

## PKS Police Dept.



Although the winter months are slower for your police department we still manage to get the adrenaline rush every so often! At approximately 3 a.m. Saturday January 27, 2001 Officer Paul Ehrler noticed a suspicious vehicle driving through town at an extremely slow speed. When Paul attempted to close in on the vehicle it sped away and without more probable cause to give chase Paul stopped the pursuit. Later, the same vehicle was observed and a short pursuit ensued ending on Arborvitae with the subject exiting the vehicle. A foot chase through the woods then took place with a very 'scratched up' suspect finally being apprehended. A check of this individual's criminal record indicated that, in all likelihood, he was canvassing our community looking for a house or vehicle to break into. The suspect had only recently gotten out of jail (for the second time) and had numerous pages of arrests for breaking and entering, larceny, etc. The proactive patrol of Officer Ehrler and his supervisor Sergeant Culpepper worked!

In another incident Officer Ray Meyer while enroute to work early Saturday (February 3, 2001) morning noted a vehicle traveling at 70 mph (he had his radar unit on) and heading straight for him - totally in his lane of traffic. Ray was able to drive off on the shoulder of the road and maintain control of his cruiser (defensive driving training for police does work!) and give pursuit. Ray knew that if he couldn't get this vehicle stopped she was going to slam head on into someone else (she was still on the wrong side of the road). Officer Meyer finally caught up to the vehicle with all of his emergency equipment activated and could not get her to pull over. Finally, realizing approaching vehicles were in harms way he pulled along side of the vehicle and finally got the driver's attention. She pulled over and her first words were "why did you stop me I wasn't speeding". Needless to say when the backup officer finally arrived she was given a ride to the magistrate and then jail! Officer Meyer probably saved an innocent persons life Saturday not to mention the intoxicated driver of the suspect vehicle.

PLEASE NOTE: The fine for leash law violations and other "dog" related violations is now \$50 for the first offense and \$100 for any subsequent violations. We hope this will help to send a message to violators that the Town will address these problems. Please also note that while on patrol we will attempt to make certain that people walking their dogs have a clean up bag in their possession BUT we cannot follow someone during their walk to see if the bag is used! Obviously if we witness

a violation we will take action and if we see dogs running at large we will take action but it would be ludicrous for a patrol officer to follow everyone walking their pet!

I am happy and proud to announce the promotion of Sergeants' Culpepper and Hazard to the rank of Lieutenant. They will be in charge of a squad of officers and have administrative duties as well.

Joey Culpepper has been in law enforcement for 8 years and in addition to hundreds of professional training hours as a Field Training Sergeant and graduated from the NC Justice Academy's Criminal Investigation Certificate Program.

Ethan Hazard, also our K-9 officer, has been in law enforcement for 12 years and has hundreds of professional training hours. Ethan is also a Field Training Sergeant and received his Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate from the NC Department of Justice and the NC Training and Standards Division.

Both of these officers were named "Officer of the Year" in 2000 for outstanding arrests, dedication to duty and the exemplary example they set for other officers in the department. In addition, they both have earned "The Police Shield" award for excellent felony arrests.

Both of these men have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and a dedication to duty and this community that is to be commended. They will receive their new Lieutenants' badges at the Pine Knoll Shores February Town Meeting.

Submitted by: Chief M. M. Muhlig



## PKS Women's Club

The PKS Women's Club will meet on March 23rd at Town Hall. Refreshments will begin at 9:30 with the meeting starting at 10:00. The speaker for the meeting will be Tibbie Roberts who will speak on 'Old Times in Beaufort'. Mrs. Robert grew up in Beaufort and will talk about the history of the area and will include some humorous childhood memories. The March Cook's Night Out will go to Pizzuti's in Atlantic Beach on Friday, March 9th. Call Rae Jones at 222-5732 for information and reservations. Arlene Terrell, Club President, wanted to remind members that a third book club group is forming and information will be available at the March meeting. All women living in Pine Knoll Shores are invited to join the club. Contact Mrs. Terrell at 726-6583 for more information.

Submitted by: Rita Randall