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

December 2020

## **Keeping Up With the Clerk**

By Charles Rocci Pine Knoll Shores Town Clerk

## CARES Act A/V upgrade

Pine Knoll Shores is eligible for \$30,080 in CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funding reimbursements for COVID-19 recovery and resiliency projects. The Pine Knoll Shores Board of Commissioners approved the funds to be allocated to improving board room telecommunications abilities, on a recommendation from the town clerk.

There are two key characteristics of Pine Knoll Shores population demographics which should be considered for project justification:

- According to 2010 Census data, 35% of Pine Knoll Shores residents are over the age of 65. (The North Carolina average is about 22%.)
- A large portion of Pine Knoll Shores homeowners are part-time residents. According to 2018 land use tax information, the town had about 10,000 residents in the summer of 2018. The census data shows that there are about 1,339 full-time residents in Pine Knoll Shores.

This project is an effort to increase transparency in local government and encourage more people to become involved with local government activities. The pandemic shutdown and inability of many to attend meetings in person has revealed that we need to update our technology to service vulnerable populations and second-home owners. Remote meeting attendance has steadily decreased over the course of this pandemic, and we hope this project can make online meetings a more practical option.

After reaching out to consultants and posting our proposal on the NC Hub for Underutilized Businesses, we received three bids. Before meeting with the bidders for site visits, we developed a needs assessment which emphasized these points:

• The system needs to be hands off, as the clerk will be operating it while presenting and taking meeting minutes.

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## **Virtual Veterans Day Parade**

A veteran is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check, made payable to the United States of America, for an amount up to and including their life.—Author unknown

**Collections for Carteret County Humane Society** 

See "Have You Heard . . . ?" on page 19

**Angel Tree Reminder** 

**Boating Opportunity** 

Of the Crystal Coast"

See "America's Boating Club

See page 6

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Carteret County looks forward to the annual Morehead City Veterans Day Parade, but like many activities, this largest Veterans Day Parade in NC was cancelled because of COVID-19 concerns. While a disappointment for the patriotic residents of our area, loss of the normal parade didn't stop the Veterans Coalition of the Crystal Coast from holding the 24th Annual Carteret County Virtual Veterans Day Parade.

As usual, Pine Knoll Shores was well represented. Tom King organized the group this year for a photo that appeared on the Morehead City American Legion Post 46 website with other veterans, boy scouts, civic organizations, local charities, the NJROTC from West Carteret High School, and others.

We remember all veterans and their families and thank them for their sacrifices and service to the United States of America.



Though a small group because of COVID-19, these Pine Knoll Shores veterans represented all of the town's veterans in the Virtual Veterans Day Parade. Masks were worn until just prior to the picture-taking and donned again afterward.—*Photo byTom King* 

