

PKS Garden Club Recieves Awards

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Many awards were given during the annual meeting, with Emerald Isle's very active Garden Club being the big winner with 18 awards (11 first place, four second place, two third place and one honorable mention) from the state Garden Club. In addition, the Emerald Isle club won an award for environmental conservation from the South Atlantic Region.

Ms. Zaenker reports that Emerald Isle Garden Club President Tula Satterfield has been a good mentor and friend to the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club. It was Ms. Satterfield's program for Emerald Isle's Blue Star Memorial that served as the impetus for the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club to take on the monumental task of installing a memorial in town. In addition to the support given to the town's club during the planning of the Blue Star Memorial installation and program, Ms. Satterfield has encouraged the Pine Knoll Shores club to apply for available awards so that their excellent work can be recognized in the gardening community.

Congratulations to the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club for this well-deserved recognition. Town residents and visitors are fortunate to enjoy the first-class gardening skills of club members on a daily basis as we pass the town gardens and enjoy decorations around town during the holidays.

A Day in the Life of a PKS Police Officer

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date. The caller says a warrant has been issued for your arrest, or soon will be, but you can pay a fine now and avoid being arrested.

These con artists are trying to exploit your fear of getting on the wrong side of the law, and are hoping they can squeeze money out of you before you realize it is a scam. The North Carolina Attorney General's office has received dozens of reports about jury duty scams so far this year, and six people have fallen victim. Victims of the jury duty scam report losses of about \$1,000 each.

All of the victims were instructed to use Green Dot Money Pak cards as their method of payment. These prepaid debit cards, and gift cards like iTunes cards, have become scammers' preferred way of getting their hands on your money.

Real notices for jury duty arrive by mail, and legitimate public officials won't call to threaten you with arrest if you don't show up for jury duty or fail to pay a fine immediately.

Source: www.ncdoj.gov

Hurricane Readiness

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If you require evacuation to a facility for medical reasons (oxygen, assistance with medications, etc.), you must register with Carteret County Emergency Services. If you do not have internet access, call Natalie Gobble at the Pine Knoll Shores Public Safety Department at 247-2268 for assistance. If you do have access to a computer, go to the Carteret County website (carteretcountync.gov) and select Emergency Services under the Services tab. On the Emergency Services page you will see a link to Public Shelters. Once you click on that, you will be able to download a form to register for this service. If you need more information, call the county Emergency Services office at 222-5841. This shelter is operated by Carteret Health Care and is located at the Leon Mann Jr. Enrichment Center at 3820 Galantis Drive in Morehead City.

Proper generator use. If your home has a built-in generator system, it is a good idea to have it serviced to be sure it will be ready to go if you lose power during a storm. During the service call, ask the technician to give you a refresher on the operation of the system as well.

If you rely on a portable generator for your emergency power needs, it is important to be aware of the potential hazards associated with these units, which include risk of electrical shock, carbon monoxide poisoning and fires from improper refueling. You should never plug a portable generator directly into your house unless you have a proper transfer switch that has been installed by a qualified electrician. Instead, plug appliances directly into the generator itself or use extension cords that are rated for the load you are placing on them.

Never place a portable generator in the house or in the enclosed garage; it is essential that the generator have proper ventilation to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. In addition, keep in mind that it will likely be wet during a hurricane. If your generator doesn't have a GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter), you should use a multi-plug adapter that has that feature. Never operate the generator standing in wet conditions.

The main fire hazard from a portable generator occurs during refueling. The generator will get hot enough during operation to ignite the vapors from the gasoline as you pour it into the tank, potentially resulting in a flash fire. Always allow the generator to cool before refueling, and be sure it is well ventilated to avoid accumulation of vapors. Also, be sure to store the fuel away from the operating generator (and away from your living space).

More information is available. The hurricane preparation tips here are basic and do not really change year to year. The National Hurricane Center's website, nhc.noaa.gov, has tracking features and maps that are helpful in monitoring the progress of a storm. Click on Educational Resources on this website to find additional helpful information on preparation and storm readiness. The first tab under Education Resources will take you to the page for Hurricane Preparedness Week, which was held in early May. This information is worth a review to be sure you haven't neglected important details. There is also information on FEMA's website at ready.gov/natural-disasters.

When the storm is over. It is good to check the town's website (townofpks.com) or Facebook page for updated information after a storm has passed. The town's radio station, AM-1610, is a good source of information as well. If you do not already receive emails from Town Manager Brian Kramer, email admin@townofpks.com to be added to that list. If you don't have internet access from your evacuation site, you may call the Pine Knoll Shores public safety building at 252-247-2268 or the Carteret County Communications Center at 252-726-1911 to be sure the bridges have reopened before you return to the area. An important (and obvious) point: *do not* call these numbers to ask when electricity and cable services will be restored.

If you have questions, please feel free to stop by the public safety building or call 247-2268 and we will be happy to assist you.

Save the Date

Join us for

THIRD THURSDAY FORUM AT FOUR

for an opportunity to learn about how

**The Senior Tar Heel Legislature
is on Your Side**

with

Victor Heinrich

Senior Tar Heel Legislator serving Carteret County

**THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 4 P.M.
PINE KNOLL SHORES TOWN HALL**

Free and Sponsored by the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee

**NEXT THIRD THURSDAY FORUM AT FOUR:
JULY 20**