



News Release

Lodge #764 New Bern, North Carolina

9/24/2018

Elks Serve Hot Meal for Flood Stricken New Bern Residents

Hurricane Florence hit the New Bern, North Carolina community with record setting floods and wind damage. Hundreds of homes in the community of Fairfield Harbour lost power for over a week, leaving residents with spoiled food and surviving in severely damaged homes.

Elks Lodge #764, with the support of Raleigh Lodge #735 Exalted Ruler Dean Schaeffer, Elk Michelle Delaine and Elks Hurricane Relief Funds, came to the rescue. On September 20th a team of Elks cooked and served a complete BBQ dinner with all the “fixin’s” to over five hundred residents. Lodge Project Chair Jim Dunham said “The Fairfield Harbour Community Center was packed and a line of cars a half a mile long were waiting before we even opened at 4:30PM”. Head Chef Mike Gerlach reported how the crowd was all smiling and telling their flood stories and really enjoyed the break from the grind of salvaging their belongings. The logistics and publicity team of Elk Bob Manning and Fairfield Harbour POA Board member Gloria Hodgert had production and serving lines for *eat in’s* and *take out’s* that didn’t stop until every bit of food and free groceries were gone.

*All Elks believe that the essence of their work is **Charity**---The volunteerism and spontaneous translation of care into **action**.*