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## Hurricane Readiness

By Jason Baker  
Pine Knoll Shores Fire Chief

On June 20, Erik Heden from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and I did our annual hurricane preparation briefing at the Pine Knoll Shores town hall. We do this every year in an effort to help folks understand the dangers of storm events and to provide ideas on preparing ahead of time to meet the challenge in the event of a hurricane. Presented here are a few tips that were shared at this year's briefing.

A reentry pass is necessary to return to the island after authorities determine that it is safe to do so. The time to get a reentry pass for this hurricane season has passed (unless you are a new homeowner who recently purchased your property). Reminders ran in *The Shoreline* and were distributed via town-wide email for several months leading up to the start of hurricane season, so everyone who needs a pass should have one by now. If you missed the opportunity to get a reentry pass before the deadline passed on May 31, be sure to take care of that when passes are again issued beginning on December 1.

The question I receive most is, "Should I evacuate for a storm?" I always say yes, please evacuate. There is no reason to stay. It is not fun, and it can be uncomfortable. If power is lost and you do not have a working generator, there will be no air conditioning—and it will be unclear when power will be restored. But loss of power could be the least of your problems. Residents are often lured into complacency, thinking that a Category 1 storm will be a nonevent. There are many other factors to consider beyond the category of a storm. Please do not use only the category number to make your decision as to whether or not to stay or evacuate. A slow-moving Category 1 storm can cause major difficulties.

Before the first storm is off the coast, there are a few things you will want to be sure you address:

1. **Gather important paperwork.** Keep documents you will need to begin the recovery process together in a waterproof container so that it is protected and easy to grab and go if you decide to leave. Be sure to include insurance policies, social security cards and bank information.
2. **Know where your hurricane reentry pass is.** It is imperative that you have a reentry pass to return to the island once it is safe to do so. Make sure you know where it is.

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## PKS Pickleball Tournament

By Vicki Daniels

The Pine Knoll Shores Parks and Recreation Committee will host a fun round-robin pickleball tournament at the Crystal Coast Country Club on Saturday, September 2. Play will begin at 10 a.m., with check-in at 9:30. The rain date for the tournament is Sunday, September 3, at 10 a.m.

There will be four pickleball courts for the competition, located at the club's tennis center. The tournament is limited to 24 players, and we would like to fill those spots with Pine Knoll Shores residents but will open it to other pickleball players if needed.

Registration will begin on August 1. The fee is \$25 and will include a goody bag and a hot dog lunch. Spectators will be able to purchase lunch at the tournament.

Players can visit [RunSignUp.com/Race/NC/PineKnollShores/PKSPickleballTournament](https://RunSignUp.com/Race/NC/PineKnollShores/PKSPickleballTournament) to register and pay the fee online. If registration fills up, we will maintain a wait list in the event of a cancellation.

This will be a fun time to watch talented players in competition and to cheer on your favorites. Due to limited seating, players and spectators should bring portable chairs.

If you have questions, please contact me at [ldaniels5@er.rr.com](mailto:ldaniels5@er.rr.com).

## First Day of School Photos

We would like to feature our youngest residents on their first day of school in an upcoming issue of *The Shoreline*. Please submit your high resolution pictures to [shoreline@townofpks.com](mailto:shoreline@townofpks.com) by Friday, September 8, and include children's names, grade, school, photographer's name and any other information you would like to share. Kids love to see their picture in the paper, and so do we.—*The Editors*

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