the November ballot.
- Common Cause in August joined with others in a suit to overturn the newly drawn congressional district map on the grounds that it was politically gerrymandered. Theoretically, this suit could also affect the November General Election of U.S. Congressional representatives.
- On August 11, another U.S. District Court panel ruled that North Carolina's 2011 legislative redistricting was racially gerrymandered and, therefore, ordered the state to redraw the districts. However, since the ruling is so close to the November election, the District Court is not enforcing this decision until after the General Election, so candidates for the N.C. House and Senate elected in the March Primary are expected to be on the ballot in November.

Judges

In March 2016, the North Carolina Supreme Court declared a 2015 law calling for a yes/no retention vote for second-term North Carolina Supreme Court incumbent justices unconstitutional. Therefore, North Carolina Supreme Court candidates were added to the June 7 Primary, and Primary Election winners, Justice Robert Edmunds and Judge Michael Morgan, are on the November ballot.

Another law passed with the retention bill is still in effect. It calls for judicial candidates for all statewide elections, which had in the past been nonpartisan, to designate party affiliations when declaring their candidacy. A later law changed the random order alphabetization for how judges in nonpartisan races are listed on the ballot and substituted alphabetical order with candidates of the party of the sitting governor listed first, similar to ballots for partisan races. So, even though party designations will not be next to the name of judicial candidates, the names will be on the ballot alphabetically by party in November.



**Voter Rights Coalition
of Carteret County**
A NonPartisan Organization