

State cuts not as bad as feared

It's a mixed blessing: the NC General Assembly's budget would leave Moore County Schools [MCS] with nearly \$4 million more in funding than was initially feared.

But that still means Superintendent Dr. Susan Purser

es for employees.

Board of Education Chair Laura Lang told the Commissioners that MCS will have to use \$4 million in fund balance to cover cuts for the coming fiscal year and asked the Commission-

"Our entire staff has worked diligently to save money . . . in order to meet this day of reckoning."

— Moore County Schools Superintendent
Dr. Susan Purser

has \$8.2 million less to work with than last year, and dozens of MCS employees may receive pink slips in the coming week. Altogether, 120 positions — about half currently vacant — are being targeted for elimination.

"Our entire staff has worked diligently to save money," Purser told the Moore County Board of Commissioners during their Tuesday, June 7 meeting, "in order to meet this day of reckoning."

MCS will also be consolidating bus routes, closing offices for an additional fifteen days next year, and, for the third consecutive year, making do with no salary increas-

ers to keep this in mind when working on the County's budget. Because the state budget is set for two years, MCS has a reasonable estimate of what cuts are expected next year.

The School Board came to the Commissioners in April asking for \$3.1 million in additional local funding to make up for some of the cuts in state funding that were anticipated. However, the final state budget — which has been approved by the House and Senate but not yet signed by Governor Beverly Perdue — does not pass down worker's compensation

(See "Commissioners," p. 25)

Tree-top rescue



Frank Delgado used climbing spikes and a harness on Thursday, June 2, to rescue Northsider Laura Merritt's cat, "Feeny," who had managed to climb about 30 feet into a pine tree, but couldn't quite make the trip back down without a little help.

Lakers' water use climbing

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

It's hot. It's dry.

And daily water use in Seven Lakes just crested the 800,000 gallon mark.

800,000 gallons per day is the target Moore County Public Utilities uses for the voluntary water conservation measures the county requested of its utilities customers in 2008 and has never formally lifted. Seven Lakes has been inching toward that number for the past several weeks, as high temperatures started rise above 90 and the rain dried up.

Despite some nice rainfall in March and April, it's been nine months since Seven Lakes had an above-normal

amount of rainfall, according to Public Works records. Even with near normal rainfall of 4.6 inches in March, the community is still nearly six inches short of normal rainfall for the year and more than five inches short over the past twelve months.

The fact is, this time of year, Seven Lakes uses as — or maybe more — much potable water watering its lawns as it does for drinking, brushing teeth, and flushing the toilet.

Wells in Seven Lakes once supplied all of the community's water needs, but only three remain in operation now, contributing about 120,000 gallon per day to the supply on a peak day.

The rest passes through a pump station in front of West Pine Middle School, pulling water from Pinehurst through mains that run along NC Highway 211.

When Seven Lakes uses 800,000 gallons per day, those pumps are running for about 19 hours out of every 24, continually refilling the two water tanks that together hold 300,000 gallons.

Running flat out, 24 hours a day, the system can deliver 1.1 million to 1.2 million gallons per day.

"But I've got another trick up my sleeve," Moore County Water Operations Manager Ben Vaughn told *The Times*. Vaughn has a long history (See "Water," p. 21)

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Sheriff's officers raid Currie Mill Rd pot farm

Two Currie Mill Road residents were arrested by Moore County Sheriff's officers on Friday, June 3, in a drug bust that netted \$68,000 in seized drugs and shut down an indoor marijuana farm

less than a half mile from Seven Lakes West.

Gary Moore Strickland, Jr., 29, and Crystal Geneviene Strickland, 28, were arrested on numerous marijuana manufacturing, trafficking,

and possession felonies, as well as with misdemeanor child abuse.

The raid was part of a joint

marijuana plants growing in a greenhouse behind the Strickland residence at 707 Currie Mill Road, along with another

22 plants growing inside the residence.

Also seized were numerous items of paraphernalia used to grow marijuana, including lights, fans, filter, fertilizers, and containers. Officers also seized approximately 964 grams of processed marijuana from inside of the residence, 8 dosage units of Alprazolam prescription pills and \$334.34 in U. S. currency.

During the joint operation officers located and seized an additional 20 marijuana plants growing behind two different residences on Serene Road near the Eagle Springs community. Charges are pending in these cases.



Gary Moore Strickland, Jr.



Crystal Strickland

Hummingbirds in the Sandhills

Hummingbirds never fail to provide entertaining bird watching opportunities. In the spring and summer, local gardens are buzzing with hummingbird activity, generating lots of interest and questions about these tiny and fascinating creatures.

Learn about hummingbirds and their environment Thursday, June 23, from 2 to 3:30

pm, Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.

Susan Campbell, a well known independent researcher and part-time naturalist at Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines, will talk about the hummingbirds found locally, their ecology and how to attract them.

Everyone will also learn about hummingbird banding. Come and find out how anyone can create a hummingbird haven in their backyard. Bring your questions. Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat.

operation by the Moore County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit, the North Carolina Highway Patrol, the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and the North Carolina Army National Guard.

A Sheriff's Office press release reports that officers found 64 high grade mari-

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be e-mailed to mail@sevenlaketimes.net, dropped off at the Seven Lakes Times offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602, West End, NC 27376, or faxed to 888-806-2572.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Jun 17	Jun 24
Jun 30*	Jul 8
Jul 15	Jul 22
Jul 29	Aug 5
Aug 12	Aug 19
Aug 26	Sep 2
Sep 9	Sep 16
Sep 23	Sep 30
Oct 7	Oct 14
Oct 21	Oct 28
Nov 4	Nov 11
Nov 17*	Nov 25
Dec 2	Dec 9
Dec 15*	Dec 23

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Extra landscaping charges raise concerns

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

A vote of acclamation during the Wednesday, May 25, meeting of the Board seated Northsider Andy Lowe to oversee security concerns for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors. Lowe joins recently-appointed Director Bruce Keyser, Jr. in filling chairs left vacant by veteran Directors Chuck Mims and Melinda Scott, who both resigned shortly after the March 2011 annual election.

After Lowe took his place at the table, the Board settled down to a businesslike meeting perturbed only by some pointed questions directed at Community Manager Alina Cochran concerning the cost of recent beautification projects undertaken by Davenport Landscaping.

In February, on a controversial 4-2 split vote late in the term, Davenport was awarded a \$146,000 contract to perform landscaping and mowing services for the Association. However, the Board stopped short of approving an \$11,980 optional enhancement contract also recommended by Davenport for additional plantings, instead tabling that decision to allow the incoming Board an opportunity to weigh in.

Yet Davenport has been busy during the past two months enhancing the appearance of the entrance gates and other common areas — and quickly praise from both Board members and residents in recent meetings.

But, during Wednesday's meeting, the concern centered on who, when, and under what authority the decisions were made to authorize this additional work that falls outside the approved Davenport contract.

Current financial policies allow the Community Manager to approve budgeted expenditures up to \$3,000 without Board approval. During her management report, Cochran explained that funding is in place for these types of landscape improvements

and that she authorized nine individual beautification projects with Davenport, each coming in under the \$3,000 mark, for a total cost of \$10,797.

"The community has an aging look and we must constantly budget for beautification," said Cochran, noting that, in the past, the Seven Lakes Garden Club had purchased and installed flowers



Andy Lowe

at the entrance gates.

Cochran further explained that the original Davenport contract recommendation had been for \$39,000 in additional services, but the Board had agreed to budget only \$12,000, primarily anticipated for planting, fertilizing, and seeding work.

Describing a similar example of recently authorized projects, Cochran said she approved roof repairs at the stables and the North Clubhouse. The projects were separate and issued at different times, each came in under her \$3,000 spending limit, yet both were performed by the same contractor.

In addition, Cochran noted that the fiscal year will conclude with an excess of \$163,506 in the general fund, which will be rolled into reserves set aside for the road paving projects and state-mandated dam repairs.

During a short but tense discussion at the Board table over Cochran's signature authority for expenditures, SLLA Treasurer Conrad Meyer said he was aware of the concern and that the

Finance Committee had already initiated a review of the existing policy.

"When Dalton [Fulcher, the former Community Manager] was here, he had a page that laid out what he could sign for and under what circumstances," Meyer said. "That document still exists, but it and the Talis Management contract don't match. We need to revisit this and come to an agreement, so there won't be any debates in the future if the Community Manager went beyond her authority."

SLLA President Bob Darr agreed and said it was an issue that he and Meyer would be working on with Talis representatives in the near future.

Volunteers sought for Beautification Committee

In a related discussion on improving community appearance, Darr said he is actively seeking a chairman and volunteers to serve on

beautify our community," said Darr, who volunteered to work with the group.

Also during the meeting, Grounds & Maintenance Director Keyser said he has met with Davenport staff and is pleased.

"I think our grounds are looking good," Keyser said, "and I'm looking forward to seeing what

else they can do to make our community shine."

Part-time Northside resident Elaine Wilderson also complimented the improvements.

"I like the sprucing up with flowers and other things that are growing," she said. "I really appreciate it and think

(See "SLLA," p. 26)

Seven Lakes Landowners Association Meeting

5/25

a newly reformed Beautification Committee that could work alongside Davenport Landscaping.

"I would like to see the Beautification Committee working with them on design, and to see what we can do about managing those dollars, while continuing to

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Peter Ellman, M.D.

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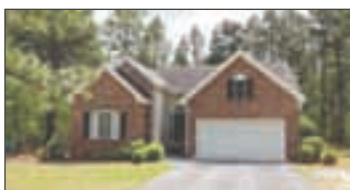
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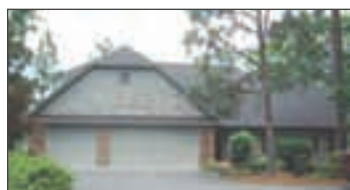
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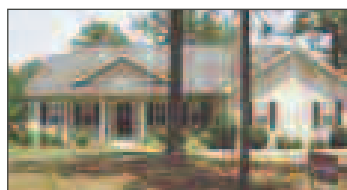
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Sandhills Winery starts 7 Lakes Farmers' Market

by **Laura Douglass**
Times Reporter

Farm fresh eggs, pasture-raised poultry, natural grass-fed beef, specialty cupcakes, handmade baskets and jewelry, Amish bread, and a cornucopia of fresh vegetables and fruits are just a sampling of the many exciting things waiting to be discovered each week at the new Seven Lakes Farmer's Market, sponsored by the Sandhills Winery.

"This is a community thing. A market for our community because we deserve it," said Winery owner Leslie Rose. "We're about showcasing the talents of the people in our community, giving our residents a place to visit on Saturday mornings, and also

helping local farmers bring fresh food right here to Seven Lakes."

With a radius extending approximately fifty-miles in each direction, Rose explained that she has been in contact with farmers not only from Moore County, but also Lee, Richmond, Scotland, and Montgomery Counties as well.

Backyard gardeners are welcome to set-up a table, said Rose.

"If you have some extra squash or tomatoes, give us a call. We're also looking for crafters and artists and people in the community that make wreaths and friendship breads" she said.

And local non-profit organizations, clubs and churches

are invited to sign-up to sell coffee & tea on Saturday mornings as a fundraising event.

Table space may be reserved for a nominal fee to cover advertising costs. All excess monies collected will be donated to local food banks.

"Food feeding food," said Rose. "This has become a fun thing, but it is also another way we're giving back to the community."

Each week, the market will feature a diverse and eclectic mix which will follow the seasons, as Rose hopes to continue the Farmer's Market through the Summer and into the late Fall.

Just in time to celebrate the Sandhills Winery first anniversary at their location on Seven Lakes Drive, Rose said creating and coordinating the Farmer's Market has

been a labor of love.

Working with local Realtor Linda Criswell, Deanna White from Candor, and Craven Hudson, a resident of Seven

Lakes North who serves as Director of Moore County's Extension Service office, Rose said she began exploring the
(See "Market," p. 7)



Fresh Baked Bread is a favorite Farmers' Market treat.



Ingold Farms offered Santa Gertrudis Freezer Beef at Saturdays' Sandhills Winery Farmer' Market.

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Jo Nicholas elected President of state League

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Well-known in the Seven Lakes community as a go-getter and natural leader, Westsider Jo Nicholas recently extended her time and talents to the state level as President of the North Carolina League of Women Voters [LWV].

Elected at the organization's state convention in Raleigh last May, Nicholas has served on the NC-LWV Board of Directors for two years and continues to serve as League President of the Moore County LWV chapter, a position she has held for six years.

A retired teacher and school principal, she explained that her professional experience in education, conflict management, and working with people have been valuable skills which complement the League's mission as a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government, but instead works to influence policy through advocacy.

Currently, the League has 900 state and local chapters,

including nineteen groups in North Carolina.

Nicholas said, as president, she has set a personal goal to visit each and every state chapter.

"I am hoping to reconnect the local chapters with the



Jo Nicholas

state," she said. "I want to make the NC League more accessible to local chapters and their endeavors."

In addition to presiding over quarterly meetings of the state League and weekly visits to her office in Raleigh, Nicholas also hopes to bring together the presidents of each chapter once or twice a year to share ideas.

"We're beginning to get on the map in terms of things that are going on right now in North Carolina," Nicholas said. "We're looking at redistricting and anticipate the

General Assembly looking a new lines in July. It may upset some of them [legislators], but it is for the betterment of the people."

Nicholas said another top priority of the NC League is researching a method of gas extraction called "fracking."

According to a NC League report prepared by Audrey Albrecht of the Lower Cape Fear chapter, fracking involves using high-powered steam underground to push out oil from shale, thereby ruining everything in its path, including underground aquifers.

While Nicholas agreed that alternative sources of fuel must be explored, she said currently the discussion on fracking tends to be lopsided. With potential extraction sites in this region of North Carolina, fracking may become a major issue at the local level, and the Moore County League has responded by planning a panel discussion

later this year to consider the pros and cons of such activities.

In addition, Nicholas said a priority for state and local leagues is the upcoming 2012 election season.

"We want to make sure people understand that voting is important," she said, noting that later in June she will travel to Washington, DC, to meet with LWV representatives from across the nation. One particularly helpful service of the LWV is their production and distribution of nonpartisan voter guides that provide biographical information on each candidate.

Looking ahead to those elections, Nicholas said the Moore County chapter completed a redistricting study of Moore County two years ago and will meet in August with the Board of Commissioners to offer their recommendations.

"We looked into it and found that our districts were not

equal in representation and voters," she told *The Times*.

"When you have a discrepancy, you want to redraw the lines to get each district equal," explained Nicholas. "We hope, before the 2012 election, that the new districts will be representative."

An active member of the League for only eight years, Nicholas said she became interested in the organization shortly after moving to Seven Lakes West.

"I had heard about the League a long time ago, but I thought it was a bunch of little old ladies — but it's not!" said Nicholas. "I was invited to a meeting and enjoyed it. There was a lot of stimulating conversation and informative presentations: I joined immediately."

Nicholas said it is exciting to get involved and reach out to local politicians, especially here in Moore County where the League is strong and well-respected.

(See "Nicholas," p. 10)

SLWLA COMMUNITY NOTICE MORE CULVERT REPLACEMENTS

The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association plans to replace eight more roadway culverts from late May through early August.

Four locations can accommodate detours. Four will require that part of the community use the back gate while others use the front gate; a temporary guard will man the back gate during these repairs.

The culverts are located as follows and will be replaced in the order and per the **tentative** schedule shown below.

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McKenzies Mill wins 'Battle for the Saddle'

West End's Justin & Ryan Harris and their Southern Rock band McKenzies Mill won the 'Battle for the Saddle' band competition at Nashville's world-famous Wildhorse Saloon last week.

The brothers, sons of Rick and Sherilyn Harris, moved the Nashville in 2005 chasing the dream of making their mark in the music business.

Now McKenzies Mill — named after the rural Moore County road on which you'll find the family home — is the latest house band for the Wildhorse, a 66,000 square foot restaurant and music venue in the heart of Nashville's entertainment district.

The Saloon's third annual Battle for the Saddle band search competition ended in a shootout among five finalists, and McKenzies Mill was named the winner.

In addition to serving as the venue's latest house band, McKenzies Mill won a prize package that includes a showcase with music industry executives, permanent rotation in the Wildhorse's band line-up, a photo shoot with Edwards Photography

Studio, and an appearance during next week's Country Music Association (CMA) Festival.

Fronted by brothers Justin and Ryan Harris, the North Carolina band features a blend of Southern rock and country, thanks to influences like Lynyrd Skynyrd, Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson. In the contest finale, they had the standing-room crowd on the dance floor, as the band jammed on the guitar, harmonica and down-home lyrics.

"Winning this competition is such an honor, and we have had an absolute blast during the whole process," Justin Harris said.

"To be a part of such a world-renowned venue, doing our thing in front of a great audience every night, is our dream. We are looking forward to everything that lies ahead."

The Battle for the Saddle band search competition began in April. Throughout a series of live auditions, five bands advanced to the finale — Heath Forbes, McKenzies Mill, Rachael Johnson, The Buchanan Boys and Derek

Joseph.

Serving on the panel of judges in the finale was Bo Bice, Southern rocker and runner-up in the fourth season of American Idol; as well as Michael Knox, record producer for country megastar Jason Aldean; Jeff Howard, talent agent for Agency of the Performing Arts; and Ron

Kerere, general manager of the Wildhorse.

"Our third annual band search competition was a huge success," Kerere said.

"We received numerous submissions, and the bands who competed were all amazing musicians that absolutely rocked the house."

"McKenzies Mill will be a

great addition to our Wildhorse family. They join the ranks of bands like Trick Pony, Lonestar, Ricochet and Lo Cash Cowboys, who all got their start here."

"We are excited to join with McKenzies Mill in what is sure to be a huge stepping stone in their endeavor for a successful career."



McKenzies Mill — West End's Justin & Ryan Harris celebrate their Wildhorse Saloon victory with band members and contest judges.

Market

(Continued from page 5)

idea of a Farmer's Market a year ago.

"We are a big community of 4,500 people and we needed this...We didn't want to take no for an answer," she said.

"The whole idea is, if you enjoy the fruits and products you find at the market, then you can go to that farmer or business directly when you need something. It is another way to introduce the community to the many things we have available locally."

The Seven Lakes Farmer's Market is open Saturday mornings from 9:-00 am to 12:00 pm, in front of Sandhills Winery in the business village. If you have questions or wish to reserve a space, contact Leslie Rose at 673-2949.

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**Caroline Fordyce
Barrett**

Hollis/Brookline High School
Hollis, NH

Caroline is the daughter of Scott and Liz Barrett of Hollis, NH. Her grandparents are Jim and Edie Barrett of Seven Lakes West. She was a member of National Honor Society, varsity tennis, soccer, Spanish Club, and Interact. Caroline will attend the University of San Diego, San Diego, CA.



**Katherine Ann
Barrett**

Hollis/Brookline High School
Hollis, NH

Katherine is the daughter of Scott and Liz Barrett of Hollis, NH. Her grandparents are Jim and Edie Barrett of Seven Lakes West. She was a member of National Honor Society, French Club, Interact, and varsity volleyball. Katherine will attend Lafayette College, in Easton, PA.



**Nicholle
Cummings**

Pinecrest High School
Southern Pines, NC

Nicholle is the daughter of Christine Cummings of Seven Lakes South. She is the granddaughter of Polly Cummings of Seven Lakes South.

Nicholle has been accepted at Wingate University, Wingate, NC. She will major in biology.



**Emily
Gower**

Pinecrest High School
Southern Pines, NC

Emily is the daughter of Geoff and Audrey Gower of Seven Lakes West.

Emily will attend North Carolina State University in the fall.



**Garrick
McAlhany**

The O'Neal School
Southern Pines, NC

Garrick is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger McAlhany of West End.

Garrick will be attending High Point University in the fall.



**Samantha
Parsons**

The O'Neal School
Southern Pines, NC

Samantha Parsons is the daughter of Jane Drzewicki of Seven Lakes.

Samantha will be attending Sandhills Community College.



**Jessica Marie
Radford**

Crystal Lake Central
High School
Crystal Lake, IL

Jessica is the daughter of Bill and Tracy Radford of Crystal Lake, IL. She is the granddaughter of Loren and Judy Swearingen of Seven Lakes North.

Jessica's immediate plans call for volunteer service at Christian camps in Canada and France.



**Kevin Alexander
Riffitts**

North Penn High School
Hatfield, PA

Kevin is the son of Frank and Janet Riffitts of Hatfield, PA. He is the grandson of Ray and June Cooper of Seven Lakes North.

Kevin will be attending Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. He will pursue a degree in Communications and Marketing.



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Blake Anton

California Polytechnic University
San Luis Obispo, CA

Blake Anton is the son of Joan Anton. His grandparents are Hal and Marge Blake of Seven Lakes North. He graduated with a BA in Architecture and minored in Sustainable Design. He will pursue a Masters Degree in Architecture at Cal Poly.



Justin "Kiel" Medlin

Alderson-Broadus College
Philippi, WV

Kiel is the son of Bill and Pam Medlin of Seven Lakes North. He is the grandson of the late Richard and Addie Mitchell of West Virginia and the grandson of the late Eleanor Hilliard of NC. Kiel received a Master of Physician Assistant Studies Degree.



Sarah M. Rutledge

Saint Francis University

Sarah is the daughter of Mary K. and Joseph Rutledge. She is the granddaughter of Mike and Marie Hruby of Seven Lakes West.

She received her Doctorate of Physical Therapy. Sarah will be working with geriatric patients in an in-patient setting.



**Victoria Leigh
Van Vliet**

Elon University
Elon, NC

Victoria is the daughter of Al and Elaine Van Vliet of McLendon Hills. Victoria graduated cum laude from Elon University with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. She plans to attend medical school after taking a year off.

Got Grads? We Still Want 'em!

If we missed your grad in this edition, we'd be happy to have their photo for the next one.

To make sure your grad is included, get us the following by Friday, June 17: a photo of the grad, full name, name and location of school, degree, names of parents, grandparents, or other Seven Lakes-West End-McLendon Hills-Foxfire connection, something about the grad's next big step in life (college, job, etc.) and anything else you think brag-worthy.

Your grad information and photo may be e-mailed to mail@sevenlaketimes.net, dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602, West End, NC 27376

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It's storm season. Is your family prepared?

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Along with the warmer weather, blooming gardens, and greening trees that welcome Summer comes an increased threat of severe storms, tornadoes, hail, and flash flooding.

This year, in particular, has seen significant storm-related destruction, with over fifty tornadoes reported across the nation, including a deadly twister in neighboring Lee County that killed two and caused an estimated \$57 million in property damages — though some have indicated the total cost could reach \$100 million.

While the financial toll was high, relatively few residents lost their lives because of one simple fact: the storm occurred during daylight hours.

"There is a direct correlation between storm death and destruction and the time of day," explained Scot Brooks, Emergency Manager for Moore County Public Safety. "Lee was a daytime tornado, and the majority of citizens were aware of the danger, because of broadcasts [tornado warning alerts]. A

tornado is so random that everything we do is more of a response to it than a pre-planned reaction. A tornado is much more difficult to deal with."

Unlike the Plains states, where severe storms are more common, Moore County does not have a system of horns, bells, or sirens that would alert residents of impending danger. Moore County does have an emergency telephone notification system; however, this program is predominately used for targeted populations affected by flash flooding or a hazardous materials spill.

Phone numbers in the system are culled from the Emergency 911 system, but you can also submit your cell phone number to receive these alerts. Go to Public Safety on the Moore County website at www.co.moore.nc.us and click the red telephone icon.

"It is very quick and works well, but the system is not quick enough to notify people for things like tornadoes,"

said Brooks.

Instead, Brooks recommends several important planning steps that you can take to help your family prepare for an unexpected emergency or severe storm.

DUCK —

*Down to the lowest floor,
Under something sturdy,
Cover your neck and head,
Keep in shelter until the storm has passed.*

Foremost is to purchase a NOAA [National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration] weather alert radio. Most are relatively inexpensive and function like a standard AM/FM alarm clock. The difference is these radios are programmed to broadcast National Weather Service alerts, any hour of the day.

"They would wake you up at night to let you know of a hazardous condition, like tornadoes, severe weather,

or a flood," Brooks explained.

One note of caution when purchasing a NOAA radio from a non-local source or retailer, such as the internet, is that it may not be programmed to this area's alert

house, away from doors and windows. If you do not have a basement, evacuate to a closet, interior bathroom or beneath a stairwell and crouch down. If you are in a vehicle or mobile home, you should seek immediate shelter in a public building or more substantial structure.

An easy acronym to remember is "DUCK:" Down to the lowest floor, Under something sturdy, Cover your neck and head, Keep in shelter until the storm has passed.

Each family should also assemble a 72-Hour kit with water, non-perishable foods, sanitation supplies, first aid kit, waterproof matches, flashlight and batteries, and copies of important personal documents. If you have children, elderly family members, or pets in the home, you will need to make additional preparations. A comprehensive

(See "Storm," p. 20)

Nicholas

(Continued from page 6)

In addition to the local chapter's work on redistricting and researching the issue of fracking, the group is also currently studying the Federal Government's role in education and how funds are allocated in Moore County Schools, as well as looking at maladaptive behaviors in the classroom and whether intervention programs are available as needed.

And while the issues and legislative priorities of the organization change over time both at the state and local levels, the League's constant focus is its goal to make democracy work for all people.

"I am doing this for my girls and my grandchildren," said Nicholas, "I want to leave a legacy for them."



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LOW0408

Frost celebrates 15 years with CAS, Inc.

Community Association Services, Inc. (CAS, Inc.) recognized Joan Frost for her 15 years of service with the



Joan Frost

company Friday, May 20. Mrs. Frost has been an integral part of the company over the years and continues to provide her leadership and knowledge as the Community Manager for Seven Lakes West Land Owners Association.

She truly loves what she does.

Due to her diligence and professional character, CAS, Inc.'s management contract with Seven Lakes West LOA was extended for three more years.

Not only does Frost shine

as an employee of CAS, Inc., but she also stands out in the community and always offering a helping hand.

She is a member of the Red Hat Society and the Pinehurst Country Club, just to name a few, entertains regularly at her home and is passionate

about gardening.

Yet, she still finds time to do what is most important to her which is to spend time with her family.

Advertise in The Times

Welcome to Medicare! Free workshop

The first of the official Baby Boomers were born in 1946.

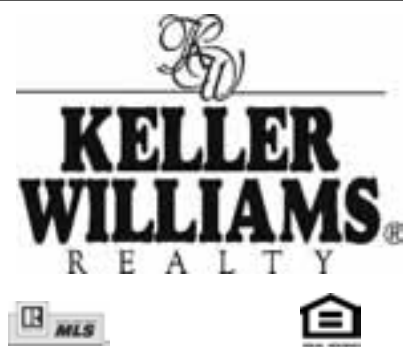
That translates into this being the year thousands of boomers are turning 65 each day and becoming Medicare beneficiaries.

On Tuesday, June 14 at 2 pm, Jill Sherman, Moore County Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) Coordinator, will offer a program to those new to Medicare, at the Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.

She will discuss enrollment, what Original Medicare covers, how to choose a Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage Plan, and enrolling in a Medicare Drug Plan.

The Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) answers questions and counsels Medicare beneficiaries and caregivers about Medicare and long term care insurance. SHIIP counselors offer free and unbiased counseling.

Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat for the workshop.



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3 BED, 3 BATH - \$270,000

Little Dresses for Africa

Jackie Simpson's hopes that the members of her Seven Lakes Quilting Bee would sew 25 or perhaps 50 "Little Dresses for Africa" resulted in 125 dresses being ready for delivery.

After Simpson heard of "Little Dresses for Africa," a non-profit, Christian-based organization, on Nancy Zieman's Public Television show, she told the Bee, "The Lord has been good and generous to me, and I want to do the like-

wise."

Seven Lakes Bee members shared her sentiments and contributed fabric, and other supplies, as well as time and talents. Jackie Simpson, Jean Schmidt, Lora Buelow, and Joanne Lentz made sure each dress was special by adding decorative trim and pockets.

Simpson's church, as well as bee members, contributed money to help purchase underwear for both girls and boys along with shorts for

boys. Simpson also made receiving blankets and purchased infant "onesies" to go with them.

In August, Lora Buelow will deliver the dresses, shorts, underwear, and receiving blankets to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where the Nancy's Notions' store will forward the items to the non-profit organization's mission teams for distribution in Africa.



Seven Lakes Quilting Bee members — Front: Alice McPheeter, Jackie Simpson, Carolyn Follansbee, Marge Randolph. Back: Jean Schmidt, Ginny Hereema, Dodie Mulready, Mary Hauck, Honey Kohn, Lu Hayes, Barb Gerhardt, Judy Swearingen, Joan Tourt. Not available for photo: Mary Snead, Joanne Merical, Alice Shaughnessy, Joanne Lentz, and Sandra Zimmer.

Artistic Expressions at West End United Methodist

Saturday, June 11 from 9 am – 3 pm at West End United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Magda Sonderfan will present an expression of caring and concern for local tornado victims by displaying her oil, acrylic and water color paintings. There will be animal paintings from her native South Africa, still life and landscapes on display.

Admission is free and she requests that you come prepared to make a monetary donation to recent victims of tornados.



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The Rev. Carol J. Burgess
Deacon



Sunday Worship Schedule

Holy Communion - 9:30 am

Adult Christian Education - 10:45 am

Tuesday Mornings

Intercessory Prayer

& Healing Service - 11:00 am

The Episcopal Church Welcomes YOU!

Lake Auman Bass Tourney

The Lake Auman Sports Club 2011 Spring Team Bass Tournament was held on Lake Auman on Saturday, May 21.

Fourteen anglers competed in a four hour catch and release event with prizes awarded to teams for heaviest total weights for the day and to individuals for largest bass overall.

Top honors went to the team of Dick DeVoss and Robert Weistling with a five bass limit that weighed in at 12 pounds. In second place, on the leader board was the team of Art Parker and Al Edwards, who finished

with a weight of 10 pounds and 6 ounces.

The team "guided" by Jim Pierman with John Freeman and Mark Baldwin finished in third place with a weight of 9 pounds 5 ounces. The big bass prizes went to Don Smith, Robert Weistling and Art Parker with Don's 3 pound 5 ounce bass taking the big bass of the day prize.

Charlie Flinchum organized a very much appreciated picnic luncheon at Johnson Point for all the participants following the tournament. He recruited his brothers, Reid and Russell, to do the grilling, with Seven Lakes

West Board member Jim Ferguson there to lend his support.

The Sports Club bass tournaments are held each year in the Spring and Fall.

For questions and additional information, contact the organizers Don Smith, Ed Cockman or Dick DeVoss.



Don Smith brought in the big bass of the day



Tournament winners Robert Weistling & Dick DeVoss

Radio field days

Amateur (ham) radio is an integral part of every community's disaster preparedness. Amateur radio operators across the United States have been providing emergency communications for more than 75 years in times of crisis. When conventional methods of communications fail, amateur radio is always available.

Moore County Amateur Radio Society (MOCARS) invites the community to visit their annual Field Day, at 12 pm noon, Saturday through Sunday noon, June 25-26, at Aberdeen Lake Park, Route 1, Aberdeen, near the Rescue Squad Building on Lakeshore Drive.

Each year MOCARS members take their equipment, using only emergency power, to test and make sure that they are ready to provide critical communications when needed. When trouble strikes, ham radio operators are often the first and only people able to provide critical communications and information.

During emergencies, hams work through local organizations including Moore County Emergency Services, Moore County Health Department, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

MOCARS amateur radio club has provided emergency communications at local emergency shelters following storms and natural disasters and communications support for local events. Many members are trained SkyWarn weather observers for the National Weather Service.

Everyone is invited to come and see how local ham radio operators can quickly set up communications. Everyone will have the opportunity to experience the enjoyment of making an amateur radio communications contact.

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5:30PM - (POST TIME - 6:30)

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6/23 - PIZZA NIGHT, WINE TASTING, AND LINE/SHAG
DANCING ON THE PATIO - 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Molly's Mud Painting Class

Wednesday - June 15th - "Wine and Art Strokes Class"

Come and paint on canvas at Sandhills Winery - Only 10 slots available - Paint a wine bottle and glasses of wine in 2 hours with instruction from Molly Menard of Molly's Mud in Southern Pines. All supplies are included in the price of \$30.00/person and you will leave that night with a finished painting. Reservations required.

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Stites sharpens Web selling skills

Shannon Stites, a leading real estate professional with Keller Williams Realty in Seven Lakes, has been awarded the Internet Mar-



Shannon Stites

keting Specialist designation for her proficiency in using Internet marketing strategies to help her customers market their properties throughout the Web.

Stites is completely trained in marketing real estate

across the Internet, including on all the major search engines, social media channels, Craigslist and more – with proven strategies that drive the maximum traffic and inquiry volume to help homes get sold fast and for the highest price possible.

"The most important attribute in choosing a real estate agent today is mastery of the Web as a marketing tool for your home or property," said Ben Kinney, founder of the Internet Marketing Specialist Designation.

"Shannon has mastered the Web marketing best practices I actively use in my practice, and has differentiated herself among other real estate professionals in the market with these skills."

For more information about Shannon Stites and Keller Williams Realty, please visit TheShannonStitesTeam.com

League's annual meeting

Tuesday, June 14 is the Annual meeting of the League of Women Voters of Moore County.

June 14 is Flag Day, so attendees are encouraged to wear patriotic clothes or accessories. All League members and guests are welcome to attend.

A short presentation will be given by Mary Lou Burnett, League board member, on the myths of Betsy Ross.

The annual meeting will involve the election of officers, adopting a budget, bylaw revision and proposed programs and studies. The proposed studies include: the implementation of the redistricting report, exploration of the impact of socially maladaptive behaviors among youth, exploration of the impact of the federal government's role in education and

the League's continuing emphasis on voter service, education and the environment.

The luncheon meeting starts at 11:45 am; check-in time is 11:30 am. Meeting will be held at the Table on the Green Restaurant in Midland Country Club.

Prior reservation is required. Reserve by calling Charlotte Gallagher at 910-944-9611 by June 10.

Harris earns Woodmen title

Jimmy Mark Harris, Jr., of Star, a Modern Woodmen of America representative, has attained the Fraternal Insurance Counselor (FIC) designation.

The FIC title is an educational designation that can be earned by career life insurance representatives associated with fraternal insurance societies.

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Jimmy Mark Harris, Jr.

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Harris can be reached at 910-220-1267.

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In memory of . . .

Frank Louis Malay, 85, of Foxfire Village, died on Friday, June 3, at his home. A funeral Mass was held Tuesday, June 8, at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Pinehurst. The Rev. James M. Labosky officiated. A private burial followed at Bethesda Cemetery, Aberdeen.

Mr. Malay was born in Pennsylvania, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Malay, of Universal, PA. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Engineering and spent his entire nuclear engineering career with Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Monroeville, PA.

He was a combat veteran of World War II and served in the United States Army European Theatre of Operations.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Malay, of Foxfire Village; a daughter, Nancy Malay Fallon, of Charlotte; two grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Ona Ruth Wike, 81, of West End, formerly of Danville, VA, died Friday, June 3, at her home. Funeral services were Monday, June 6, at the New Covenant Fellowship Church. The Rev. Lee McKinney officiated. Burial followed at Highland Burial Park, Danville, VA.

Mrs. Wike was a native of Franklin County, VA, and the daughter of the late Posey Lester and Susie Ella Bell Carter. She was a retired beautician.

She was preceded in death by thirteen sisters and brothers; three children, and one granddaughter.

Survivors include daughter, Trish Landolt, of West End; a granddaughter, Vanessa Perlman, of Asheville; and a grandson, Zachary W. Landolt, of Asheville.

Fry and Prickett Funeral Home assisted the family.

Bunny Muccio, of Pinehurst, formerly of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, June 1, at Kingswood Nursing Center, Aberdeen. A funeral Mass

was held Saturday, June 4, at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Pinehurst. The Rev. James M. Labosky officiated.

Mrs. Muccio was born in Copiague, NY, the daughter of the late Elizabeth Kelly-Williams and Edward Williams. She was active in the Sacred Heart Ladies Guild, a volunteer at West End Elementary, and a long-time volunteer at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

She was preceded in death by nine siblings.

She is survived by her husband of sixty years, Arthur; three wonderful children, Bill, Joanne, and Jim, and nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Boles Funeral Home of Pinehurst assisted the family.

James "Jim" D. Gentles, 95, of Foxfire Village, died Tuesday, May 24, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Memorial services were Saturday, May 28, at McDonald's Chapel Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife, daughter and grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to McDonald's

Chapel Presbyterian Church, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen, NC 28315.

Boles Funeral Home of Pinehurst assisted the family.

A Taste of Peru at WEUMC

Friday, June 17, 5:00 to 7:00 pm, West End United Methodist Mission Outreach Committee will host "A Taste of Peru" in the church Fellowship Hall.

Come and enjoy samplings of Peruvian cuisine, listen to Peruvian music and fellowship with your friends while supporting the Mission Trip to Peru.

Tickets are \$8 per person and will be available from May 31 to June 13 from members of the Mission Outreach committee.

Call Carmela Chase 673-2635, Patsy Thomas 673-5268, or Jennifer Forsman 673-3409 for additional information.

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Bring your personal papers for free, confidential shredding by Cintas mobile shredding truck.

(Please bring your items with the intent of having your boxes, etc. returned to you that you bring your items in.)

The event is sponsored by the Moore County District Attorney's Office, and Keep Moore County Beautiful. For more information call (910) 947-1784 x220.

Steve Jones Honda

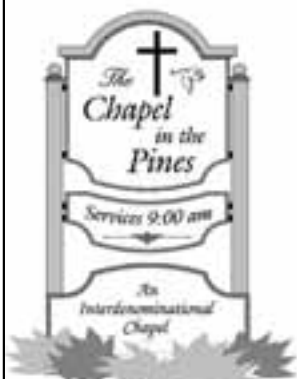
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Northsider Lindsay Douglass with her 14" ponytail that she is donating to 'Wigs For Kids,' a non-profit organization that assists children affected by chemotherapy, alopecia, burns and other medical conditions that cause hair loss. Through a partnership with the Girl Scouts of America, Lindsay earned a Wigs For Kids badge to wear on her uniform. Lindsay is the daughter of Jim & Laura Douglass. Lindsay's stylist is Salon 7's Nicole Glancy.



Victoria Thomson donated her hair to Locks of Love at Blush Salon & Spa on Friday, May 13. She is the daughter of Brad and Charla Thomson of Seven Lakes West.

Ladies 3.5 (70s) are off to state

by Barb Horan

The Seven Lakes Tennis Center has done it again, the Ladies 3.5 (70s), yes, you read that right have won the local Pine tennis league. This assures them a trip to the North Carolina Super Senior Championships to be held

June 23-26 in Greenville.

Ladies 3.5 team members are: Barb Keiffer, Ally Vogel, Carole Gorman, Edie Starkey, Joyce Charles, Joan Carter, Angela Terry, and Barb Horan. The Ladies have won three of the five competitions against the Pinehurst Tennis

Club ladies team.

Tennis Professional Don Campbell directs several teams and offers weekly tennis clinics from beginners to advanced. To learn more about Seven Lakes Tennis Center programs, call 910-673-1096.



Seven Lakes Tennis Center's Ladies 3.5 (70s) team

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Dog Wash

Saturday, June 25, is the date for the 11th annual summer Dog Wash, the fun day for the whole family and the main fund-raiser each year to feed, shelter, and give medical care to homeless animals sheltered at Solutions for Animals, a nonprofit, no-kill shelter run at Cindy Bristow's residence in West Hoke County just south of Aberdeen. The money raised goes directly to care for the animals until they are adopted or for the rest of their lives at SFA.

The washing and good clean fun begins at 11am and runs until 5 pm. The wash will be held at Five Points Pet Resort between Aberdeen and Raeford off N.C. 211. The Resort is at 1405 Montrose Road which is at the right off the highway at the Carolina Horse Park sign where Stoneybrook Steeplechase is held each spring.

The best bargain in town that hasn't gone up in price ever is the Dog Wash, which offers \$5 baths for your dog by devoted volunteers, and \$5 nail trims done by professional groomer Elaine Reaves, and by Five Points' groomer, Melanie. If your dog prefers, you may wash him or her yourself, but supplies are all provided, including the bathers.

In addition to the affordable bathing and nail clipping services, a veterinarian from Whispering Pines Animal Hospital will be present to give rabies vaccinations at affordable prices. There will be discounted flea and tick preventatives.

This year Cold Stone Creamery of Aberdeen will be providing ice cream treats, and music by Sound Sensations, a mobile disc jockey service from Pinehurst will keep your toes tapping and your spirits lively. A delicious lunch will be available from Buffalo Springs Baptist Church of Raeford.

Call (910) 875-7244 to volunteer.



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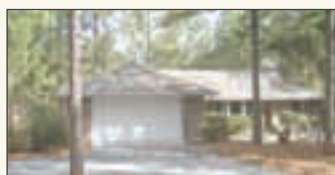
144 E. DEVONSHIRE
Golf Front - 18th Hole
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103 GREENOCH COURT
Golf Front
\$159,000



123 SANDHAM COURT
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\$159,000



109 SOMERSET
All Brick Golf Front
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183 FIRETREE LANE
Lake Sequoia Waterfront
\$337,000



125 WREN TREE COURT
Seven Lakes West
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105 TUCKER
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115 PINWOOD
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122 FOX RUN COURT
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117 OXFORD COURT
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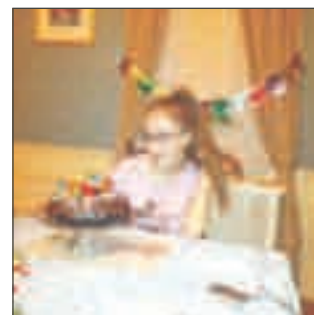
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Happy 13th Birthday Alexandra!

JUNE ACTION

Lot #5244 - Sold
116 Winsford - Sold
123 Sandham - Under Contract
116 Pinewood - Under Contract
Lots 2054/2067 - New Listing

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – 5-9 pm, Buffet 5-6:30 pm. Food, games & socializing.

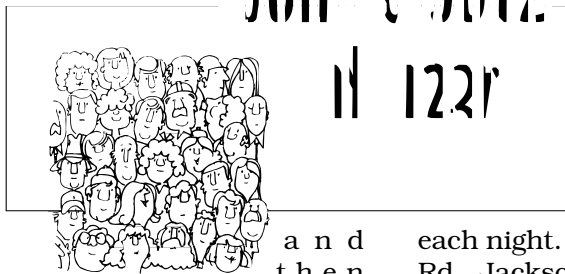
SATURDAY, JUNE 11

- **"Artistic Expression"** – 9 am to 3 pm, at West End United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Magda Sonderfan will present an expression of caring and concern for local tornado victims by displaying her oil, acrylic and water color paintings. There will be animal paintings from her native South Africa, still life and landscapes on display. Admission is free, the artist requests that visitors come prepared to make a monetary donation to recent victims of tornadoes.
- **Farmers' Market** – at Sandhills Winery - 9am - Noon, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **3rd Annual Dugan's Pub Backpack Pals Golf Challenge** – held at the Southern Pines Country Club. 10 am Shotgun Start with an Entry Fee of \$130 per person, or \$500 per team. The Format is Four Person Captain's Choice. Program will benefit Moore County Schools Backpack Pals Program. Refreshments, Breakfast Snacks and Catered Lunch included. Contact: Alan Riley Dugans Pub, (910) 295-3400 or Linda Hubbard, Moore County Schools (910) 947-2342. Entry forms are available at Dugan's Pub, Railhouse Brewery, Ferrell Gas and Southern Pines Country Club www.Duganspub.net
- **Belford Baptist Church Men's Ministry** – 3 pm, program Guest speaker will be Pastor Joseph Kearns of Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church, Asheboro. 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.
- **"Old Growth Hike"** – 3

pm, meet the oldest known longleaf pine in the world. See the 463 year old tree and also one of the largest longleaf pines in North Carolina on this one mile hike through the Weymouth Woods Boyd Tract. Bring water, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the park visitor center,



and then car pool 4 miles over to the Boyd Tract, (located behind the Weymouth Center on Connecticut Ave.). Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, NC 28387. Call 910-692-2167 for more information.

- **Gospel Singing** – 6:30 pm, at West End United Methodist Church with an ice cream social to follow. This year's concert will be in memory of Trudie Vaughn. Special guest musicians will be joining for the evening. Plan to come and enjoy the upbeat harmonies of the gospel songs and fellowship.

MONDAY, JUNE 13

- **Second Monday** – 6:30 pm, Sandhills Community College Outdoor Jazz Band Concert, at Boyd Library Green. Free - bring your lawn chair or blanket to sit on and enjoy an evening of music.

- **Belford Baptist Church Vacation Bible School** – 6:30 pm, for children & Adults. VBS will be June 13-16

each night. 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7 pm, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.
- **Sandhills Photography Club** – 7 to 9 pm at Christ Fellowship Church, Midland & Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. This meeting is a Digital competition on the topic of "Birds." Both Class A and B members can submit up to two entries in one or both of the categories: "Wild Birds" (birds in their natural habitat), and "Confined Birds" (live birds in zoos, rescue facilities, or caged, tied or enclosed). Entries can be taken within the last five

(5) years. Judge for this competition is Tom Grubb of Eastover. www.sandhillsphotoclub.org

- **Bingo Night at Our Lady of the Americas** – 7 pm, Early Bird Bingo and 7:30 pm, Regular Bingo. 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211, east of Hwy 220, Candor. Minimum purchase \$15. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. 910 974-3051.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

- **Flag Day**
- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. West Side Park Community Center. Open to all landowners.
- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. Carol Burgess, Deacon. All are

welcome.

- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – League's Annual Meeting. Luncheon meeting starts at 11:45 am; check-in time is 11:30 am. Meeting will be held at the Table on the Green Restaurant, in Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Road, Southern Pines. A short presentation will be given by Mary Lou Burnett, League board member, on the myths of Betsy Ross. Annual meeting will involve the election of officers, adopting a budget, bylaw revision and proposed programs and studies. Prior reservation is required. Reserve by calling Charlotte Gallagher at 910-944-9611 by June 10. Total cost for luncheon is \$12; a check made payable to LWVMC is the preferred method of payment.
- **Welcome to Medicare Workshop** – 2 pm, for Baby Boomers turning 65 and becoming Medicare bene-

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ficiaries. Jill Sherman, Moore County Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) Coordinator, will offer a program to those new to Medicare, at the Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst. Sherman will discuss enrollment, what Original Medicare covers, how to choose a Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage Plan. 215-0900 to reserve a seat..

- **Seven Lakes Computer Club** – 3 pm, in the Seven Lakes North Game Room. Smart Computing Magazine will give a Power Point Presentation aiming to educate attendees about Sandhills Publishing Corp. publications. Presentation will convey the values of smart-computing.com Tech Support Center, and show how it can, in plain English, and solve problems. Attendees will receive a June issue of the magazine.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am to 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a wonderful meal provided \$5.
- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8 pm, great wines, and food pairings. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – 5-9 pm, Buffet 5-6:30 pm. Food, games & socializing.
- **A Taste of Peru** – 5:00 to 7:00 pm, at West End United Methodist Church. The Mission Outreach Committee hosts "A Taste of Peru" in the church Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy samplings of Peruvian cuisine, listen to Peruvian music and fellowship with your friends while supporting the Mission Trip to Peru. Tickets \$8 per person available until June 13 from members of the Mission Outreach committee. Carmela Chase 673-2635, Patsy Thomas 673-5268, or Jennifer Forsman 673-3409.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

- **Farmers' Market** – at Sandhills Winery - 9am - Noon, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **3rd Annual Woof Woof** – to benefit Pooch Park in the Pines at Longleaf Golf and Country Club. 8:30 am shot gun start is planned. Best Two Net Balls of Four, flight Teams may be men, ladies or mixed. Entry fee \$80, includes green and cart fees, lunch, on-course beverages and four complimentary green fees for every payer at Longleaf. Proceeds will be used to build rain shelters in both parks. Moore Humane Society at 927-2631.
- **Seven Lakes Baptist**

Church – Youth Fund Raiser – 1 pm Shotgun start, Third Annual Golf Tournament. Format - Captains Choice. \$300 for a foursome or \$75/person. Individuals & Teams welcome. Lunch is provided. Awards & Door prizes presented. Held at Beacon Ridge Country Club. For information call 673-4656.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

- **Father's Day**
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **"Dragons & Damsels"** – 3 pm, the beautiful flying mosquito hawks have fascinating lives. Join the Park Ranger for a short talk and a 1.5 mile hike to look for dragonflies and damselflies along the beautiful trails of Weymouth Woods. Hike will include dip netting at the creek. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and use bug spray. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, NC 28387. Call 910-692-2167.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7 pm, Town Hall meeting. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

- **First Day of Summer**
- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. All are welcome.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, regular meeting. Held at Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am to 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a wonderful meal provided \$5.
- **Hummingbirds in the Sandhills** – 2 to 3:30 pm, learn about hummingbirds and their environment. Susan Campbell, a well known independent researcher and part-time naturalist at Weymouth

Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines, will talk about the hummingbirds found locally, their ecology and how to attract them. Everyone will also learn about hummingbird banding. Find out how anyone can create a hummingbird haven in their backyard. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst. 215-0900 to reserve a seat.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8 pm, great wines, and food pairings. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

- **Moore County Amateur Radio Society (MOCARS)** – 12 pm noon, (through Sunday noon, June 26), at Aberdeen Lake Park, Route 1, Aberdeen, near the Rescue Squad Building, Lakeshore Drive. Come and see how local ham radio operators can quickly set up communications. All will have the opportunity to experience the enjoyment of making an amateur radio communications contact.

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Storm

(Continued from page 10)

sive list of recommended supplies is available at www.ready.gov

Discuss with your family at least two meetings places: one directly outside your home for immediate disasters, and a second place outside of your neighborhood in case you are away when a disaster occurs and are prevented from returning to your home. Also select an out-of-town relative or friend who can serve as a communications point for your family. It is often easier to make long-distance phone calls following a disaster than to reach a local number.

"If a disaster occurs, stay put," Brooks advised. "Stay off the roadways, and limit cell phone communication to emergencies. Contact your loved ones; and then get off the phones quickly, so emergency responders can use the frequency."

He noted that in Lee County, the cell phone circuit was overloaded for over an hour. It was impossible for emergency responders to get from one point in the city to another, because so many residents were on the roads immediately after the storm passed.

"It really hampered the emergency services response, plus it was dangerous," Brooks said. "We had major power lines down and gas leaks. The populace was just coming out to view the damage, but they were putting themselves in harm's way."

By sheltering in place and then staying put, citizens allow professionals and trained volunteers to assist those where there is the most need.

Moore County is benefited by an active CERT [Community Emergency Response Team] program with teams based in Seven Lakes West and Foxfire Village, in addition to Aberdeen, Southern Pines, Pinehurst, and Woodlake.

For more information on SLW-CERT contact Terry Riddle at 673-3776 or terryriddle@aol.com or visit www.citizencorps.gov/cert/

"We are in direct commu-

nications with CERT teams," Brooks said, "and, in their specific area, they would process and implement aid and then communicate that information back to us. They are trained and have equipment and lots of things that could help in the recovery process. Depending on how bad a disaster could be, it might be hours or even days before county responders could reach you."

Brooks noted that, in Lee County, there were areas that received no assessment or care for twelve hours.

There are other volunteer opportunities available to assist with disaster planning and preparedness, including the Moore County Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Medical Reserve Corps, and Moore County Amateur Radio Services [MOCARS], who serve as a communications partner with the county.

According to Brandon Vin-

cent of the National Weather Service office in Raleigh, the most active season for tornadoes is March, April, May and June, followed by October and November. The most frequent time of day that tornadoes occur is mid-afternoon to early evening. Here in North Carolina, the vast majority of tornadoes are ranked on the Enhanced Fujita scale as F0-F2; though the Lee County disaster was a high F3 tornado.

The peak for damaging winds from severe thunderstorms occurs in June and Vincent noted that straight line winds in excess of 80 mph can be as destructive as a tornado.

Peak hail distribution occurs in May and he suggested that golf ball-sized hail can also be as damaging or even more so than tornadoes.

North Carolina ranks number two in the nation for light-

ning-related deaths, a figure attributed to the natural topography and the many outdoor recreational pursuits that are popular, including beach activities and golfing.

"The general rule is: If you can hear thunder, you can get struck by lightning," warned Vincent.

However, the number one weather-related killer across the nation is flash flooding.

"People die because of flooding more often because of bad decision-making," Vincent said. "Water is very powerful. Don't make the bad decision to cross a flooded roadway. Even slow-moving water at six inches is enough to push a vehicle off the road."

For more information on weather, visit the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov/raleigh

Seven Lakes Day Camp

Games, crafts, organized fun and swimming in a well-supervised environment. SLLA Summer Camp starts on Monday, June 13 and continues through August 19

All children ages 5-14 years old are welcome to attend. Drop-in for a day or you may pre-register your child.

Camp is held Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm, in the Community Activity Center [CAC] at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

SLLA resident cost is \$50 per child per week; non-resident cost is \$60 per child per week. Single day cost is \$10 per child for residents; and \$12 per child for non-residents.

Please contact the SLLA office at (910) 673-4931, if you have any questions.

Temple Theatre Summer Youth Program

This year's Summer Youth Conservatory will be an world premiere, original production musical of *Alice in Wonderland*. There are two conservatories this summer, each camp has 45 students between the ages 8 and 18 participating in a full scale production. The camps run from June 20 through July 10, with performances on July 8, 9 and 10; and from July 18 through August 7, with performances August 5, 6 and 7. Tickets are \$5 for children and \$10 for adults.

To schedule an audition time please contact Jordan in the business office at 774.4512 ext 221.

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673-6789

Water

with Moore County water and Seven Lakes in particular, having kept the Seven Lakes system running before the county acquired it.

Vaughn explained that he is currently negotiating with suppliers who could install a larger impeller in the NC Highway 211 pump station. That could add another 144,000 gallons per day to the production capacity.

More Water from Robbins?

On the more distant horizon, Moore County continues to ponder options for bringing additional water to Seven Lakes from a second direction: down NC Highway 705 from Robbins, down NC Highway 211 from Candor, or along a couple of routes from Randolph County.

The Commissioner have expressed a strong interest in partnering with the Town of Robbins to include both its water customers and the Seven Lakes customer base in the currently-languishing Northwest Moore Water District, which has voter-approved access to \$16 million in borrowing capacity that could be used to lay water lines and build a new water treatment plant on a reservoir in Robbins.

While the citizens of Robbins seem hopeful about that plan, the Town Manager seems skeptical, the Town Council is non-committal, and, until Robbins makes up its mind, there's not much

reason for the Board of Commissioners to poll Seven Lakerers to see what they think about the idea.

Conservation 'triggers'

For now, Seven Lakerers can depend on about 1.2 million gallons of county water each day, and, even though the community has passed the 800,000 gallon milestone for the first time this year, it's unlikely to hit 1.2 million. The most the community has ever used in one day is 906,996 gallons, back on July 1, 2009.

Without rain, however, the county could, at some point in the Summer, be forced to impose mandatory conservation measures. The recently-revised Water Conservation Ordinance uses a number of "triggers" to determine when conservation measures kick in — and how onerous those measures need to be. Among the triggers are the drought status of the Moore County, the water level in Drowning Creek, and the static water level in the underground aquifer that supplies most of the county's water, measured at several of the system's wells.

Wells in the Pinehurst area are far more productive than wells drilled in Seven Lakes, and the county depends on a network of Pinehurst wells for the bulk of its water supply. It also has water purchase contracts with the towns of Aberdeen and

Southern Pines, both of which impound surface water in reservoirs. Moore County Public Utilities also buys Harnett County water through the East Moore Water District.

Vaughn told *The Times* that the water level in the aquifer "has a few feet to go" before it would trigger mandatory conservation measures. Meanwhile, the county is currently in "moderate"

drought, with "severe" drought gradually creeping across the map from the east.

Those with an interest and a little computer savvy can monitor both the drought status and the water level in the aquifer on the internet.

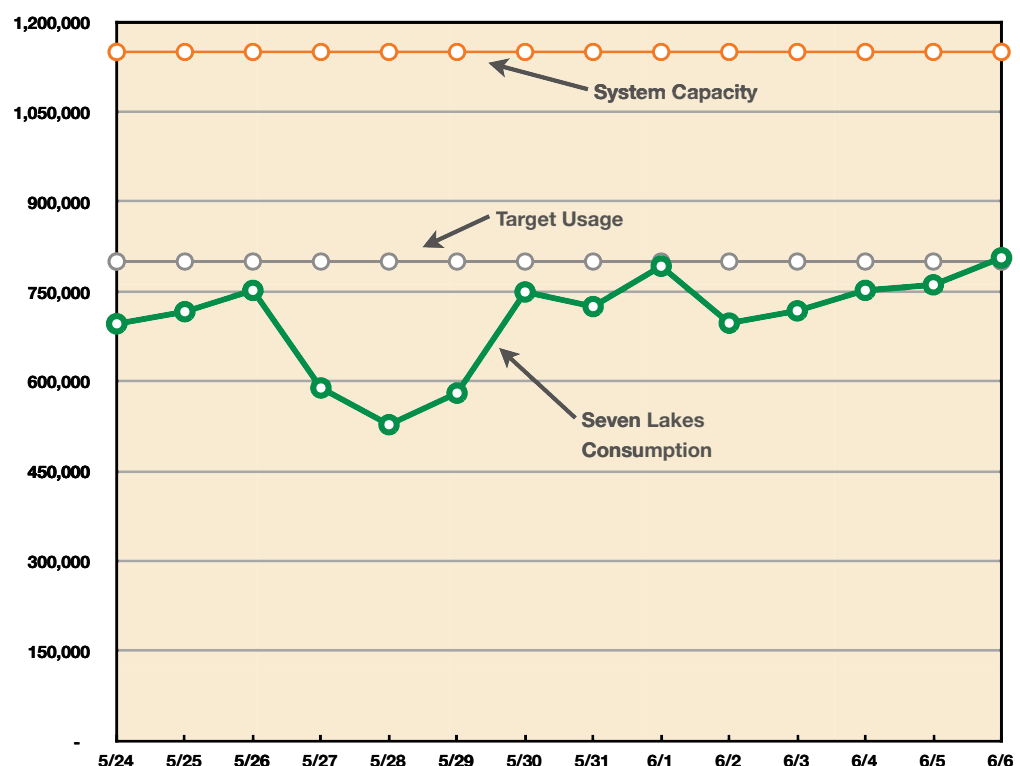
The NC Drought Monitor (at www.ncdrought.org) is updated every Thursday. The site provides a county-by-county map of the state that reflects the drought status

of each county, from no drought through severe drought to exceptional drought.

Moore County Public Utilities and the US Geological Survey teamed up recently to install a water level monitoring system in several of the county's water supply wells. You can access that data online at http://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/countymaps/NC_125.html.

Seven Lakes Water Consumption

(in gallons per day)



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OPINION

School's out for the summer!

Pinch your fingers together.

That's how close I was to sending my ten-year-old son to school this morning with a box of beer.

No, scratch that.

What I meant was a beer box. Empty.

Luckily for me — and most likely Social Services — I was able to liberate a shoe box from my closet to satisfy his classroom requirement to produce an appropriately-sized cardboard cube, and the Sam Adams Summer Ale box went back into the recycling bin. It seems constructing a diorama is this afternoon's project.

Dioramas, field days, and school parties are just about all that's left for this school year. Come Friday morning, kids all over the county will be counting the minutes until that final bell rings.

Personally, I'm enjoying these last hours of peace and quiet with that three word mantra repeated by parents the world over about this time each year: "God bless teachers."

From late August to early

June, these homeroom heroes courageously stand point before a roomful of rambunctious young minds. With lesson plans and worksheets in hand, they keep little hands and heads gain-

mer vacation is within sight and I haven't finalized my own lesson plans yet. And I've got to do something fast or our daily "to do" list around the Douglass camp will resemble prison with swimming privileges.

You know, too much downtime leads to excessive television viewing and bickering punctuated by moments of utter boredom or pure chaos.

As usual I have lofty ambitions of dedicating at least a few minutes each day to the three R's to keep those little thinking caps sharp, and I've thoughtfully placed a basket of books within reach of the idiot box for

those days when "there's nothing on and nothing to do!"

But I'm still tweaking our grand summer project which was inspired by those extreme coupon shows [read: Hoarding, The Early Years]. The kids have decided they can clip their way to riches — or at least earn a few extra bucks in allowance — by collecting coupons for me to use at the store.

I told them I'm game as long as it doesn't involve 99 bottles of ketchup stashed in my pantry.

99 bottles of beer, on the other hand . . .



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

fully employed for months on end.

It's not magic, but it's close. I know this because sum-

A wedding for the already committed?

Question: I have been living with my boyfriend for the last three years. We love each other very much and we are committed to spending the rest of our lives together. We want children and we want to raise our family in the church. Both of us come from Christian families and we wanted to get married in my parent's church. When we talked to the minister about this he refused to marry us unless we spent one whole year living apart without any sexual contact. As a minister do you marry couples who have been living together?

Response: Times have cer-

tainly changed since I first became a minister. Over the past thirty years I have presided over dozens of weddings; and I



Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

can count on one hand the number of couples, young or old, who, if they were not sharing the same house, they were sharing the same bed.

You have already answered

the only question I ask: "Are both of you committed to spend your life together and to make that commitment before God and in the presence of witnesses?"

In this country marriage is first of all a civil affair and constitutes a legal contract for the protection of both parties. If a minister or rabbi presides, he or she is acting as an official of the state and certifies the marriage by signing the license.

If the couple chooses to have a religious ceremony, the minister does not actually "marry" them but only serves as a witness who gives God's blessing to the union.

When two people make a lifetime commitment they are then married in the sight of God whether or not a minister is present. Your question implies that you have already taken that step and now wish to acknowledge it publicly and legally.

To ask you now to live apart for a year before you publicly acknowledge your marriage is an unrealistic request. This is not the time to punish you for living together, but a time to celebrate your love and commitment to each other.

You ask if I would marry a couple who is living together. My answer is: "Gladly!"

After participating in hundreds of weddings — including my own and my children's — over fifty years as an ordained minister, I do have a word of advice.

I have watched parents inflict serious harm on their

bank accounts and young adult couples mortgage their future in order to have a "big wedding." The amount of money spent on the three "F's", flowers, food and fotography (I really do know how it is spelled) is often scandalous and sinful.

Find yourself an understanding minister and church; invite your friends and family; and enjoy the blessing of God on the marriage you have already consummated.

Don Welch is the minister at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines. Write him at dwelch1@nc.rr.com

Stunning!

Dear Editor:

In the May 13 edition of *The Times*, former Seven Lakes security guard Stephen McVey writes; "Who knew that in backwoods North Carolina it [fleeing the scene of an accident] was a misdemeanor?"

I am stunned by the ignorance of this person. It'

alarming that a guard (a person of responsibility) for Seven Lakes could say such a thing.

I assume his distaste for North Carolina has set him on a hunt for some place else to live.

Cheryl Jasinski
(21-year resident of Seven Lakes & West End)

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Greg Hankins, Editor • Marcy Hankins, Layout & Design
Laura Douglass & Stacy Naughton, Reporters

Sophisticated Ladies perform at Senior Games

The Senior Games In The Pines held their Silver Arts Competition and Celebration Dinner at the Fair Barn in Pinehurst. Ten members of The Sophisticated Ladies Dance Group performed two entertaining musical numbers

that included "The St. Louis Blues March" and "City Lights."

The Sophisticated Ladies are a senior ladies' dance group patterned after the New York City Rockettes with precision movements, high

kicks, and colorful costumes. The dancers perform at nursing homes, community charity events, parades, and special community celebrations. For more information or to book the Sophisticated Ladies call 910-420-2650.



The Sophisticated Ladies — Angie VonCanon, Carol Collins, Sherry Wood, Marilyn Dotto, Jan Carey, Dance Director- JoAnn Olson, MC-Billy (Bag-of-Donuts) Brown, Lois Owen, Ann Kastl, Angie Huber, Madeline McGugan, and JoAnn Duncan.

3rd Annual Woof Woof Open

The 3rd Annual Woof Woof Open to benefit Pooch Park

in the Pines is planned for Saturday, June 18 at Longleaf Golf and Country Club.

An 8:30 am shot gun start is planned. Tournament format is Best Two Net Balls of Four, flight Teams may be men, ladies or mixed.

An entry fee of \$80, includes green and cart fees, lunch, on-course beverages and four complimentary green fees for every player

at Longleaf.

The Woof Woof benefits Pooch Park in the Pines; a four and one-half acre fenced dog park owned by Moore Humane Society.

Proceeds this year will be used to build rain shelters in both the small and large parks.

For more information, contact Moore Humane Society at 927-2631.

Mental Illness Support Group

National Alliance on Mental Illness - Moore County (NAMI-MC) holds its monthly meetings at the Community Room at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Specialty Clinic Building, at the corner of Memorial Drive and Page Street, Pinehurst.

Educational/Support Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm. All meetings and programs are free and open to the public.

For information call (910) 295-1053 or www.nami-moorecounty.org



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Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

costs, tort claims, and an additional \$3 million in cuts to Moore County.

As a result, the \$3.1 million initially requested from the County is no longer critical to balance the MCS budget.

Noting that Governor Perdue has ten days to either veto or accept the state budget as it currently stands, Commissioner Larry Caddell said Moore County's representatives in Raleigh feel confident that the budget will stand.

Commissioner Tim Lea said he would like the Board to consider trying to find some budget cuts in an effort to save some of the 120 school system positions targeted for elimination.

Chairman Nick Picerno has also requested some changes to the budget — though nothing that would give additional funding to the schools.

The Board is expected to vote on the FY 2011-2012 budget during their June 21 regular meeting

Visitor's Bureau Tax for Airport Repairs

The Board of Commissioners on Tuesday evening approved a request to the General Assembly that would

amend the 1987 Local Act that allows Moore County to levy a room occupancy tax on hotel visitors. Under the amended act, the County will, four times a year, remit net proceeds of the occupancy tax to the Moore County Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Visitor's Bureau will then use at least two thirds of the funds remitted to promote travel and tourism in Moore County. The remaining funds will be used for tourism-related expenditures.

The Commissioners are asking the Visitor's Bureau to use seven percent of the net proceeds of the occupancy tax to repay the county's \$250,000 local match obligation on a Federal Aviation Administration grant for improvements to the Moore County Airport — as well as an even larger local match that could be needed if another pending grant is approved.

In essence, the county is fronting the money for the local matches, but the Airport will ultimately repay the county using funds from the occupancy tax. Commissioner Tim Lea proposed that a two percent interest rate be applied to the \$250,000 County match; however, the Board voted 4-1 in favor of

the request without incorporating Lea's suggested change.

Commissioner Comments on Water District

Responding to comments made by the Robbins Town Manager during a Town Hall Meeting on the county's proposal to include both Robbins and Seven Lakes in an expanded North West Moore Water District [NWMWD], Chairman Nick Picerno said that including Seven Lakes in the reconfigured district would represent an investment by the County in the District, just as including the Robbins infrastructure in the District would be an investment by the town.

The Commissioners agreed that looking to Harnett County and Asheboro as alternative sources of water for the District would be beneficial. Commissioner Tim Lea said the county is on a "ticking clock," and needs to have water options so that the \$16 million in funding for the NWMWD project is not lost.

MMC Textile Relocation

The Board approved a

request made by Moore County Partners in Progress Executive Director Ray Ogden on behalf of MMC Textiles LLC, a subsidiary of McCoy-Ellison, Inc to relocate from Monroe to the former Carthage Fabrics building in Carthage.

The relocation, expected in the next three months, could bring eighteen jobs to the area and expand the tax base by \$250,000. The County will pay \$10,000 to help with the relocation.

According to Ogden, money would not be paid to the company until nine jobs are created and retained for one year and the capital investment of \$250,000 is established. The Century Committee of Carthage has also

pledged \$10,000 toward the relocation.

Fire Department and Rescue Squad Merge

The Board approved a request by Public Safety Director Bryan Phillips to terminate existing contracts and approve a contract with the Village of Whispering Pines Fire Department to provide Medium Duty Rescue and Medical First Response within their fire district. Whispering Pines Rescue Squad has previously provided rescue and medical response within the squad's district, which includes the Whispering Pines Fire District.

In order to create a more efficient operation, the two

(See "County," p. 25)



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Commissioners

(Continued from page 24)

departments have merged to create the Whispering Pines Fire Rescue Department. Whispering Pines Fire Department has received all equipment and personnel necessary to meet the requirements and certifications as a Medium Duty Rescue provider and Medical Responder with the NC Association of Rescue and EMS and the NC Office of EMS.

Amateur Radio Week

Responding to a request from Jim Johnson of Seven Lakes West, representing the Moore County Amateur Radio Society [MOCARS], the Board declared June 20 – 26 as Amateur Radio Week.

Moore County has more than 135 licensed amateur radio operators, who provide public assistance through emergency radio communications free of charge. The organization works closely with the emergency services and the health department.

Amateur Radio Field Day will take place June 25-26 at Aberdeen Park. Johnson thanked the Board and invited all to attend the field day.

County Hiring Freeze Exemptions

In May, the Board of Commissioners approved a hiring freeze requested by Commissioner Craig Kennedy. However, during Tuesday's meeting, the Board approved several exemptions to the freeze, including: a resource compact operator in the Solid waste department; a custodian and two technicians in Property Management; and a water pollution control plant operator in Public Works.

County Manager, Cary McSwain presented the Board with a request to consider funding a Budget Director Position for the County that would have a salary of \$73,000 a year. The Board did not vote on the matter, but will discuss it further to see if eliminating financial consulting work could help pay for such a position.

Chairman Nick Picerno noted that, if the position is

added, the finance department would be receiving a forty three percent increase to its budget in two years. That increase includes \$1 million spent on an enterprise resource planning [ERP] system two years ago.

Planning Matters

The Board on Tuesday held one public hearing and called another for June 21 on a \$70,000 grant through the 2011 Individual Development Account CDBG program. Moore County Planner Tim Emmert explained that the program began in 2009 with a two-phase commitment made by the Board of Commissioners in partnership with Northern Moore Family Resource Center.

The Board approved a request by Emmert to award one bid and one housing rehab contract for \$8,600 to M.S. Thompson Rentals. This is the second to last home the County is committed to

serving under this grant program.

As requested by Commissioner Craig Kennedy, Emmert presented the Board with detailed information relating to the function of the Community Development Process, the applicants to the program, and those served. Twenty-nine applicants requesting aid have been served under the Community Development Process.

Inmate Healthcare

The Board approved a request by Chief Deputy Neil Godfrey to amend Southern Health Partners contract for medical care services to inmates at the Detention Center from \$177,000 to \$180,000.

The per diem per inmate rate will remain the same at \$1.75 per inmate per day based on 130 inmates. The County has budgeted inmate services at \$200,000 for next year. Southern Health has

provided health care to inmates since 2006.

Other Business

In other business at their Tuesday, June 7 meeting, The Board of Commissioners:

- Approved a request by District Attorney Maureen Krueger for a cash match of \$9,800 for a Governor's Crime Commission Grant. The District Attorney's office was awarded a \$150,000 grant from the Governor's Crime Commission for an investigator and a victim/witness advocate for a two year period.
- Approved Chief Financial Officer Carrie H. Neal's request to finance the purchase of two roll-off trash trucks from Triple T Parts & Equipment Company, with

\$244,000 in financing from BB&T.

- Approved the continued use of Simmons and Simmons Management to provide grinding services for yard debris and leaf and limb material.
- Approved CAL-FLO Lime Slurry from Burnett Lime Company at the Addor Water Pollution Control Plant.
- Appropriated \$1.2 million for the radio read meters project.

Appointments

The following appointments were approved by the Board at Tuesday, June 8 meeting:

- Carla Williams to a three year term to HR Appeals.
- Joan Cook to a three year term to the Library Board of Trustees

(See "County," p. 26)

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SLLA meeting

(Continued from page 3)

it makes the whole community look better.”

Northsider Rich Scott, husband of former Director Melinda Scott, also expressed respect for Davenport's work and questioned the intentions of the four freshmen Board members that were seated in the Annual Meeting election: Darr, Meyer, and Directors Don Fentzlaff and Bob Racine.

“You ran on a uniform platform and agenda that criticized the previous Board and said you were committed to two things: One, get rid of Davenport and two, get rid of Talis Management Group,” said Scott.

Continuing, he noted that since being seated, Darr had indicated that Davenport was doing a great job, an opinion Scott shared, and he anticipated that a review of Talis and Cochran's performance would yield a similar result.

“I felt you were quick in terms of your comments,” he said. “I'd like to recom-

mend that you evaluate things before moving to judgment.” He added that Director Bud Shaver showed foresight in his comments early in the process that the Board should check performance before making a rash decision.

“We can't afford to pay people and have a disproportionate amount of time spent on supervision and paid benefits,” Scott said. “I am a supporter of outsourcing and have seen some positive things as a result of them.”

Darr responded that the election campaign waged by the four incoming Directors stated their interest in a critical review of Talis Management — not a desire to end the contract.

“We did not run by saying that what we are after is to get rid of Talis,” Darr said. “We said we want to look at whether we're getting a bang for our buck. And that is ongoing as we speak . . . and I expect will be ongoing as long as Talis is here, which could be forever. They are here, they are our managing company, and our job is to evaluate that and make them the best they can be. That is the best we can ask for.”

On the Davenport issue, Darr said the incoming Board had reviewed the contract and determined that it is solid and cannot be undone unless the contractor fails

to meet their obligation.

“The only way to go back to not having Davenport is if they screw up,” Darr said, “and they are obviously not doing that. My issue was dollars — not their performance.”

Finance

Treasurer Meyer distributed a preliminary year-end balance sheet, noting that information is not complete as all accounts had not been updated and closed out. In addition he said that accumulated depreciation had not yet been adjusted.

Any excess monies left over from the current fiscal year are automatically rolled into the reserve fund set aside for next year. Cochran estimated that rollover would amount to \$163,506.

Cochran said she used a “buffer account” set up by the previous Finance Committee to cover unforeseen expenses last year, including the roof repairs at the stables and North Clubhouse, new window casings at the Clubhouse due to termite damage, and resurfacing and re-striping the basketball court.

In a quick summary of budget variances, she noted a decrease in salaries for security and maintenance, reflecting outsourcing decisions made last year that were off-set by increases to

contracted services. There was also a variance noted under repair and maintenance expenses related to a theft incident.

Continuing the financial report, Meyer said the committee reviewed the member collection policy initiated by the previous Board and has received feedback from the Association's attorney. The policy will be presented for discussion at an upcoming Work Session.

Looking ahead, Meyer said he will be meeting with Talis representatives to specifically discuss a few ongoing financial issues.

“It's nothing critical,” he explained, “more just a discussion about how we will handle some things in the future.”

Architectural Review

The Board voted unani-

mously Wednesday night to appoint former Director Donna Stephan to serve on the Architectural Review Board [ARB], a committee that she previously chaired. Stephan resigned from the panel in early 2008 following a flap with her fellow Board members over a published statement in *The Times* concerning who should determine the fate of the five-acre old driving range owned by the Seven Lakes Country Club.

While that land has remained vacant over the last few years, the Club announced early in 2011 that a buyer for the tract had been identified and, in February, an amended agreement between the Association and the Club was signed.

In nominating Stephan, ARB Director Don Fentzlaff

(See “SLLA,” p. 27)

County

(Continued from page 25)

• Bryan Phillips, Scot Brooks, and Wayne Kennedy for a three year period to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, with Scot Brooks serving a one year term as the Chairman.

• Shirley Baldwin to a three year term on the Nursing and Adult Care Home CAC

• CC Edse to the Social Services Board for a three year term.

• The following individuals to the Transportation Advisory Board: Patrick Coughlin, Charles McDowell, Terri Prots, Wendy Russell, Jeremy Rust, Teshauna McCormick, Denise Conn, Linda Wallace, and Janice Alt.

• Richard Gerdes to the Town of Pinebluff Planning Board- Board of Adjustment as an ETJ alternate.

The Board tabled until its June 21 meeting a proposed reappointment of Planning Board Chair Martha Blake and member Les Murray.

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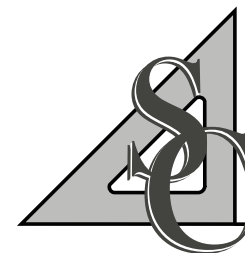


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SLLA meeting

(Continued from page 26)

explained that she has volunteered to recuse herself from any negotiations or votes related to development of the old driving range, if necessary.

Stephan will replace long-standing ARB member and former Director Sally Kindsvatter, who is moving to Ohio in June.

"We are sorry to see Sally go," said Fentzlaff. "She has always been on top of everything, and we will miss her help. We wish her well."

In the previous month, ARB granted approval for one new siding project, a new roof, a garage addition, a house repainting project, and conditional approval was given for construction of a new home. In addition, ARB denied two applications for insufficient information.

Lakes & Dams

Murky water continues to be a visible concern at Echo Dam, but the issue may be more cosmetic than problematic, reported Director Fentzlaff.

He said that vegetation has been cleared from the site and water samples taken and sent to S&ME for analysis.

"They don't think feel it is a major problem at all, and we hope to get final results from them very soon," Fentzlaff said.

SLLA President Darr agreed and said S&ME is exploring whether a catch basin that is full of silt and located higher on the dam could be causing the cloudy water. If so, he said, the fire department may be able to assist in blowing debris from the catch basin.

Continuing his report, Fentzlaff thanked the members of the recently reformed Lakes & Dams Committee for their work, particularly in taking piezometer readings over the last two weeks. Those members are Les Sommers, George Temple, Rodney Godwin, Jean Alfano, Mike Pennington, Jim Allen, Vince Ulrich, Don Truesdell, and Fentzlaff.

He explained that regular piezometer readings help

determine a baseline of the water level in each dam.

"The readings looked pretty good compared to S&ME readings taken earlier this year," Fentzlaff reported. "I really appreciate the committee going around and testing these dry wells. It was very hot and we put in a heck of a day to complete all the readings."

He also noted that lake water quality was tested this month, though results have not yet been received.

The Lakes & Dams Committee is continuing discussion about installing a sign detailing boating rules at the Lake Sequoia boat launch.

Later in the meeting, Director Keyser reported that several buoys near the Sequoia Beach area were sinking. In discussion, the Board recommended a review of an approved map of buoy locations that has been used successfully in previous years.

Recreation

Summer recreation and programming is kicking into high gear with SLLA Day Camp, Horse Camp, Seven Lakes Sting Rays Swim Team, swim lessons, and more all on track for the coming months.

"Alina [Cochran] has done a great job and put together a terrific bulletin of recreational activities," reported Director Bob Racine.

The Northside Pool opened for the season on Friday, May 27 at 3:30 pm, adhering to an abbreviated schedule until June 13. The recreation

bulletin includes a comprehensive listing of pool hours. The bulletin is posted in the community mailrooms, available at the SLLA office, and will be distributed by email.

The Seven Lakes Sting Rays Swim Team is back this year under the direction of Coach Barbara Keating, beginning June 6. Twice a week practices will be held Monday and Wednesday, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, and Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 am - 11:30 am. Resident cost is \$60 per child, \$40 any additional; Non-resident cost is \$75 per child, \$55 any additional. In addition, swim lessons begin June 13 with beginners on Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 - 10:30 am, and intermediate on Monday and Wednesday, 6 - 7 pm.

Water aerobics will be held Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 9:15 am. There is no charge to attend.

SLLA Summer Day Camp will be held Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. This well-supervised program will include games, sports, and craft activities. Cost is \$10 per day for residents, \$12 per day for non-residents. Drop-ins are welcome and children ages five and up may attend.

Three week-long Horse Camps will be held starting June 13, June 18, and July 25, for children ages nine and up. Camp is held at the stables from 8:00 am to 10:00 am and space is limited. Reservations are a must.

Trail and pony rides at the stables are available all Sum-

mer, weather permitting. Please call 673-4738 for reservations.

During public comment,

Northsider Ron Erskine directed attention to an alarming amount of weeds

(See "SLLA," p. 28)



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Seven Lakes, NC



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9:00 am - 7:00 pm

SLLA meeting

(Continued from page 27)

that is growing through the tiled surface on the tennis courts.

Cochran responded that a work order has been issued and noted the problem is difficult to control because the slab underneath the tiles was not adequately prepared when the new surface was installed.

In a related discussion over the fading color of that surface, Keyser recommended caution that the weed killer utilized did not further damage or fade the tiles.

He said the company who installed the tile had been contacted and they said the fading was due to the sun and there was nothing they could do about it.

"They didn't stand behind their product," said Keyser.

Racine encouraged any members with new ideas for recreational events or those interested in serving on the Recreation Committee to attend the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, June 1 at 9:30 am.

Community Standards

A draft of a new, more user-friendly inspection form that will speed up the process of reporting violations has been under discussion by the Community Standards Committee, reported Director Racine. In addition, he said the committee is also recommending extending the grace period to correct alleged violations from seven days to fourteen days.

Looking for input, Racine took a straw poll of members present at the meeting, asking whether they would prefer that first contact noting an alleged violation on your property be in written letter form, as is the current policy, or through the more personal contact of a telephone call, as was the previous policy.

Reserve Study

Director Bud Shaver reported he completed a proposed cluster plan approach to paving that recommended

initially paving secondary roads in a given area, then the primary roads, which would prevent unnecessary damage to the main arteries as different areas were paved.

He recommended the next step is for the Executive Committee of the Board to meet with a paving contractor prior to selecting an engineering firm that will provide consulting services during the bidding and construction phases of the project.

Shaver said that some of the roads will require heavy asphalt replacement, while others only need an overlay of new pavement.

He also recommended that any paving project should include a realignment of the entrance gates with dedicated turn lanes from each exit.

Communication

Continuing in his ongoing effort to improve communications with members, SLLA President Darr said he has reviewed how information is disseminated in the Seven

Lakes West community and is looking for a chairman for a communications committee. In particular, he noted the Westside has a system that is useful in generating emergency messages to all residents.

In addition, Darr encouraged residents to attend the monthly Work Session and noted that significant discussion is held during those meetings and public input is welcome.

The next SLLA Work Session will be held on Monday, June 13 at 7:00 pm at the Game Room; and the SLLA Town Hall meeting will be held on Monday, June 20 at 7:00 pm at the North Clubhouse.

Fire Hydrants

Special thanks were extended to the Seven Lakes Fire Department for their work in repainting the communities fire hydrants.

Speaking to *The Times*, Firefighter Steve Cox explained that all fire

hydrants in the Seven Lakes business village, and Seven Lakes North and South were painted bright red.

"We wanted to give them a more uniform appearance, and it makes them easier to spot," said Cox.

In addition, fire hydrants are also marked by blue reflectors in the roadway which make them easy to locate when it is dark.

Other Business

In other business on Wednesday, May 25, the SLLA Board:

- Accepted the resignation of Judicial Committee member Ken Keating and unanimously appointed Jane Lowe to serve in his place. Director Shaver drew attention to a possible conflict of interest since Lowe's husband serves on the SLLA Board of Directors; however, no comment or concerns were raised. Dick Weber was appointed as an alternate member of the Board.

- Heard from Darr that

mediation of a legal matter required immediate action and a Closed Session of the Board was called last week. "We met and made a decision . . . I am not at liberty to tell you what the legal concern was about, but the issue has been almost entirely resolved," reported Darr, noting that some paperwork was still in process.

- Heard from Darr that a new public address system was purchased for the North Clubhouse. He thanked Director Lowe for his assistance with the project.

- Heard from Shaver that Cochran has been in contact with the NC Department of Transportation to reinstall the blinking safety light along Seven Lakes Drive. He also thanked her for compiling a reference library of rules and guidelines that the Board must follow to comply with state regulations.

- Tabled an approval of meeting minutes pending a more comprehensive review by Secretary Racine.

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June 10, 2011

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1tp 6/10

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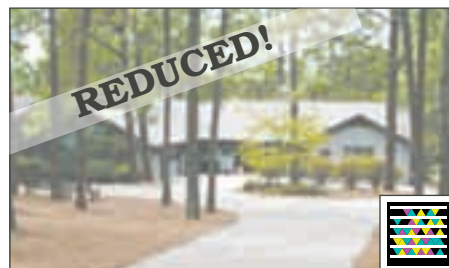
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