



# NEUSE NEIGHBORS NEWS

NOVEMBER  
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## Helping Our Members Age in Place



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Looking ahead to cooler temperatures comes as a welcome relief from the summer heat and humidity, but that also means it's flu season! As our members and volunteers spend more time together, indoors and in closer contact, I'd like to encourage all of our members and volunteers to get their flu shots!

And although many of us are enjoying a return to 'normal', there's no denying that Covid is still with us. Even if you've had your booster shots, remember that the new booster is your best defense against contracting the Omicron variation.

Remember, our volunteers are ready to provide transportation to scheduled vaccine appointments!

Please check with your doctor to decide the course of care that works best for you. And enjoy a healthy and safe Thanksgiving!

Jayne Demers, President.

## GUESS WHAT'S COMING TO PAMLICO COUNTY!

You've *heard* about it - there's a new Library/Community Center coming to Pamlico County. But what do you really *know* about it? .

### Where will it be?

The new building will be located at the site of the old Hardy's fast food place on Highway 55 in Alliance. You can't miss the bright new sign out front!

### What's in the plan?

Advanced internet stations, a creative reading room for kids and a dedicated space for teens to hang out. Private meeting rooms and a modern auditorium to engage the general public, and quiet relaxation areas offer places to chill while you enjoy your favorite book.

### Why is it important?

Communities with modern libraries have higher real estate values. Kids with access to well equipped libraries have higher grade points and graduate in greater numbers. Businesses operating nearby experience increased revenues. Job-seekers discover better employment opportunities with access to vital resources. And so much more!

### Where do things stand?

Thanks to the work of the Friends of the Pamlico County Library \$2 million dollars have been raised. \$1.5 million came from a grant from the State of NC. FOL president, Bonnie Cap, estimates another \$1 million is needed for completion.

### When will it be built?

The sooner FOL raises the remaining funds, the sooner they can break ground!

### What can you do to help?

Donate money in any amount to "FOL Building Fund", or join Friends of the Library and *help spread the word!*

# VOLUNTEER CONNECTIONS



## You Reap What You Sow

Brad Cole found his way to Oriental the way so many of us do - he loves sailing. Learning to sail a Catalina 22 on the inland lake near his home in Asheville, NC, Brad eventually bought a Pearson 24 and docked it at Sea Harbor. Thanks to his work in architectural design Brad was able to work from home - or from his boat - and began spending as much time as possible practicing his sailing skills in local waters. Brad is a single dad, and when his daughter graduated from high school, he made the full time move to Oriental a year ago. He now has a Pearson 27, and has his sights set on being a full time live-aboard in the near future. "I've been trying to lighten my footprint here on earth," he says, "and the transition to a more natural lifestyle living on a boat came to me like an epiphany." How then, did Brad, get involved in Neuse Neighbors Network? After giving his daughter his Jeep Cherokee when she went to college, Brad was temporarily car-less. "I thought I could ride my bike 'til it got cold," he says, "but I needed rides to appointments in New Bern, so I joined Neuse Neighbors." Brad appreciated NNN's member services, and "I figured I better do my part." So he signed up to be a volunteer, offering technical support and help with household tasks. "Truthfully, I've fallen in love with this community. The people here are amazing, and I wanted to give back." Brad has already helped several members with technical problems, and finds it especially satisfying. "These things are easy for me to do, and the members are so grateful for the help." Thinking about the recent lifestyle decisions he's made, Brad is thoughtful. "I don't need a lot of stuff to enjoy life, and maybe I've learned a thing or two in my old age, and one of the things I've learned is that, 'you reap what you sow.'"

## Welcome Our Newest Volunteers!



Sending a big THANKS to our newest volunteers. Each of them has completed at least one service:

Sue Brugett  
Brad Cole  
Paula Downes  
Marian Erichsen  
Teresa Geer  
Sharon Harvey  
Vicki Rasmussen  
James Sherwood  
Carol Small  
Patty Tikkala

Thanks, also, to the folks who "raised their hand" to help with some of our administrative tasks:

Sue Brugett  
Debbie Favinger  
Marsha Luhrs  
Jean White

We're still looking for a few good men and women to help with volunteer training and member intake, so please RAISE YOUR HAND if you can help in any way or would like more information!