Welcome to the first in a series of articles introducing you to the people behind the scenes, making it all happen, at Pine Knoll Shores town hall.

In April 2011, Julie Anderson graduated first in her class from the 57th Annual Municipal Administration Course at the University of North Carolina’s School of Government. In order to complete the course, she was required to spend one week at UNC for nine consecutive months, studying everything from finance to zoning to personnel law. In addition, the NC League of Municipalities named Julie as the winner of the George C. Franklin Award for being the graduate with the most distinguished overall record. As you continue to read, I think you will all agree with Town Manager Brian Kramer that we are incredibly lucky to have Julie on our team.

Julie began working at town hall in 2007 as the deputy town clerk. Shortly afterward, in 2008, she was named finance officer and in 2010 she became the assistant town manager. There are reasons for her quick progression from deputy town clerk to assistant town manager, including intelligence, organization and her excellent people skills—all of which I observed, beginning with the warm smile with which she greeted me and continuing throughout the interview.

Julie is a native of Southbridge, Massachusetts. She attended Nichols College in Dudley (MA), where she earned a degree in business administration with an emphasis on marketing. After graduating, Julie worked for a manufacturer of personal protection equipment. She handled marketing, investor relations and mergers and acquisitions. Later, she worked for a medical consulting firm in the biotech belt just outside Boston, where she was involved with the development and certification of new inventions in the medical field. Once her children were born, Julie worked in retail and as a substitute teacher in order to spend as much time as possible raising her children.

Julie has been married to her husband, Cameron, a native of Arizona, for 10 years. He is a retired Marine with 30 years of service, and is currently a government contractor at Cherry Point. Upon Cameron’s retirement, the Andersons agreed that Carteret County was where they wanted to raise their children. Their blended family consists of six children, four boys and two girls. Their youngest and last child living at home will graduate from high school next year. Julie is very positive about her and Cameron’s future together.

MEET THE PINE KNOLL SHORES TOWN STAFF

**Finance Officer and Deputy Town Manager**

**Julie Anderson**

By Jacque Pipkin

If you happened by The Country Club of the Crystal Coast on February 24, you might have wondered, “Am I in Palm Beach? Is this the Breakers? Is that Jackie Kennedy and her sister Lee in those gorgeous Lilly Pulitzer dresses? Who are all those attractive women in their spring finery dining on quiche and fresh fruit?” No, it wasn’t Palm Beach and those weren’t socialites. It was the Pine Knoll Shores Women’s Club fundraiser to benefit local charities.

With resort wear fashions and Women’s Club models, Belk’s manager Kristel Merrell helped club member Arlene Terrell and her team produce an engaging fashion show featuring tropical print ensembles from Lilly Pulitzer, Crown & Ivey, Ralph Lauren, Kaari Blue and other designers, with variations of the vibrant, and sometimes outrageous, tropical prints that made Lilly Pulitzer’s designs the iconic resort choice of the rich and famous.

Resort wear dates to the era of tycoons like Henry Flagler, who built palatial hotels along the East Coast as winter getaways for the wealthy. The Lilly Pulitzer shift dress was created by heiress Lilly Pulitzer in the late 1950s when she was bored with life in Palm Beach and as a lark decided to build a fruit stand in her husband’s family citrus groves. As the story goes, she designed a wildly flowered print shift dress from tablecloths to hide the stains from the orange and grapefruit juice she was selling.

It started a craze in Palm Beach, and her dresses became status symbols among her wealthy socialite friends. The tropical prints, known as “Lillys,” have had a resurgence in recent years and have been adapted by many high-end clothing designers.

Women’s Club models (Barbara Baccollo, JoAnne Ferguson, Libby Gallagher, Arleen Graczewski, Lisa Park and Ronnie Stanley) modeled iterations of Lilly Pulitzer-themed resort wear outfits. Vibrant colors of pink, agate green, lapis blue, navy and white, often paired with white pants, were featured in a variety of tropical prints in dresses, tops and even leggings. Fringe, scalloped hems, bell sleeves, silk and pique fabrics helped define the style.

A raffle featuring 25 gift certificates from local restaurants, businesses and recreational venues was a popular feature of the luncheon. A special silent auction item—a sterling silver starfish, the symbol of the Pine Knoll Shores Women’s Club—was designed and donated by Jeremy Chalk of J. Chalk Designs.

Over $1,700 was raised for local charities, especially for the Women’s Club Scholarship Fund. The fashion show was a wonderful way to welcome spring, raise money for charity and get ideas for updating a spring and summer wardrobe.

The next meeting of the club will be on April 21, with guest speaker Pine Knoll Shores Police Chief Ryan Thompson. Meetings are at the Pine Knoll Shores town hall, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with a hospitality table and followed by the speaker and a business meeting. Guests are always welcome to attend and new members may join at any time.

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