

In Memoriam

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Smoke Alarms Save Lives

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Proper maintenance is essential. Once the smoke alarms are in place, it is important to check them regularly and perform proper maintenance. It is a long-standing guideline that batteries in smoke alarms be changed twice a year when the time changes for Daylight Saving Time. If you did not change your batteries in mid-March when clocks were changed for this purpose, do it now—and then remember to do it again on November 5 when the clocks are again changed.

In addition to ensuring that you have fresh batteries in your alarms, it is important to be sure that an accumulation of dust does not prohibit their proper operation. When you change the batteries, take a few minutes to use a can of compressed air to blow any dust out of the interior of the alarm. Dust can accumulate on the sensors in the detector and make it less responsive. Dust can also set off the detector if you have an overly dusty environment (such as during home renovations that create lots of dust).

This simple twice-a-year maintenance program is an easy way to ensure that your smoke detectors are in good working order to alert you in the event of a fire. Well maintained smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years. If they are not maintained, devices may fail in a much shorter period of time.

In addition to smoke alarms, you should have carbon monoxide (CO) detectors on every level in your home (and near carbon monoxide sources such as fireplaces, furnaces and water heaters). CO detectors should never be placed near a window or door since a draft can cause them to fail to alert to the presence of carbon monoxide.

If you would like to have your smoke detectors checked by a professional, your Pine Knoll Shores Fire Department is available to check the placement and working order of your devices. In addition, we will check your house for obvious safety issues and will advise you how to correct any problems. Please call the Fire Department at 247-2268 or stop by the Public Safety Building to discuss your concerns.

Scam of the Month

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The Attorney General's office has recently been contacted by consumers who heard "Can you hear me?" or "Is this the lady of the house?" when they answered the phone. These calls are designed to elicit "yes" as an answer. Some of the calls are actually recordings and some may be disguised as solicitations for vacation cruises or other items. Armed with their recording of the consumer's response, these crooks "cram" charges onto the victim's phone or credit card bill.

To protect yourself against these scammers, remember:

- *Let it ring.* The best and easiest way to combat telemarketing fraudsters is to let unknown calls go to your answering machine. If a caller doesn't leave a message, it was a crook or an unimportant call that was OK to miss.
- *Just hang up.* If you pick up the phone and a voice says "Can you hear me?" or something else that is designed to get you to respond with a "yes," just put the phone back down. It's rude, but so is trying to steal your money.
- *You can't trust Caller ID.* Scam artists can manipulate it to make it look like a legitimate call when it isn't. If you are unsure about a call, let them leave a message.
- *Study your bill.* Check your phone charges and credit card statements carefully. If you see a charge you don't recognize, contact the company and dispute the charge.

—Source: ncdoj.gov

BHA Events

Mattie King Davis Art Gallery

On Thursday, April 6, from 5 to 7 p.m., an opening reception will be held at the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery to welcome talented artist Jimmy Black as the featured artist for April and May. A Richmond, Virginia, native, Mr. Black worked in banking for 40 years before retiring to rekindle his love for painting. He and his wife split their time between Raleigh and Carteret County. Visit beauforthistoricsite.org or the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery Facebook page to see examples of his work.

BHA Easter Egg Hunt

The Beaufort Historical Association will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m. at the Beaufort Historic Site. Children age seven and under are welcome to bring a basket and join in the fun.

Pre-Book-Launch Party

The BHA will partner with author Kristy Harvey for a pre-book-launch party on Friday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m. for her latest book, *Slightly South of Simple*. The book officially launches in New York City on April 25, so this is a chance to be among the first people to get it before it is available in stores. The event will be held at the historic waterfront home of Will and Kristy Harvey at 217 Front Street in Beaufort. Enjoy food by Vivian Howard of Chef & the Farmer in Kinston and meet the author. Tickets are \$100 and include a copy of *Slightly South of Simple*. All proceeds from the event benefit the Beaufort Historical Association.

Publick Day

On Saturday, April 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the BHA will host Publick Day, an old-fashioned flea market, on the Beaufort Historic Site, with vendors selling antiques and collectibles, art, crafts, handmade jewelry, books, food and much more. There is no charge for this event.

To learn more about these and other BHA events, call 728-5225 or visit the BHA website at beauforthistoricsite.org.

Save the Date

Join us for

THIRD THURSDAY FORUM

for an opportunity to learn about

Bike Fun and Bike Safety

with

Brian Nicklow

Owner, Beach Wheels Bike Rentals in Indian Beach

and

New Laws and Bike-Related Problems

with

Ryan Thompson

Pine Knoll Shores Police Chief

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 4 P.M.

PINE KNOLL SHORES TOWN HALL

Free and Sponsored by the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee

**NEXT THIRD THURSDAY FORUM AT FOUR:
MAY 18**