

PINE KNOLL SHORES
Women's Club

By Michelle Powers

When making your New Year's resolutions, think about adding personal safety to your 2013 to-do List. Pine Knoll Shores Chief of Police Lorrie Lepore, speaking to the Women's Club recently about personal safety issues, encouraged us to be ever mindful of our surroundings, to take simple precautions to protect ourselves and our property, and to refrain from talking to strangers, especially when we are by ourselves. Chief Lepore emphasized that no place is immune from crime—even bucolic Pine Knoll Shores. She recommended some simple steps that will help keep us safe:

- Always be mindful of your surroundings. Awareness is a deterrent to a criminal.
- When walking down the street, look confident and in control.
- Keep a cell phone with you, especially when shopping.
- Always lock cars and houses—even in Pine Knoll Shores.
- Keep lights on around your property at night.
- Never give out personal information over the phone, and do not send money solicited by phone requests.

In response to questions regarding protection of property in Pine Knoll Sshores, especially sound front and canal properties, Chief Lepore indicated that if there are concerns about your property, call her, and she will have a team patrol your home. Police will even walk your driveway and around your home upon request. If considering an alarm system for your home, she recommended systems that take a SIM card from your cell phone. In the event of a problem, you are alerted by phone. You can quickly contact the police and they will respond immediately.

Chief Lepore also shared some personal insights into her career in law enforcement as a woman in a male-dominated profession. Only 1% of the women in law enforcement are police chiefs; only 2% of women in law enforcement remain to retire from their careers, as balancing job demands and family life are extremely difficult for women in this profession. After a 16-year career in law enforcement



PKS Chief of Police Lorrie Lepore (center) provided personal and property safety tips to Club members. President Bonnie Ferneau and VP Karen Betz expressed the Club's appreciation for Chief Lepore and her safety team's dedicated service to the community.

in California, Chief Lepore, her husband of 25 years and her two young daughters, moved to North Carolina to seek a better environment in which to raise her family and to find a better balance to her career and her family life. PKS Women's Club President Bonnie Ferneau expressed the Club members' appreciation for Chief Lepore's excellent service to the Pine Knoll Shores community and thanked her for sharing her personal story and providing valuable safety information.

The Club's business meeting followed the presentation with financial and committee reports. Special mention was made of the Club's continuing commitment to Caroline's House, a refuge for victims of domestic violence. President Ferneau urged all members to keep Caroline's House in mind year round with donations of personal products, paper goods, sheets, towels and other home goods, as our support is greatly needed and much appreciated. Also, any member wishing to join a Women's Club sponsored book club will be welcomed to the club's third book club, which is open to new members. Details are available at regular meetings. January 25 will be the next Cook's Night Out at El Zarape Restaurant. Contact Bobbie Hill or Barbara Bagby for details.

On December 7 club members enjoyed a delicious Christmas luncheon at the Country Club of the Crystal Coast with entertainment provided by the Southern Belles chorus. January's meeting will feature accomplished local baker and cake decorator Donna Belanger, who will demonstrate cake and cookie decorating techniques. Donna started her bakery business in Connecticut in 1974. She has taught cake decorating for over 10 years and has wowed all who have seen and tasted her bakery confections. Be sure to join us for her presentation "How Sweet It Is!" All residents, visitors and guests are invited to join us on January 25, 2013, for the first meeting of the New Year. Meetings are held at PKS town hall beginning at 9:30 a.m. with refreshments. The meeting follows at 10 a.m.

January Sudoku

9			5	3				
	2	7						1
1					2		3	
						6	8	7
		8			6		5	
			3		4			
				9				
	5		6					8
		1	4			9		

Masterclean
 CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
 247-7807 / 638-7020
 800-560-7807
 Professional Service For Over 18 Years
 An IICRC Certified Firm
 24 Hour Emergency Flood Water Removal Service