

Library is Bogue Banks "Hub"

By Barbara Milhaven

No, it's not the town general store or corner drug store of yesteryear. You can't buy a dill pickle from a barrel, penny candy or an ice cream soda. You can, however, get an especially warm greeting, exchange some local gossip or discuss local politics. You might even get a few people interested in looking at your home should you be in the market to sell. You might also sell something or exchange something for a service. The possibilities are endless. Of course you are really there to take out a book, return one, read periodicals, use the computer, use the copying machine, send a fax, do research, check out a DVD or an audio book, take a young child to story hour, enjoy the art and craft work on display, work a puzzle, or just sit and read a newspaper. Whatever service you need that modern libraries now provide, Bogue Banks Library in Pine Knoll Shores offers locals, second home folks and visitors these services with an extraordinary amount of friendliness and helpfulness.

Bogue Banks librarians make an effort to know most of the "regulars" by name and make the library so inviting that a distance bicyclist makes a daily stop in his trip from Fort Macon along the ocean to Emerald Isle in our library for a short respite and some congenial conversation.

This library opened on Sept. 28, 1981. It was first established as a cooperative library to serve local residents and visitors and was located in a small room in the North Carolina Aquarium. The original name was the North Carolina Marine Resource Center.

In the beginning the library had a collection of marine related materials to circulate but lacked the staff needed

to do this. Craven-Pamlico-Carteret Regional Library provided this staff and additional reading material. Grant money, benefactors, patrons and public donations helped with supplies, provided permanent staffing and added services. According to Susan Simpson, Carteret County library director, "the current Bogue Banks Library collection now contains 12,000 titles in various formats, including books, audiocassettes, compact discs, DVDs and videos."

In 1989 the Carteret County commissioners agreed to purchase a larger and more permanent space in a new commercial building which is the present home of the Bogue Banks Library. Also at this time a support group, Friends of the Library, was formed and remains a vital part of the service sector of the library. The newly located library opened as a branch of Carteret County Public Library in 1990 and is governed by the Carteret County Public Library Trustees.

If you don't possess a library card, you might want to obtain one and take advantage of the many services available in this warm, friendly, people-oriented environment. You may want to lend your support to Friends of the Library as well. A community "Hub"? Definitely.

Women Candidates Do Well In PKS Primary Balloting

By Bill White

Barak Obama registered a resounding victory in the May 6 North Carolina Democratic Primary Election, but his performance in Pine Knoll Shores and Carteret County was nothing to write home about. Obama was outpolled in PKS by Hillary Clinton to the tune of 164 to 91, and in the county by 6,154 to 3,791 as they fought to capture the Democrat presidential nomination.

On the Republican side of the primary ballot there was very little to get excited about in the race for the presidential nod. John McCain was already the presumptive nominee by dint of earlier victories in primaries across the nation. Still, 198 Republicans came out in PKS to cast their ballots for McCain. Four erstwhile challengers, including Mike Huckabee who had already withdrawn from the race, could do no better than muster 29 votes between them.

In the balloting for the Democrat gubernatorial nomination, the eventual statewide winner, Bev Perdue, did well in PKS, besting her chief challenger, Richard Moore, 169 to 74. Here there was interest in the Republican contest, with five candidates vying for the gubernatorial nomination. The eventual statewide winner, Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory, lost narrowly in PKS to his closest

challenger, Fred Smith, 100 to 86.

The distaff side was very much in evidence in both parties in the contest for nominations to run for the United States Senate. In PKS incumbent Senator Elizabeth Dole won easily over challenger Joe Di Lauro, outpolling him 196 to 22. The result mirrored Dole's statewide victory. On the Democrat side of the ledger, eventual statewide winner Kay Hagan won just as handily as Dole, polling 150 votes while four other contenders registered just 51 votes between them.

The prominence of women in the PKS balloting is perhaps reflective of the fact that there are more female registered voters in the community (707) than males (618). All in all, there were 1,331 voters registered in PKS, 358 Democrats, 626 Republicans and 347 unaffiliated. About a third of them took part in the primary balloting.

Perhaps mildly surprising was the result of the race in PKS for the Republican nomination in the Third Congressional District. Long-time incumbent Walter Jones, who won the right in the district-wide voting to run for reelection, was outpolled in PKS by challenger Joe McLaughlin, 151 to 65. In the Democrat balloting Craig Weber outpolled Marshall Adame 116 to 69.



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