

Police Officer Dan Neglic

By Jacquie Pipkin

Dan Neglic is a newcomer to the town of Pine Knoll Shores, beginning his service as a police officer on May 22. Dan explained that he was late for our interview because he was helping someone change a flat tire. I was happy to hear that because that could have been me who needed his help. In fact, the Pine Knoll Shores town philosophy of putting citizens and their safety first, echoed by others in this series of articles, is exactly why Dan likes being a police officer in this town. He describes the staff at the Public Safety Building as well as the citizens of Pine Knoll Shores as a "great group of people." Admittedly, Dan's greatest challenge to date is learning all of the town's streets.

It has been a journey for Dan from his hometown of Massillon, Ohio, birthplace of Paul Brown (one of the most renowned coaches in NFL history) and affectionately known as the "place where football was invented"—with a couple of stops in between. After graduating from high school, Dan joined the US Army where from 1977 to 1984 he served as a helicopter crew chief and performed skydiving missions while on deployment. After the Army, Dan returned to his hometown where, for 22 years as a Teamster, he operated a semi-truck that delivered heavy equipment.

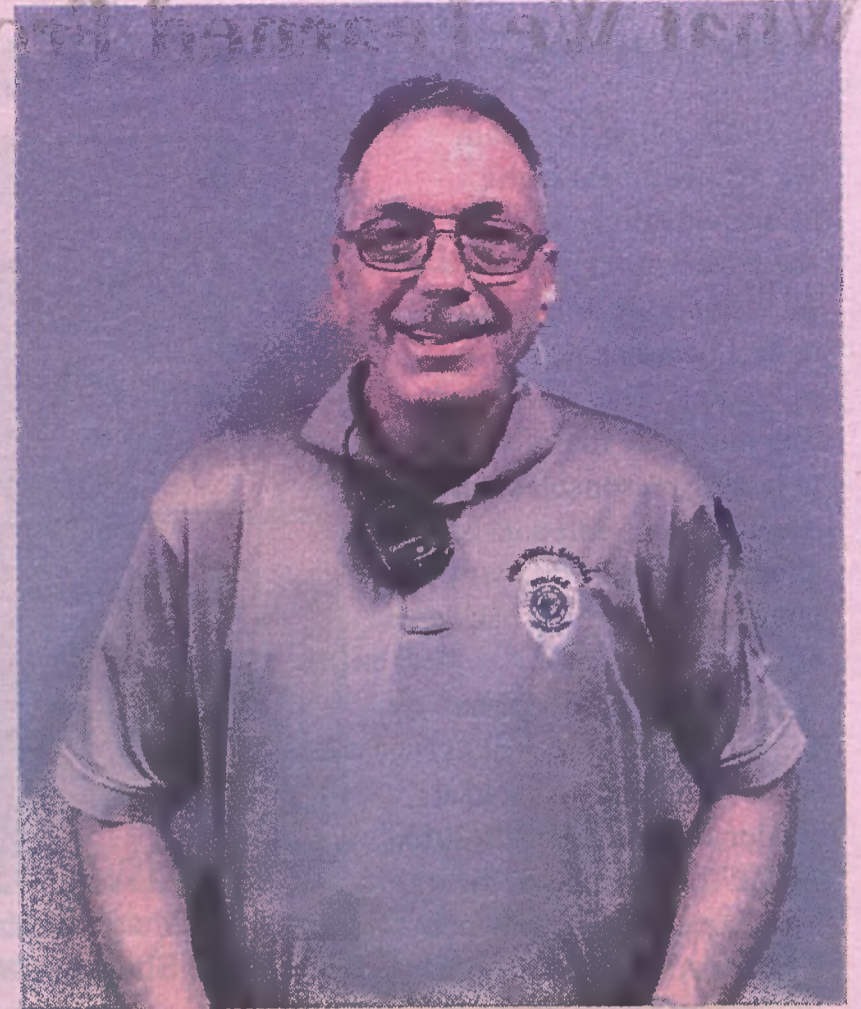
In 2006, after a vacation and two full weeks of retirement, Dan was bored. He relocated to Beaufort and worked for Styron's Construction Company for two years before being recruited by the town of Beaufort to serve as its Public Works supervisor. Dan then spent the next four years as a bailiff with the Carteret County Sheriff's department before coming to Pine Knoll Shores.

Carol, Dan's wife of five years, presently works at the Leon Mann Jr. Enrichment Center in Morehead City. During their times off together they enjoy fishing. Because of Dan's iodine allergy, however, they throw back everything they catch.

They just like being on the beach. Dan is also an avid reader. When asked if he prefers science fiction, biographies, history . . . Dan replies, "all of the above."

Dan and Carol have a combined family of six children and four grandchildren living in three different states. When asked if the Neglics travel often to see their children, Dan replied they would but that the kids much prefer to come from far and wide to meet at the beach. The only "children" now living at home are Ginger (5), a 110-pound Labrador, and Leah (3), a Rottweiler. While the family of four is usually together, there is one activity that Dan does apart from them—riding his Harley. Dan rides with the Blue Knights, a law enforcement motorcycle club.

When asked if there is something that readers may be surprised to know, Dan explained that because he is "no longer 18 and bullet proof," he doesn't do the "off-the-wall stuff" he used to do. Except to say that heights now make him dizzy, this skydiver turned police officer didn't expand.



Pine Knoll Shores Police Officer Dan Neglic
—Photo by Ryan Thompson



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