

At long last, Pine Knoll Shores is going to get its own post office, but it won't mean a lot to most residents -- their mail will still be delivered by rural carriers from Morehead City, and their address and zip code will remain the same, Route 3, Morehead City, N.C. 28557.

PKS TO GET
CONTRACT
POST OFFICE

Mayor Ken Hanan told the April meeting of the PKS commissioners that the Postal service had announced at a recent meeting of municipal officials it plans to establish a contract post office at Pine Knoll Shores which would be "a small branch of the Morehead City Post Office. It would be housed in a separate section of an existing store or other facility. It would provide such services as sale of stamps and money orders and include mail collection facilities.

Hanan said he expected the Postal Service to issue specifications and ask for bids on the service which could result in opening of the new office in 3 or 4 months.

According to Hanan, Dan Sotir, one of the owners of the Jim Dandy Stores, and the Bogue Banks Country Club had expressed an interest in contracting to operate the post office.

"Ideally, the post office would be located in the shopping center, but that's about a year away," Hanan said.

He said the PKS post office eventually would contain about 100 lock boxes which residents could rent to receive their mail. This would be convenient for residents who now rent boxes at the Atlantic Beach, Salter Path or Morehead City post offices.

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The Carteret County Commissioners have rejected a plea for immediate redistricting of the county to enable Bogue Banks and Western Carteret County to gain representation on the board and on the school board. Instead the commissioners agreed to form a bipartisan commission to study the issue.

REDISTRICTING
TO BE STUDIED

At their April meeting, the commissioners heard Cape Carteret Mayor Charles Daly and Art Maddox of Bar Harbor urge them to back a bill in the legislature adding two members to the boards so they could be selected in the 1986 election. He said mayors of the towns had adopted a resolution asking for the redistricting.

Daly told the commissioners that the four towns on Bogue Banks -- Atlantic Beach, Pine Knoll Shores, Indian Beach and Emerald Isle -- account for 34 percent of the county's tax base. He said the addition of Western Carteret boosted the percentage to 44. Daly said Indian Beach, Pine Knoll Shores and Cape Carteret should be added to the County Planning Commission.

"Those towns pay 13 percent of the taxes in the county," Daly said. "Decisions are being made affecting them, and they have no representation."

"It's the old thing of taxation without representation," he added. "We don't have any tea here, but we might be able to do something with clams."

Commissioner Pat O'Hara doubted there was time to draft a proper redistricting bill before an April 15 deadline. "What you're asking us to do is something fundamental, and we ought to do it in a thoughtful way," he said.

Commissioner Carl Tilghman took issue with the contention that areas of the county are not represented. He said while it was true the commissioners and school board members are nominated by districts they are elected county-wide, and "our responsibility.... is to everybody....It's not fair to say we're not looking out for your interests."