



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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

By Michael Trescak

**“ELKS CHARITY BINGO DONATES \$7,500 AMONG TEN LOCAL CHARITIES”**

*“Elks Care ~ Elks Share”*

The motto of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (B.P.O.E.) is . . . “Elks Care – Elks Share,” and – this motto was exemplified this week when the Charity BINGO Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge ended their fiscal year by donating \$7,500.00 of the monies garnered from their Charity Games to 10 local charities. Recipients of the Benevolent Donations were (In alphabetical Order):

- The “Boys & Girls Home of North Carolina, Inc.,” at Lake Waccamaw, NC
- The “Brunswick County Sheriff’s Animal Protective Services,” Supply, NC
- The “Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity,” Southport, NC
- “Brunswick Family Assistance,” Shallotte, NC
- The “Calabash Fire Department,” Calabash, NC
- The “Hope Harbor Home,” a home for Battered women in Brunswick County, NC
- “Little River Volunteer Fire Dept. & Horry County Station #2,” in Little River, SC
- The “Lower Cape Fear Hospice” in Bolivia, NC
- The “Providence Home of Family Emergency Teen Shelter,” Southport, NC
- “Sea Haven Shelter Home for Youth,” Little River, SC

A Charity BINGO event, open to the public, is held every Tuesday evening at the Elks Lodge located at 937 Carter Drive, in Calabash, North Carolina. During the night of BINGO, one Game is selected every evening on which the event is held, and - the monies garnered from that game are set aside to be donated to local charities. The BINGO Committee has 22 local charitable organizations on their list of potential organizations to which to donate, and then – a group of volunteer lodge members, along with a group of regular BINGO patrons, meet and select the charities from the list to which donations will be made. The committee makes 10 donations each year.

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 nearly \$450,000 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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Photos Follow



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*Pictured above with all Smiles, each having received a \$750.00 Donation from the Calabash Elks Charity BINGO Committee are (Back Row Standing L to R): Robert “Bob” Paoletti, Exalted Ruler, 2019-2020, Calabash Elks; - Warren Mortley, Executive Director, Providence Home of Family Emergency Teen Shelter; - Randall T. Bork, Chief, Calabash Fire Dept.;- Chris Hippensteel, President, Horry County - Little River Volunteer Fire Dept. Auxiliary; – Paul Kennedy, Treasurer, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity; - Thomas “Tom” Ditzler, Chairman, Calabash Elks Charity BINGO Committee. (Seated Front Row L to R) is: - Curtis Joe, Executive Director, Sea Haven Shelter Home for Youth, Inc.; - Officer Belinda Musgrove, Animal Adoption Outreach Coordinator, Brunswick County Sheriff’s Office Animal Protective Services; - Karmen Smith, Executive Director, Hope Harbor Home (Brunswick County); - Anne Hewett, Donor Advisor, Lower Cape Fear Life Care; and - Mason Smith, Director of Civic Club Relations, Boys & Girls Home of North Carolina. NOT Shown is the Representative from Brunswick Family Assistance.*

*Photo by Michael Trescak*

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