

ORCA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



ORCA SPONSORED VISIT TO BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BCC) HIGHLIGHTS NURSING AND EMT PROGRAMS

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

In 2010, Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) partnered with resident Amy Kelly to establish the Ocean Ridge-David Kelly Nursing Endowment within the Brunswick Community College Foundation (BCCF). The endowment was the beneficiary of the first ORCA fundraiser, Trivia Nite, in 2011. This endowment was built upon a previous endowment created by Amy and her late husband, Dave, in honor of his two sisters who worked in the medical field. Scholarships are provided annually to deserving second year nursing students.

After the devastating 2021 tornado, ORCA established a second scholarship at BCCF to support the EMT training program in recognition of all first responders.

On April 2nd, a dozen ORCA board members and other interested Ocean Ridge residents visited the college to get an update on both the nursing and EMT programs.

Teresa Nelson, Executive Director of the Foundation, provided a tour of the new nursing science building. The former nurses in our group were wowed by the advances in technology as instructors demonstrated the simulation tools used to train the students.

We met with several scholarship recipients who gratefully explained how the financial support allowed them to continue their education while also taking care of their family responsibilities.

And we heard from Dr. Gene Smith, BCC President, who shared the many new developments on the horizon, including new areas of study as well as future new construction.

It was truly gratifying to see how the generosity of our Ocean Ridge community continues to have an impact on future generations.

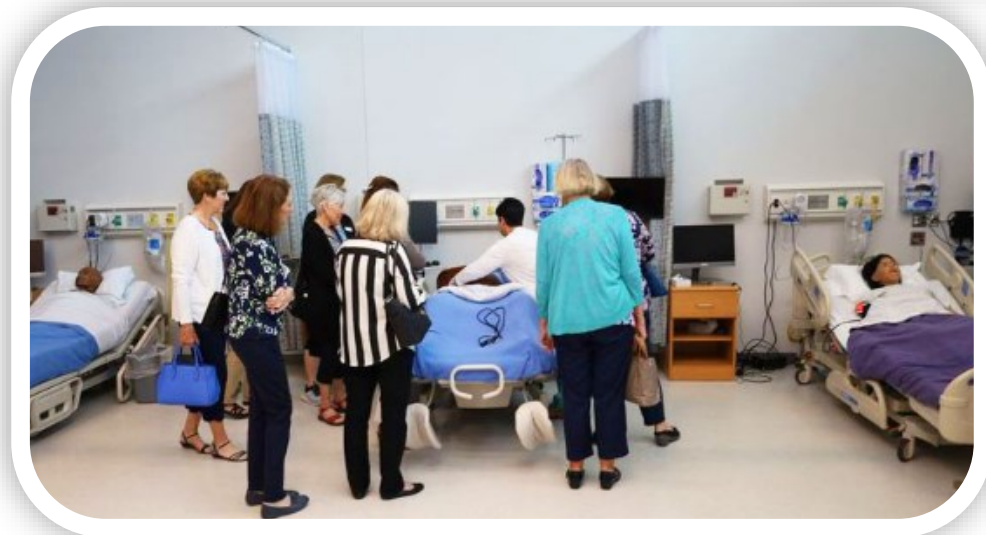
Other Ocean Ridge residents have since expressed an interest in participating in a similar visit. If you'd like to join a future visit (date TBD), please email Amy Kelly at kellygroup@yahoo.com.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEEcont'd



ORCA VISIT TO BCC....cont'd



ORCA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



ORCA- "IN THE NEWS"

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

Several organizations that have benefited recently from Ocean Ridge Charities Association's fundraising efforts published press releases to thank our forever generous community.

WARM NC (Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministry) received money from our Annual Appeal to help them provide safety equipment in their 2024 builds. They shared one of their success stories on Facebook... *"Sheila has lived in her home for 32 years, nearly half her life. She is retired and has limited income. As a single woman, she did her best to keep up with the maintenance of her home. But after she pays her bills, prescriptions and medical visits, there is little money left for her to put toward repairs. WARM NC did a number of repairs to help Sheila age safely in place, including installing 3 new grab bars in her bathroom and replacing all the smoke detectors in her bedrooms. This is just one of the homeowners we were able to help with funds from ORCA."* said Beth Ann Scisco, Grants Coordinator for WARM NC.



Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity (BCHfH) received grant funding from several local organizations, including ORCA. In an article published in the Brunswick Beacon, they announced: Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Inc. (ORCA) donated a grant in the amount of \$3000 towards the purchase of fortified roofing materials. *"We are grateful for the continued community partnerships. Without their support, our continued growth would not be possible."* said Kate Grinstead, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity Development Manager. Mary Perno and Amy Kelly are pictured presenting the check to Kate and her team.

THANK YOU OCEAN RIDGE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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VETERANS WELCOME HOME CENTER'S TINY HOME INITIATIVE

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

If you were unable to join us last month to hear about this amazing program and to tour the tiny home that was on display at the Nature Pavilion, ORCA is pleased to share some information and a few photos.

Ready for occupancy soon, there will be 25 of these 12' x 18' structures in Myrtle Beach, providing transitional housing for vets until they can get back on their feet. These are in addition to three other tiny homes and the Hutton Home which are currently providing housing for 7 veterans.

Each tiny home is climate controlled, features a living/sleeping space with a futon and tv, a full bath, and a small fridge and microwave. With storage in the attic, they are built on slabs so there are no steps to negotiate.

These homes are built on several acres of land in Myrtle Beach that was donated to the organization by a Vietnam veteran and they are now looking for additional space in Brunswick county to expand the program.

During the visit, ORCA was happy to present CEO August Savello and Tom Gallinger with a check for \$2,325. This donation was a combination of funds from the Men's Grilled Dinner Group, as well as ORCA's Memorial Fund and our 'Change for Charities' collection boxes located at community merchants.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEEcont'd



TINY HOME INITIATIVE....cont'd



ORCA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER: ORCA'S 10TH TRIVIA NIGHT

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

On Saturday night, April 13, Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) 'Celebrated the Decades' by bringing back its signature event... Trivia Nite! LifeCare Memory Partners was the beneficiary of all proceeds which totaled an amazing \$5,300!

The night began with a fabulous choice of delicious BBQ sandwiches prepared by the Men's Grilled Dinner Group and pasta side dishes made by Ocean Ridge residents. Thank you all!

Fueled by this tasty spread, the competition was on! Sixteen teams of 8 players each competed for the top prize.

With eight categories covering Germany, Women, Sports, TV and more.... teams worked their way through a total of 64 questions. The knowledge in the room was very impressive...(ok, so you could also buy some answers - aka 'legal cheating' for a good cause!).

When the game concluded, we had a tie! But teams had been asked at the onset to predict how many of the 64 questions they would get correct. The team with the actual number correct closest to their predicted number was declared the winner.

Taking home the winners' trophies for first place were Darlene & Mike Dies, Eileen & John Divers, Kathy & Dave Kaup, and Judi & Greg Moore. This table also shared the winning 50/50 raffle ticket! It was just their night! Coming in a close second was the team of Pat & Al Cotrone, Mary & Neal Faulkner, Sage & Steve Grumbach, and Pam Jaeger and Ronnie Ambos.

But the real winner was LifeCare Memory Partners (a division of Lower Cape Fear LifeCare, formerly called Hospice). Program Manager, Candy Lee, RN spoke to the group during the dinner. As the number of people living with, or caring for, a loved one with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias continues to grow, so does the need for counseling, education, engagement & activity groups, and respite care. She shared that this organization has already served more than 450 Brunswick county residents. LifeCare Memory Partners also generously donated a gift basket which was won by the Sebens. Learn more at: LifeCareMemoryPartners.org

Thank you to all who supported Trivia Nite. See you again next year... bigger and better in the new Amenity Center!

Additional photos from this event are posted in the Changing Tides Photo Album.



ORCA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



‘THANK YOU’ FOR SUPPORTING ORCA’S SWEET TREATS DURING THE MAY TUNES AT THE POOL

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

The Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) will be hosting a dessert fundraiser during the monthly ‘Tunes at the Pool’ again this summer. These delicious homemade treats are the perfect ending after enjoying your burgers and hotdogs cooked by the Men’s Grilled Dinner Group.

From the “21st Century Tunes” event, held May 9th, we sold more than \$430 worth of yummy cookies!

ORCA sends a big thank you to our awesome volunteers who baked and/or helped with sales... Diane Allemond, Wendy Carney, Michele Cook, Darlene Dies, Nancy Dukakis, Lisa Leifels, Cynthia Marcelli, Sherri Martin, Helga Susmeyer, Eloise Townsend, Nancy Cooper, Judy Cunningham, Mary Perno and event coordinator Joan Griffith.

All proceeds will go to Samara’s Village which helps Brunswick county pregnant and parenting adolescents and their families raise healthy babies through:

- ◆ specialized educational interventions
- ◆ services directed at supporting the family's immediate needs
- ◆ coordination with available resources.

Look for us at future Tunes... we’ll have cupcakes, truffles, brownies and so much more over the summer months.



OR ACTIVITIES AND EVENTScont'd



OR FLOUR GIRLS

BY DONNA SULLIVAN

The newly formed Flour Girls group has been busy since their inception in January!

We have been partnering with the Men's Grill Club to provide the desserts for their dinners.

We have also taught two cookie classes at the request of some of the Ladies State Groups!

We did a Valentine's heart theme in February and Spring Flowers in April.

We look forward to planning more community events and welcome any new members who would like to come bake with us!



Additional Photos from this Group are posted in the Changing Tides Photo Album.