

Mayor's Memo

By Ken Jones

Thank you for another great year

The year 2019 was one of a kind. Busy, busy seems to sum it all up. Time is a precious commodity—the most precious thing we possess minute to minute. We never know what will happen next.

I am taking this minute to thank you for your valuable support all year. I always appreciate your comments and input. The best part of this year was the comments I got all along about the folks that work for our town; they are the glue that holds our team together.

I announced a few months ago that the *Island Review* would be returning to the county. Well it has. You can pick up a free copy at the front entrance to town hall and at our Bogue Banks Library.

I am always honored and humbled by the people who are my friends and neighbors in our town. We are a community of volunteers; that's what *makes* a community in my opinion. We work together, communicate and make things happen together. To celebrate this time of year we have our annual flotilla, Christmas parade, and numerous parties and get-togethers.

Every year I have four dinners, and our first-quarter one is an “away game,” where we have a concentration of second-home owners. This is part of my #1 goal: communication. We've been to the Raleigh area several times. At our summer dinner we usually shoot for a Saturday night to give weekenders a better chance to come. Our agenda is pretty much the same all four times every year. Introduce yourself, place your food order, catch up on town business—two way communication. We answer questions, we eat, and then wrap up with any other questions and discussion. I always have a great time, and everyone who has ever attended seems to enjoy it very much.

Speaking of two-way communication, it was brought to my attention that more people need more time to speak publically at our town commissioner meetings. Currently we limit public comment to three minutes. I promise you this issue is on the agenda for the board's annual off-site meeting in February. There are several alternatives, and I want to make sure you are fully aware of them.

My town email address is mayorjones@townofpks.com, and I answer all emails. My office phone number is 252-247-4353, ext. 17. My mobile number is 252-723-3150. My information and your commissioners' contact information is in *The Shoreline*. I will read a letter at a board meeting into the record if you have a subject on which you wish to express an opinion. I meet with citizens of our town regularly.

Folks who move here to stay year-round find out just how special this town is. The reason the town is unique is because the people are special. Get involved, join a board, and be part of our team by helping make your town the best place to live. We have room for every volunteer to join our town's team.

I wish you a holy Advent, a joyous Christmas, or perhaps a Happy Hanukah, and all the best to each of you for a healthy and successful 2020. One team, one town, one Pine Knoll Shores. Thank you for making this another great year.

American Music Festival

By Linda Seale

In this 30th anniversary season of the American Music Festival, concerts in the New Year will feature Volante Winds from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music on February 1, Barbara McKenzie on piano and Caroline Stinson on cello on March 7, and a special anniversary celebration on April 25 with a mix of classical favorites chosen from a survey of members' favorite music and performers from the past 30 years.

A vivacious ensemble, Volante Winds will feature Wind Energy, and their joyful music will provide a clear, light and refined concert with the works of Ibert, Ligeti, Barber and Francaix. They have won national awards and have secured residencies in South Korea, Japan and Spain. The group will also be giving an outreach program to the county band students.

All concerts are held on Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Morehead City. Please note the time change from previous years.

Tickets are available at the door for \$32/adult and \$16/student, teacher and military. Single tickets may also be reserved before each concert by calling 342-5034 or can be purchased in advance by visiting AmericanMusicFestival.org and clicking on “Tickets” in the navigation menu.

Please plan to join us for world class entertainment right here in Carteret County. There is no need to drive or fly or pay high prices to see and hear marvelous chamber music. We hope to see you there.



Volante Winds performs on February 1.



**It's Not Too Late to Support
The Kayak for the Warriors
Angel Tree. See Page 5.**