



PRESS RELEASE
Benevolent and Protective Order of ELKs ~ Lodge 2679
937 Carter Drive, Calabash, NC 28467

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By Michael Trescak

“CALABASH ELKS DONATE \$3,000 TO BRUNSCO SENIOR CENTER’S MEALS PROGRAM”

~ “Making a Difference” by Helping Local Seniors Get Meals During COVID-19 Lockdown ~

The motto of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (B.P.O.E.) is . . . “Elks Care ~ Elks Share,” and – this motto was exemplified recently when the Calabash Elks Lodge ~ 2679 donated \$3,000 to the Brunswick County Senior Resource Center in Calabash, NC to support their Meals’ Programs, which are currently stressed during the State-Imposed COVID-19 Virus “Stay-at-Home” order. The project was funded by a grant provided by the “Elks National Foundation (ENF),” the Charitable Arm of the Order, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc. (BSRI) is a program developed by Brunswick County, NC, to **“Make a Difference,”** as the Leading Service Provider for Senior Programs in Brunswick County, NC. BSRI programs suit a variety of needs seniors may encounter during life changes. Services offered through BSRI allow participants to remain in their home environment when challenges occur.

During “Normal” times, the center serves about 70 “Congregate Lunches” at the Center in Calabash, NC each weekday to seniors over 60-years old, and delivers “Meals-on-Wheels” to those home-bound seniors who qualify for the service. During this special “Stay-at-Home” time, Courtney Bledsoe, the Center’s Director, told us they are supplying 130 Meals/Day for Curb-Side Pick-Up, and delivering another 70 Meals/Day to shut-ins. Additionally, they are collecting boxes of food for their “Supplementary Food” program. To learn more about the BRSI, or to make a Donation, visit their web site at <http://www.bsrinc.org/>. One can also call the Center at 910-754-2300 to volunteer or find additional ways one can help.

The Calabash Elks Lodge has been a local landmark of the area since 1984. With over 700 members, the lodge has become a cornerstone of the local community for the past 36 years. The emphasis of the Elks Lodge is on conducting Youth Programs, - Serving our Veterans, and - doing Charitable Work in the community in which they live and work. Since 1984, the Calabash Elks have generously contributed over \$500,000 to local charities and Community projects. To learn more about the Calabash Elks Lodge, or to find out how to become an Elk, visit their web page at <https://calabashelks.org/index.html>

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Point of Contact: Michael Trescak, ELKs ~ 2679, Communications Lead,
Communications@CalabashElks.Org (910-386-7759)

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Photo Follows



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Pictured above, donned in their PPE Face Masks, making a donation of \$3000.00 to the Brunswick County’s Senior Resource Center (BRSI) in Calabash, NC to support their Meals’ Program during the COVID-19 Lockdown are (Left to Right): David “Dave” Foulds, the Calabash Elks Lodge’s Treasurer; - Robert “Bob” Paoletti, current member of the Lodge’s Board-of-Directors and Past Exalted Ruler (President); - Courtney Bledsoe, Director BRSI, Calabash, NC; - Thomas “Tom” Friewald, Current Exalted Ruler of the Calabash Elks Lodge for 2020-2021; - Mark Kerr, Chairman, Board-of-Directors, Calabash Elks Lodge; and – Juanita Adams, also a Past Exalted Ruler and Current Chairperson of the Elks National Foundation Committee.

Photo by Ashley Buckwell