The Shoreline

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Our Library in Transition

By Charlotte Hamilton

The Bogue Banks Public Library has been reduced to one-half of what it was. The decision made by the Carteret County commissioners in May 2019 to withdraw from the Craven-Pamlico-Carteret (CPC) regional system became effective on July 1, 2020. The county library system is now a new, one-county entity, Carteret County Public Library, operating independently under the leadership of new Director Lesley Mason and under the supervision of County Manager Tommy Burns and the Carteret County commissioners. These changes have occurred during the long period of our isolation from one another. Many pleasures have been given up, and perhaps the library is on the way to becoming another loss, this time for Pine Knoll Shores and for the other towns on Bogue Banks.

Because of concern initiated by the loss of long-serving library employees and by the severe reduction of library service hours and book collections, on August 12 the Pine Knoll Shores Board of Commissioners established an ad hoc library committee, comprised of Mayor John Brodman, Friends' President Barbara McCreary, Michelle Powers, Pat Warnke, Brita Flynn, Susan Phillips, Cindy Schersching and Charlotte Hamilton. In order to learn more about plans for the future, the group has met with Director Lesley Mason and with Commissioner Jimmy Farrington, the county commissioner representing Bogue Banks. In addition, Mayor Brodman has written to the county commissioners and the county manager to express concern. He has spoken with Commissioner Farrington and several other commissioners as well as with mayors on Bogue Banks and in Carteret County about the direction the library appears to be taking.

These meetings, held during the transition from the old to new systems, have raised many unanswered questions. Director Mason and County Manager Burns have not presented a plan to the ad hoc committee for the future of the library with regard to reopening on the former six-day schedule, and they have not assured the group that there is a long-term plan for the Bogue Banks Public

PKS Virtual Turkey Trot

By Cheryl Smith

First virtual trot a big hit

While we were sad not to all be together for the 13th Annual Turkey Trot, we had incredible participation for the first ever (and hopefully last ever) Pine Knoll Shores Virtual Turkey Trot. Ninety participants ran, walked or cycled and posted pictures to social media using #PKSTurkeyTrot in order to win some fun awards. I personally ran across many participants—young and old—out having fun on Thanksgiving morning.

At stake were gift cards and, most important, bragging rights in several categories. Winners were named for Best Start, Best Finish, Longest Run, Most Creative Water Stop Station, Best Costume, Most Unique/Creative Race Course, Youngest Participant, Best Pet Costume and Winner of the Big Scavenger Hunt.

The Scavenger Hunt was a tough one but the Tucker family got every item correct, including finding a seashell that reminds you of Christmas. Scavenger Hunt challenges (and answers, if applicable) were:

1. One of the places in Pine Knoll Shores where you can drop off or pick up a book that's not the library (answer: the book boxes at Ocean Park, Brock Basin, Hall Haven or on Hawthorne)
2. A place in Pine Knoll Shores where you are losing but your score is *Love* (answer: the Crystal Coast Country Club tennis courts)
3. A community place where you can watch the sunset in the summer but not the winter. (answer: any of the parks on the sound)
4. The point where the bugle has started the annual Pine Knoll Shores Turkey Trot in years past (answer: McNeill Bridge)
5. A seashell whose name makes you think of Christmas (answer: Jingle)
6. An errant political sign anywhere in Pine Knoll Shores

HAPPY NEW YEAR!