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A Shoreline Community, Pine Knoll Shores, N.C.

March 2020

## **Smoke Alarms Save Lives**

By Chief Jason Baker
Pine Knoll Shores Fire Department

Smoke alarms that are working properly can save lives, yet they are often forgotten by homeowners once they are installed—unless there is a cooking mishap that causes them to go off or they beep when the battery needs to be changed. If you do not ensure on a regular basis that your smoke alarms are in good working order, you run a substantially higher risk of dying in your house should a fire occur. It is wise to get into the practice of changing the batteries in your smoke alarms when the time changes for Daylight Saving Time in the spring and again when it changes back to standard time in the fall. Daylight Saving Time begins on March 8 this year; replace the batteries in your alarms and check that they are working—and plan to change them again on November 1 when we go back to Standard Time.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) says that three of every five fire fatalities in homes are due to the lack of operational smoke detectors. Smoke alarms are one of the most economical items you can purchase for the peace of mind (and safety) they provide in your home. While it is essential that you have

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## PINE KNOLL SHORES POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Reentry Pass Reminder

Pine Knoll Shores reentry passes are issued from December 1 through May 31 only. No passes will be issued during hurricane season. Pine Knoll Shores residents and homeowners are encouraged to check your reentry passes now to be sure you know where they are. If you are unable to find your pass, stop by the public safety building at 314 Salter Path Road before May 31 and pick up a new one. Please be prepared to show your driver's license with your Pine Knoll Shores address, a utility bill with your address or your purchase/rental paperwork. We cannot issue a reentry pass without one of these types of documentation. If you are out of town and will not return before May 31, please email Shelia Bupp at psbadmin@ townofpks.com to make arrangements for your pass. Please note that there is a \$25 fee for replacing a previously issued pass.

An exception will be made in the case of closing on a new purchase of property outside of these dates. New owners requesting a reentry pass must present proof of purchase within 30 days of settlement in the form of a closing statement or billing statement, along with a photo ID.

## NC Arbor Day Is March 20

By Sarah Williams

The Town of Pine Knoll Shores has succeeded, for the 20th year in a row, in being recognized as a Tree City USA.

Each year, the Community Appearance Commission (CAC) celebrates this achievement by holding a celebration at noon on NC Arbor Day that typically includes a tree planting. This year, we will gather at the public safety building on Friday, March 22, at noon for the Arbor Day celebration and will gather afterwards at town hall for a reception to celebrate Pine Knoll Shores' 20th anniversary as a Tree City USA. A tree will be planted at the public safety building in memory of volunteer fireman Rich Donoghue, who also served with the VIPS (Volunteers in Police Service) program.

In 1967 the state legislature ratified a bill stating:

"... it is desirable that the planting of seedlings and flowering shrubs be encouraged to promote the beautification and conservation of the vast and varied natural resources of North Carolina and . . . the designation of a particular week in each year as Arbor Week would encourage and draw public attention to a concerted effort by North Carolinians to beautify and conserve the State's resources by the planting of young trees and shrubs."

National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April, but in North Carolina it is designated at the first Friday following March 15. This year that will be March 20.

According to the NC Forest Service's website, the first Arbor Day was in Nebraska. J. Sterling Morton and his wife moved there from Detroit and went to work planting shrubs, flowers and trees around their property. He was a journalist and became the editor of Nebraska's first newspaper, which provided him with a forum to spread agricultural awareness and his fondness for nature. The public shared his enthusiasm, and they missed the trees from the places they

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