

## Echo Dam may need more repairs

*Cost awaits engineer's diagnosis*

by Laura Douglass  
 Times Reporter



Lakes and dams issues dominated discussion during the Monday, September 12 Work Session of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association (SLLA) Board of Directors; but information

of water samples, the engineering firm recently reported that the discoloration is, in fact, the result of malfunctioning drains buried along the dam face.

"The problem is: we don't really know what the problem is," said SLLA President Bob Darr. "And frankly, that is quite scary."

*"The problem is, we don't really know what the problem is. And frankly, that is quite scary."*

— SLLA President Bob Darr

was sparse on the most pressing concern — potential repairs that may be necessary at Echo Dam.

A discolored plume of murky water where Echo Dam feeds into Lake Sequoia has been a longstanding worry for those concerned with the lakes. Earlier this year, the Board brought the problem to the attention of dam engineer S&ME, which, at least initially, described the problem as more of a cosmetic issue.

But, after careful analysis,

He said samples taken by S&ME indicate that sand is in the water. The questions that have yet to be answered are: Where is it coming from? And what will be required to fix it?

Darr said that he has been in frequent communication with S&ME engineers, that state agencies have been informed, and that he anticipated a conference call this week to further discuss findings and possible remedies.

Seven Lakes first learned

(See "SLLA Work," p. 33)

## A Good Deed, Indeed



**Devan Krieger and Grayson Oldham of West End Boy Scouts Pack 98 served up some needed refreshment at the 2011 Fall Meet the Merchants Event sponsored by the Seven Lakes Business Guild.**

## Pine Forest order approved

Water & wastewater pacts still pending

by Stacy Naughton  
 Times Reporter



The Board Order finalizing the Pine Forest PUD rezoning was approved by the Moore County Board of Commissioners in a three to one vote during their Tuesday, September 6 regular meeting.

With that decision, developer MHK, Inc. clears a major hurdle that stood in the way of developing the property. But still on the to-do list are agreements that will bring county water to the 1,600-acre golf community and allow the developer to build

the county's first private wastewater treatment plant.

With Commissioner Larry Caddell recused from the Pine Forest proceedings, the remaining four Commissioners worked through some suggested amendments to the Board Order, which were presented by County Attorney Misty Leland.

Commissioner Tim Lea supported the suggested additions to the order, but, in the end, the Board voted — with Lea in opposition — to discard the amendments and keep the Board Order in its original form.

The proposed amendments would have required Pine

Forest developer MHK and the county to finalize the pending water, sewer, and wastewater treatment agreements within one year of the approval of the Board Order. If the agreements were not made within that time frame, the property would revert back to its original zoning.

"I disagree with the time limits reverting after a year," Commissioner Craig Kennedy said, arguing that the Board Order should be about the rezoning — not a time limit.

Chairman Nick Picerno said that the water, sewer, and wastewater treatment plant agreements have not been

(See "Commissioners," p. 31)

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# Meet the Merchants fit well in new location

by Darrell Marks, President  
Seven Lakes Business Guild

The Annual Fall Meet the Merchants was deemed a success by the Seven Lakes Business Guild because it clearly established that its new meeting place in front of Phoenix Fashions would work for any size event they choose to hold.

A spacious midway was circled by booths offering much of what is available in Seven Lakes and afforded new residents and old alike the chance to experience a condensed version of what is here in a convenient way.

It is now apparent to the Guild that there is quite a large group of local crafters and home based entrepreneurs, offering everything from hand made leathers, jewelry, stained glass, and pottery to custom picture framing and "how to" workshops, who can benefit from the Guild's efforts to arrange these street fairs.

## Next Up: Chili Cook Off!

The Seven Lakes Area Busi-

ness Guild is also happy to announce that after an eighteen month hiatus in order to "change seasons" the Chili Cook Off is back and ready to get things stirring in the community. The date is for Saturday, October 8, from 11 am to 2 pm. It will be held in the parking area in front of the Brick Oven Bistro, Phoenix Fashions and Casa Garcia.

Anyone who is especially proud of their chili is invited to contact Kim Tew at Jubilee

Screen Printing, 673-4240. Chili recipes from local restaurants, community groups and businesses will be pitted against each other in a friendly competition to determine who has the "best."

Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place as decreed by a panel of gastronomically fearless judges, a people's choice and the best decorated booth and of course local bragging rights go to the winners.

Booth space is free to Guild

members, and \$35 for non-members. There is a \$20 fee to enter the chili contest.

In addition to the Chili Cook Off, there will be corn hole tournament also offering cash prizes. The cost to enter is \$15 for a two-man team. You must register in advance, but payment will be the day of the tournament.

If you've heard of corn hole before but never had an

opportunity to play, here is your chance. It's easy, it's fun and no previous experience is necessary!

If you have questions, would like to enter your world famous chili or just want to promote your business or your favorite cause, call Kim or Judy at JuBilee Screen Print 673-4240 or you can e-mail [judy@jubileescreenprint.com](mailto:judy@jubileescreenprint.com).

## POW/MIA Remembrance

In honor of National POW/MIA Day, Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America will conduct a remembrance ceremony at the Moore County Veterans Memorial Park in Carthage on Friday, September 16 at 6 pm. The POW/MIA Ceremony is a dignified and solemn tribute to former prisoners of war and remembers those who are

still listed as missing in action.

Union Pines High School Navy ROTC Color Guard will present the colors. There will be a short ceremony including the POW/MIA table setting, reading of Reflections, the reading of names of North Carolina POW/MIA and the laying of a wreath.

The public is welcome to attend this memorial event.

## Chapel Rummage Sale

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Annual Rummage Sale will be held at the Old Gym in West End on Saturday, October 15. The doors will open at 8 am. Contributions will be accepted on Thursday, October 13, from 12:00 noon to 4 pm and Friday, October 14, from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon.

All proceeds will benefit the Empty Stocking Fund. Because of the large volume

of furniture items that have been collected The Chapel will not be selling clothing at this sale. Any clothes that are donated will be boxed up for the Salvation Army.

If you have not volunteered and would like to help please call Butch Allen, 673-3312 or Don Truesdell, 673-1970. Thank you very much to all of you who do volunteer to help make this event such a big success.

## CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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Nov 17*	Nov 25
Dec 2	Dec 9
Dec 15*	Dec 23

\*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.



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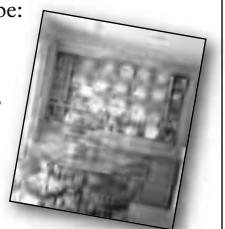


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# Eltschlager recommends lower speed limit

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter



The Foxfire Village speed limit is 35 MPH, unless otherwise posted.

The problem is that many of the interior roads within the community are not appropriately marked with a slower speed sign. Technically, that allows motorists to drive up to the 35 MPH limit on these residential streets, Councilman John Eltschlager reported to the Village Council on Tuesday, September 13.

Rather than purchasing and installing new 25 MPH signs at each unmarked road, Eltschlager recommended reducing the overall Village speed limit to "25 MPH unless otherwise posted."

Such a change would not impact the state-maintained arteries of Hoffman and Richmond Roads, which criss-cross the Village. A request submitted last year to reduce these road speeds from 40 to 35 MPH was denied by the NC Department of Transportation [NCDOT].

Eltschlager also recommended that the speed limit be reduced to 25 MPH along the entire length of Shamrock Road.

Shamrock is currently posted at 35 MPH, except where the road crosses the dam causeway. Eltschlager explained that the road Shamrock is a particular safety concern for multiple reasons, including the golf course cart path crossing, the Village Green Park entrance, and because it intersects with Bobolink Road and other interior roads posted with slower speed limits.

## Stop sign request

During a similar discussion

of safety and speeding concerns later in the meeting, Councilwoman Leslie Frusco recommended that the Yield at the intersection of Tie Road and Foxfire Road should be upgraded to a Stop sign.

Reporting that she narrowly avoided a major collision at that location recently, Frusco said, in her experience, few

heed the sign appropriately.

"People going through the Yield are hardly slowing down at all, she said. "At least if we had a Stop sign there, they might slow to a rolling stop if nothing else. From a safety standpoint, this should be evaluated by DOT."

Noting that there were several unresolved safety issues,

including a discussion of proposed raised paint markings at the Hoffman and Richmond Road intersection, Councilman Eltschlager said he would follow up Frusco's suggestion with the local NCDOT office.

## 'Western Connector' plans

An on-again, off-again discussion of the "Western Connector" road is back on again.

A special workshop meeting to specifically discuss the proposed bypass has been called for Wednesday, September 21 at the Agricultural Center in Carthage, announced Mayor George Erickson, who will attend on behalf of Foxfire Village.

In addition, two more workshop meetings have been called to discuss the proposed Hwy 24/27 bypass around Carthage and improvements to US Hwy 1.

"Our goal by the end of the year, or shortly thereafter, is we must come up with a plan for each of these three projects. Erickson said. "We have been told by DOT that, if Moore County keeps stalling — as has been in the past — at some point, DOT is going to come in and make the decision on how to resolve these areas."

Responding to a question from Councilman Mick McCue regarding the place-

(See "Foxfire," p. 29)

## Tootsie Time!



Seth Clark of J&L Home Services spent a little quality time with Tootsie while working on a recent project in McLendon Hills. (That's Seth on the right.)

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# Board wants input on replacing Purser

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor



Moore County Schools [MCS] needs a new superintendent, and they want your help in identifying the right candidate for the job.

Dr. Susan Purser, who has led MCS for the past seven years, announced her decision to retire from the superintendent's post at the end of December. The Moore County Board of Education has retained the North Carolina School Boards Association [NCSBA] to help them navigate the process of finding a replacement.

And the Association has put a survey online to gather input from the community on the key characteristics and qualifications they want to see in the next MCS superintendent.

"The more response and the more input we can get, the better our decision will be," School Board Chair Laura Lang told *The Times* after the Monday, September 12 Board of Education meeting.

"This is not just for parents," Dr. Purser added. "We want to hear from our volunteers, industry, and others in the community."

Data from the survey goes straight to the NCSBA, not to the local school system.

"The surveys are completely confidential," Lang emphasized during the meeting.

Links to the online survey can be found on the MCS home page at [ncmcs.org](http://ncmcs.org).

Community members without internet access can pick up a paper survey at the MCS offices on NC Highway 15-501 in Carthage. Or they can pick up a survey form at one of a series of meetings School Board members will be hosting throughout the county to explain the superintendent search process.

Those meetings, which Lang described as more information sessions than forums

for feedback, will be held Monday, September 19, at West Pine Middle School and Union Pines High School and on Tuesday, September 27 at Southern Middle School and North Moore High School. All meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

"The School Board Association focused us on using these meetings to try to get as many surveys as possible completed," Lang said. Explaining the decision to use surveys rather than public forums, she added, "It's very important that we [all members of the School Board] hear the same information from the community."

There's a separate survey for MCS staff members, who were emailed a link last week. Purser said the Board expects to have excellent response from staff; another online survey garnered a ninety-eight percent response rate. The greater challenge will be increasing input from the larger community.

All surveys must be completed by October 1 to be included in the results the Board will use in its superintendent selection process.

## Fast Track Process

That selection process is on a very fast track. Lang laid out the schedule during Monday's Board meeting, with the goal of having selected a new superintendent by the end of this year.

The NCSBA is already advertising the opening nationally. The community and staff surveys are in the field, and community meetings are scheduled for this month. Staff meetings will be held in all twenty-three system schools during September to encourage participation in the survey process. Results from both surveys are expected in early October. Applications for the position are available on the MCS website, with a deadline of October 17.

"This is going to be a very (See "School Board," p.18)



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# Mayor Erickson chairs United Way campaign

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

A lifelong educator and dedicated public servant, George Erickson of Foxfire Village is tackling one of his biggest projects to date, serving as chairman of the 2011-2012 United Way of Moore County annual campaign.

With a goal of \$580,000 to be raised between now and the end of February, Erickson explained, the campaign kicked off successfully last week with a 'Day of Caring' event that involved over on hundred volunteers from throughout the community, who worked on projects at

visited various partnering agencies.

A member of the United Way since the early 1980s, Erickson first assisted the organization while working in the Ohio and Michigan school systems as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. After relocating to North Carolina, he served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Moore County from 2000 to 2006 and has also chaired the Review and Allocations Committee.

"It is about working with good people who are doing good things for those in need," Erickson said, explaining why he has been so dedicated to the United Way for over twenty-eight years.

Last year's financial campaign goal of \$575,000 was met, despite the poor economy, a success he attributes to the many good, caring people in this area who are willing to work hard. In particular he praised the Pace Setter organizations involved with the campaign, including FirstHealth and the Moore County Schools system, which had 100 percent participation from their staff.

"We have many who are very supportive of us," he said, "people who are willing to help other people."

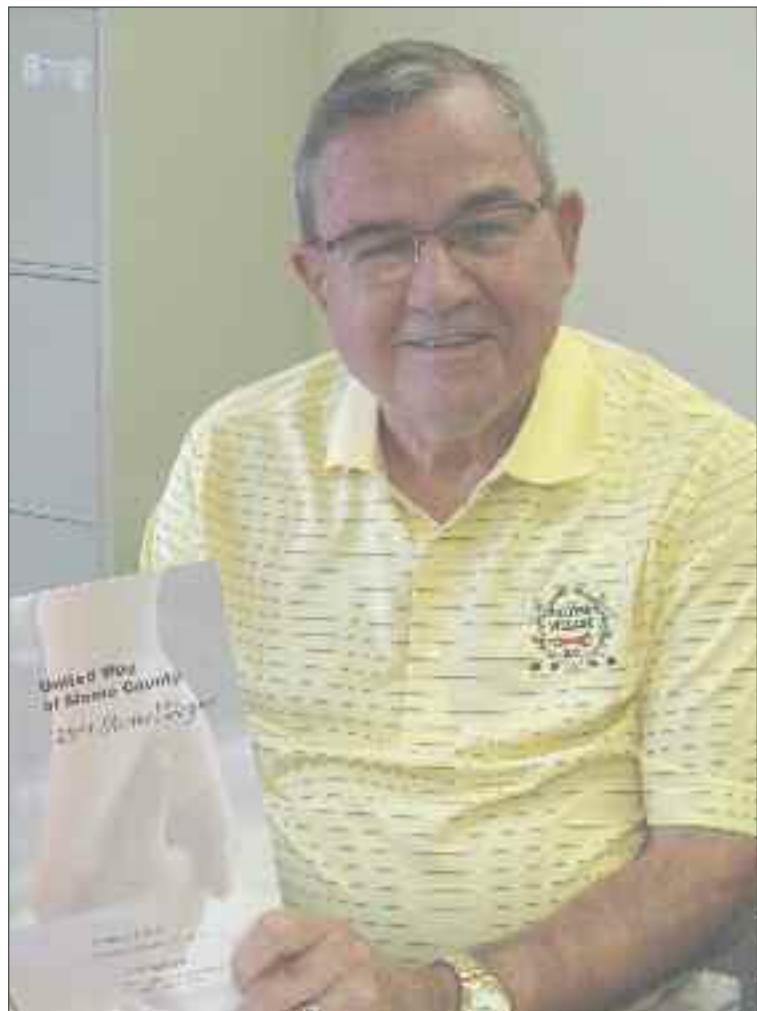
Erickson himself is certainly one of those, with a long and exemplary record of public

service. In addition to his work with United Way and occasional substitute teaching at Episcopal Day School, Erickson has served as the Mayor of Foxfire Village since 2005, following his appointment to the Council in 2003. In November, he is running for reelection to serve another four-year term.

"A lot of people think that Moore County is just all these retired folks, but that is not the case at all," he said.

The United Way of Moore County supports a broad spectrum of agencies that touch many lives and extend throughout the area, including after school programs, scouting organizations, Meals on Wheels, adult literacy programs, domestic abuse assistance, and many more.

For a full list of partner agencies or more information on the United Way, please call 692-2413 or visit [www.unitedwaymoore.com](http://www.unitedwaymoore.com).



Foxfire Mayor George Erickson





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# SLLA Lot Audit produces some surprises

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter



"The community maps we often use aren't as accurate as you might think they are," Treasurer Conrad Meyer reported during the Wednesday, August 31 meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors.

However, that was not the most surprising result gleaned from a recent internal audit of all 1,600 lots in the community.

Information collected during the lot audit also revealed that only one of the four Moore County abandoned well sites located within the community has been properly deeded back to the Association.

"The well site near the SLLA office has been deeded back, but the two sites near the North Gate and one at Sequoia Point still show Moore County as the owner," Meyer said. "I think people were told that this was all taken care of, and it really wasn't."

It was in the Fall of 2009 that those abandoned well sites last came to the attention of the Board, because of their proximity to key common areas. At the time, the Board was debating — and ultimately approved in a five-to-two vote a new Bylaw that placed the community's four largest common areas — the stables, soccer field, Northside Park around the offices and clubhouse, and Sequoia Point — under deed restrictions which limit any future Board's ability to sell the land except by a super majority vote of six of seven directors.

At the time, the Board was told the the well sites had been deeded back to the community.

"I also learned that there are a lot more combined lots in the community than we thought," Meyer continued. "Approximately 165 of them."

Based on information gathered during the lot audit, Meyer is working with Moore

County's GIS Department [Geographic Information Systems] to generate a better map of the community for use by administration and residents.

He also recommended that a clear policy and procedure for combining and un-combining lots should be formalized.

"There has been a policy used in the past," Meyer said, "but we have not been able to find it in writing."

Meyer also noted that septic lots have not been well-documented, adding that a review of all non-residential lots will be necessary to ensure proper annual dues billing.

## Award-winning community

Seven Lakes North & South will be honored as a "Community of Distinction" by the North Carolina Chapter of the Community Associations Institute [CAI-NC] at their September 23 annual conference in Raleigh.

Nominated by Community Manager Alina Cochran, she announced the award at the Wednesday, August 31 meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Open Meeting.

"The application was reviewed by out-of-state judges who are fellow professionals in the industry," Cochran said. "It is great to see our community recognized."

## Kudos to SLLA Directors & Committee members

Later in the meeting, long-time SLLA Director Bud Shaver took time to recognize his fellow directors and committee volunteers.

"Last Spring, we got four new Board members and, in the very first meeting, several were seated as new officers [filling the executive ranks of President, Treasurer, and Secretary] — which created some consternation," Shaver said.

"My assessment of what has taken place since then is that these Board members — Meyer, Racine, and Fentlaff — have each worked

their buns off and have addressed many longstanding problem areas and much has been accomplished."

"And what [SLLA President]

Darr has done, is he has opened up the Board and provided information to the community," he said, noting that Board members take

their lead from the President. "This board has accomplished much, and that is because of the members that serve

(See "SLLA," p. 20)

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# Finding the Gospel in the music of U2

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

*One life with each other  
Sisters, brothers, one life  
But we're not the same  
We get to carry each other*  
— "One," U2

Go on a spiritual journey and have the chance to listen to God's hidden voice in the songs you love during an eight-week study of the music of U2, held on Sunday evenings at The Chapel in the Pines starting September 25 at 6:00 pm.

"The fascinating thing about U2 is that they are a Christian band that are not a Christian band," explained The Rev. Don Welch, who will lead the study. "They understand themselves really as interpreting life under God — and I really think they have a lot to say."

Formed in 1976 in Dublin, Ireland, U2 is one of the world's most recognized bands, with over 150 million albums sold and 22 Grammy awards. In addition to significant philanthropic work and their critical and commercial success, the band is noted for their lyrical content, which frequently targets social and political concerns with Christian imagery and spirituality.

"The popularity of U2 over the last thirty years kind of confounds the hierarchy of the churches," Welch said. "It really is reaching people. But we're talking about four guys who don't belong to 'a church' but are communicating the Christian gospel."

Beginning on Sunday evening, September 25 and continuing through mid-November, the Chapel's U2 study is open to people of all faith traditions — or none at all — and to fans of the band and those who have never listened to their music.

Songs to be discussed include "Forty," "Tomorrow," "Love Rescued Me," "Drowning Man," "The Wanderer," "One," "Mysterious Way," and "Vertigo," though other favorite U2 songs may be as desired.

Lyric sheets will be handed

out to allow participants to follow along with the music.

"People will be encouraged to relate these lyrics to their own life experiences and share those with others so that we might hold each other up," Welch said. "In U2's own

words, we get to carry each other."

There is no fee to participate, no pre-registration is necessary, and attendees do not have to commit to the entire eight-week program.

A concurrent children's

program is available for kids aged four to twelve to enjoy creative games and crafts in

a well-supervised environment. For more information, please call 400-5396.



*The Reverend Don Welch will take participants on a musical — and faithful — journey through the music of U2 in an upcoming eight-week series of classes.*



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Crafts and skills demonstrated at the festival include pottery, basket making, woodworking, blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, soap and candle making and fringe tying.

Farm animals will fill the stable; pony and wagon rides will be available for the young and young-at-heart. Folk and country musicians and dancers will entertain during the event.

In the meadow, Civil War reenactment troops will be

encamped and steam engines will be demonstrated.

Here's the schedule:

**Saturday, September 24**

10 am – 6 pm, Crafters and Demonstrators, continuous music, storytelling, gas and steam engine demos, Civil War camp, hay rides, pony rides and farm animals.

**Sunday, September 25**

12 noon – 5 pm, Crafters and Demonstrators, continuous music, storytelling, gas and steam engine demos, Civil War camp, hay rides, pony rides and farm animals and more entertainment

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# Dave Kinney honored by County Planning Board

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Longtime member and former Vice Chair Dave Kinney was recognized by the Moore County Planning Board for his service during the Thursday, September 8 meeting.

"I can't tell you how much I learned — and I hope I really did make a contribution to the betterment of Moore County," said Kinney.

Offering some parting advice to the Planning Board, he recommended that serious consideration should be given to appearance issues, specifically noting concerns over perpendicular strip malls and buffer areas.

"Describing buffers by width does not cover the issue of being opaque, which is what they are supposed to be," he explained.

Kinney suggested the Planning Board would communicate and work more effectively as a team if they knew one another better, and recommended casual dinners together before meetings.

In addition to his service on the Planning Board and serving as Chairman of the Small Planning Area A Steering Committee, Kinney also presided over the Seven Lakes Country Club for four years, and was a ten-year member and former President of the

Seven Lakes Civic Group. Still active in his new community, Kinney told *The Times* he was recently elected President of the Belle Meade Residents Association.

## Unified Development Ordinance

Continuing an ongoing comprehensive review of the proposed Unified Development Ordinance [UDO], the Planning Board discussed sections related to watershed overlay districts, flood prevention, wireless communications facilities, manufactured home parks, and intensive swine farms.

Alluding to Dave Kinney's recommendation earlier in the meeting on buffers, Chair Robert Hayter said the UDO should include several terms and definitions covering the terms "buffer," "vegetative buffer," and "screen." He explained that each has a unique and distinct meaning in policy use.

The discussion focused primarily on minor reorganization of language to ease use and readability; however, under wireless communication, staff did recommend a change to make expansion of existing antenna arrays permitted by right rather than requiring a conditional use permit.

Planner Robert Farrell explained there are two different issues related to wireless communications facilities — expansion and replacement. Currently, a replacement array is permitted by right. In recommending that expansion requests also be permitted by right, Farrell said, in those cases, the antenna is already in place, so there would be little impact from an expansion that doesn't change the size or appearance of the structure.

## Swine Farms

The permit for an intensive swine farm is currently issued to the farmer and does not attach to the property.

Board Member Rodney Pickler expressed concern that this could prevent an aging farmer from selling the farming operation in order to protect the family's investment. He recommended that there should be a process to legally transfer the permit.

The Board will discuss the Planned Unit Development and Subdivisions sections of the UDO during a workshop held at the Moore County Agricultural Center on September 22 at 6:00 pm.



Retiring Planning Board Member Dave Kinney with Chairman Robert Hayter

 <b>Bright Meadow Christian Preschool</b>	 <b>Kool Kids AFTER SCHOOL CARE</b>
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**Saturday, October 15th 2011, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

We will be serving sandwiches and drinks and are raffling off 3 gift certificates to the “Italian Table” restaurant. You also have the chance to get a free wall calendar (while supply lasts).

**Come and celebrate with us!**

# That's Life! and change.

In 1966, Frank Sinatra belted out the lyrics to *That's Life*:

*"That's life, that's what all the people say  
You're ridin' high in April,  
shot down in May  
But I know I'm gonna change  
that tune  
When I'm back on top, back  
on top in June..."*

The lyrics reflect the ebb and flow of change and the positive affirmation that things will get better. Change has been a part of our lives since the day we were born, defining not only who we are, but who we become.

Try to imagine life without change? The word "boring" quickly comes to mind.

Change can be great fun: the joy of a family reunion, a new great-grandchild, or breaking 100 on the golf course. It can also bring disappointment, anxiety, and worry.

Changes that cause a negative emotional reaction are often based in fear, because change has the habit of catapulting us into decisions we are not ready to make, emotions we are not ready to experience, or situations we would prefer to put off or ignore.

Fear is an innate human emotion and survival mechanism. It tells us when something is wrong, dangerous, or potentially threatening. Sometimes, when we are faced with change, this survival mechanism blindly kicks in leaving us with apprehension and anxiety as change requires us to face the unknown, move outside of our comfort zone, and open ourselves up to unfamiliar people or situations.

If the process of change is "guilty" of one thing, it is ageism. When change arrives on an older person's doorstep, it often comes suddenly, swiftly, and tends to alter his or her life more significantly than for younger folks.

For example, a fall resulting in a broken leg can significantly alter a senior's life — especially if they are living

alone, whereas the same break in a teenager can be viewed as an eight-week nuisance.

When change is afoot and fear or anxiety has taken hold, it is often helpful to ask yourself a series of questions in an effort to explore the situation in a logical and methodical manner.



## Spanning Generations

Dr. Melinda Spohn

1. Define the change (be specific).
2. What are my apprehensions or fears, and are they realistic?
3. How will this change affect me, my spouse, and my family?
4. What am I feeling? (anger, sadness, fear, joy, relief)
5. Why should I consider this change?
6. Do I have some say in this change?
7. How can I remain part of the decision-making?
8. How might I benefit from

this change?

9. Who can help me during or after this change? (family, friends, church)

10. If I can't completely accept this change, can I flow with it?

Flowing with change is a reasonable option if one cannot comfortably cope with change. Flowing with change

is not giving in or accepting the situation, it is choosing to remain open to a new situation, new opportunity, personal or

spiritual growth, and the possibility of a new adventure. We may not always like change, but we can look it in the eye and choose how we will manage it. As Sinatra affirmed, change affords us the opportunity to ride high, get shot down, and be back on top.

Dr. Melinda Spohn is  
Executive Director of the  
Senior Retirement Project  
and can be reached at  
(910)986-9481 or  
[SeniorRetirementProject.org](http://SeniorRetirementProject.org)

## White Cane Drive

The Seven Lakes Lions will hold a White Cane Drive on Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8, at several local businesses. Your donation assists the blind and visually impaired, and other humanitarian efforts, by providing canes, vision vans, eye research, and Camp Dogwood. You can also mail contributions to the Seven Lakes Lions Club at PO Box 841, West End, NC 27376.

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# In memory of . . .

**Edna "Miss Edna" Lusin**, died at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital, on Saturday, September 10. She relocated from Michigan to North Carolina in 1989.

"Miss Edna" was a member of Sacred Heart Church. She had worked at Beacon Ridge as a waitress, and at Mid Pines Resort as a hostess. Later, she was employed by Pinehurst Resorts at the Donald Ross Grill as a hostess for almost thirteen years, and retired at the age of 91.

She was preceded her in death by her mother and father Mary and Frank Rekowski, her brothers Eugene and Frank, and her sister Virginia Mikicuik.

Survivors include two daughters Patricia Allan, and Sandi Pauli; two sisters Barbara Gorski and Dorothy Zaborowski; her grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandson.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Memorial Honor Program, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or your local Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date by the family in Michigan.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.

**Josephine Marie "Jo" Will**, 90, of Seven Lakes, died Saturday, September 10, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mrs. Will and her husband retired to Seen Lakes in 1985 from Massapequa Park, NY. She was an avid golfer and artist.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, September 13, at The Chapel in the Pines,

Seven Lakes. The Rev. Don Welch officiated.

She is survived by her daughter Madeline Will of Seven Lakes; daughter Christine LoBello, of Tennessee; son Frederick Will, of Florida; and two grandchildren.

Boles Funeral Home assisted the family.

**Staff Sgt. Stephen Masten Evans**, 26, formerly of West End, died Monday, September 5, at his home in Honolulu, HI.

Mr. Evans was born in Pinehurst, and graduated from Pinecrest High School in 2003. He joined the United States Army in 2005, and served as a combat medic and was a combat veteran, serving two tours in Iraq.

The family will receive friends, share memories and celebrate Stephen's life at Bensalem Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 2891 Bensalem Church Road, Eagle Springs, from 5 to 8 pm, Thursday, September 15.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, September 16, at 2 pm in the sanctuary, and he will be buried in Bensalem Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

**Howard W. Zoellner**, of Seven Lakes, formerly of Saginaw, MI, died Wednesday, August 31, after a brief illness.

He was born in Saginaw, MI, son of the late Walter and Elsa Zoellner. He was a graduate of Arthur Hill High Technical School and attended Delta College and General Motors Institute. He served in the US Army Air Corps during W.W.II.

He spent 25 years of his engineering career with the Saginaw Steering Gear Division of General Motors. He was initially in Product Design, then supervisor of the Experimental Engineering and Procurement Department and finally with Purchasing.

His community involvement included Boy Scouting and school boards, as well as serving with various committees and visitation teams for Ames United Methodist

Church of Saginaw and Our Savior Lutheran Church in Southern Pines.

A service of celebration life was held at Community Presbyterian Church, Pinehurst on Sunday, September 4. Interment will be at a later date in Saginaw, Michigan. Memorials may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 3101 Industrial Dr., Ste. 210, Raleigh, NC 27609.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 45 years Lola B. Baldwin Zoellner.

Survivors include his brothers, the Rev. Jack Zoellner, of Scottsdale, AZ; Don Zoell-

ner, of Santa Barbara, CA; sons, Dr. Steven M. Zoellner, of Seven Lakes, David H. Zoellner, of Charleston, SC, and daughter, Janet Peters,

of Bloomington, IL; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Boles Funeral Home assisted the family.

## Free Zumba Class

Everyone is invited to join in for a Zumba Dance Class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church every Thursday morning at 8:30 am – 9:30 am, in the SL Baptist Church Family Life Center at 1015 Seven Lakes Drive in Seven Lakes.

A Zumba licensed instructor will be teaching. This is a Free class.

Questions? Call the church at 673-4656.

## Breast Reduction Surgery Information Seminar

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# It was fun for all at Fall 'Meet the Merchants'

It was a new location for Meet the Merchants on Saturday, September 3, but Lak-ers had no trouble finding the great food, rockin' music, and good fun socializing with merchants and representatives of local civic organizations.

Next up for the Seven Lakes Business Guild is a Chili Cook-Off on October 8. See page 2 for more details.



*Karen Simmons Designs*



*Cruise Planner s' Cheryl Darwell brought along a feathered friend.*



*Kelsianne Bebout of Ornaments*



*The Ladies from Blush Salon.*

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## SEPTEMBER ACTION

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# Learn about NC 211 widening at Sr. Center

On Thursday, September 22 from 7 pm to 8 pm, John Olinger, N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Division Construction Engineer will be at the Senior Enrichment Center with an update on NC Department of Transportation projects for Moore County. There is a lot more to comprehensive transportation than meets the eye.

Determining the safety of the roads in Moore County and throughout the state falls to the engineers at the NCDOT. This complex process is not taken lightly.

Come hear the facts about current and upcoming road projects that will affect travel in Moore County.

Olinger will explain the road widening project on NC 211 from NC 73 in West End to the traffic circle in Pinehurst. The project includes widening to a multilane highway with curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, as well as installing signals and signs. This has been designed to improve the level of safety along NC 211 by increasing its traffic carrying capacity.

He will also explain work on the Morganton Road

bridge over US 1 that will improve traffic flow, and the realignment of a portion of 15-501 and Highway 211 in Aberdeen. Current and proposed resurfacing projects to be completed by next Summer will also be addressed. Preliminary plans for these projects will be available to review. This presentation will answer the many questions and concerns expressed by residents. The Senior Enrichment Center is located at 8040 Hwy. 15-501 (2 miles north of the Pinehurst traffic circle). Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat.

## Learn to prevent falls

September is Falls Prevention Month. Join Karen Backall, PT, of Appalachian Physical Therapy, at the Senior

Enrichment Center on Thursday, September 29 at 4 pm, to learn about the risk factors associated with falls, and how to practice ways to reduce the risk of falling and maintain quality of life and independence.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year one in every three adults age 65 and older falls.

Falls, which can lead to moderate to severe injuries, such as hip fractures and head traumas, can even

increase the risk of early death.

In addition to the physical and emotional pain, many people need to spend at least a year recovering in a long-term care facility. Some never return to their homes.

Falls are largely preventable. Backall will offer tips you can incorporate into your everyday life to help you stay mobile. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Hwy. 15-501 (2 miles north of the Pinehurst traffic circle). Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat.

## 7 Lakes EMS Phone Book

Each year your Seven Lakes EMS volunteers publish an updated community Telephone Directory that incorporates revisions for the residents and businesses in our community. They are now beginning to collect updated information for the 2012 directory and need your support to make this directory the most accurate it can possibly be.

Drop by your Landowners Association office and fill out an EMS Telephone Directory Change Form; or Drop by the Seven Lakes EMS station, on Seven Lakes Drive, and complete a Change Form; or E-mail your information to [ems-book69@gmail.com](mailto:ems-book69@gmail.com). You will receive a confirmation that the information was received.

The new Seven Lakes Telephone Directory will be available in the first quarter of 2012.

## WEE Scarecrow Run

The West End Elementary 2nd annual fitness 'Scarecrow Run' run sponsored by the WEE Parent Teacher Association will be held Saturday, October 15 in the McLendon Hills community.

Participants may register for the one-mile fun run or the 5K race with prizes awarded for overall male and female runners in age groups of eight years and under, 9 to 12 years, 13 to 19 years, 20 to 29, 30 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59, 60 to 69, and 70 years and over.

This is a bonus race for the Sandhills Race Series. Refreshments will be provided to all racers.

Early packet registration will be held on Friday, Octo-

ber 14 from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm at West End Elementary, and entries will be accepted up to thirty minutes prior to the race starts at 8:00 am and 8:30 am on Saturday, October 15.

All entrants preregistered by October 1 will receive a WEE Fitness Run T-shirt.

Cost to participate in the one mile run is \$15 for all ages; in the 5K children under 12 fee is \$15, adult fee is \$25 per person. Please make check payable to WEE PTA, 4483 Hwy 211, West End, NC 27376.

For more information, please contact Brian Povish, Race Director, at 638-1802 or 400-5062, or by email at [bpovish@yahoo.com](mailto:bpovish@yahoo.com)

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# Tai Chi in the garden – a perfect marriage

Many people have heard that Tai Chi and QiGong are relaxing gentle exercises which relieve stress and help in improving health. Some people have heard it is a system of self defense. All of this is true.

On Monday, September 26 the community is invited to learn more about these ancient disciplines. The Sandhills Horticultural Society is hosting a Tai Chi and QiGong workshop at Sandhills Community Gardens.

Tai Chi Master, Lee Holbrook will conduct class. The class will begin in the Burlingame Room of the Ball

Visitors Center of the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens. Holbrook will present an introduction to the arts. The class will then move outdoors to the beautiful gardens and participate in an interactive class in Tai Chi and QiGong lead by Holbrook.

"The gardens are a wonderful place to seek peace and relaxation," Holbrook said. "This goes hand in hand with Tai Chi and QiGong. It is an excellent marriage."

The delight of Tai Chi is that anyone can practice and learn anytime, anywhere and in almost any state of health. There is no age limit. Hol-

brook has held classes in Moore County for people ages nineteen to ninety eight.

Why should a person learn Tai Chi?

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## Great line-up of Pauley lectures

From the Rio Grande, around the quad oval at the Charlotte Motor Speedway, on the court at ECU's Minges Coliseum, and at your pharmacist's counter, the Ruth Pauley Lecture Series celebrates its 25th year with stimulating talks on the issues of the times.

**Terry Holland**, East Carolina University's Athletic Director, and Jim Dodson, The Pilot's Writer in Residence and Editor of PineStraw Magazine will have "A Conversation on Collegiate Athletics" on Wednesday, September 28.

Holland played basketball at Davidson under legendary coach Lefty Driesell and later coached at his alma mater. His coaching career continued at the University of Virginia where he was ACC Men's Basketball Coach of the Year. Dodson has received numerous journalistic awards. His bestsellers include *A Golfer's Life* (with Arnold Palmer), *Ben Hogan—An American Life*, and *A Son of the Game*.

"Getting Immigration Right" will be the topic of speakers **David Coates** and **Peter Siavelis** on Thursday, October 20.

Coates is the Worrell Chair in Anglo-American Studies at Wake Forest University where he has written extensively on contemporary political economy and US public policy.

Siavelis is Associate Professor and Director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program at Wake Forest, and has published numerous articles on electoral and legislative politics.

**H.A. "Humpy" Wheeler, Jr.** the Past President of Charlotte Motor Speedway will discuss "The History of NASCAR in North Carolina" on Tuesday, November 15. Wheeler is the most decorated promoter in NASCAR auto racing, helping to transform the speedway into one of the world's leading sports facilities. He is a member of the International Motorsports Hall of Fame.

All Ruth Pauley lectures are held in Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College campus, Pinehurst. Programs begin at 7:30 pm and are open to the public. Lectures are free and no tickets are required.

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# Teen Volunteers make a big contribution

If Stephanie Phillips ever had any doubts about making a career out of health care, she doesn't anymore.

The 17-year-old senior at North Moore High School spent the Summer in the Teen Volunteer Program at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital, and she loved it. When she enters college at either Methodist or Campbell University next Fall, she'll be looking at a major aimed at her goal of becoming a physician assistant.

"I loved the environment and thought it was a great learning experience," Phillips says about her volunteer work. "It's given me a great idea of what (a career in health care) would be like."

There has been an organized teen program at Moore Regional since the mid-1970s. In 1975, 16 teens were recognized for their volunteer service to the hospital. By the following year, the number had tripled.

An outgrowth of the traditional Candystripers program for young women, the current Teen Volunteer Program accepts boys, too. But instead of the pink-stripped pinafores

of their female counterparts, the guys report to work wearing white lab coats.

The 43 young people (nine boys and 34 girls) taking part in Moore Regional's nine-week Teen Volunteer Program this Summer provided a variety of services to 34 different departments. From Corporate Education and Health Information Management to various nursing units and the Reid Heart Center, they stocked supplies, typed and filed, escorted visitors, helped transport patients and delivered patient mail, contributing more than 3,000 hours to their community's hospital.

The employees in the participating departments reciprocated by sharing their knowledge and professional experience with the young volunteers.

"The department is often willing to mentor the young person in the field of health care," says MRH Volunteer Services Manager Jean Clark.

While volunteer hours fulfill requirements for high school clubs and college and university applications, exposure to the health care environ-

ment is still the most common reason that kids volunteer, according to Clark.

"It's more and more about health careers, because guidance counselors are making that connection," she says.

Most of the 43 were first-year volunteers, but it was the second year of service for seven, the third for one and the fourth for two.

The Volunteer Services staff at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital will begin accepting names for the 2012 Teen Volunteer program early next year. Interested teens must be at least 13 years old and have completed the eighth grade to be eligible.

Students interested in more information about volunteering next summer should contact the guidance office at their respective school or Moore Regional's Volunteer Services office at 715-1266.

Participation is first-come, first-served, and the program



Volunteering at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital helped Stephanie Phillips settle on a health care career.

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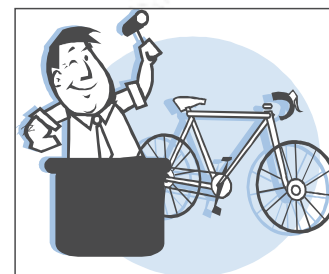
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## School Board

(Continued from page 4)

busy September," Lang told her fellow Board members.

Though the goal is a decision by December, Lang said, "We will extend that if we have to. We aren't going to settle for less than what we want."

She reiterated that the Board is not looking for a change in the direction MCS has set under Purser's leadership. "We aren't looking to change direction," Lang said, "but for someone who can help move us forward on the path we've set."

### Remembering 9-11

Teachers throughout the MCS system used the tenth anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks as a teaching opportunity.

Robbins Elementary First Grade teacher Sherry Vang had her students focus on heroes, and shared some samples of their writing on the subject. North Moore High School also focused on heroes, with classroom activities culminating in a campus-wide assembly marking the anniversary and featuring a number of first responders.

Southern Pines Fifth Grade teacher Kathy Souza

explained how her class had explored the global impact of the 9-11 attacks through correspondence with pen pals in France.

A number of first responders attended Monday night's Board meeting and were honored by Board members.

### is3 Laser Initiative

Teachers and principals who participated over the Summer in a special science education training program briefed the Board on the program and the opportunity it represents for Moore County students.

The nationally-funded LASER program — "Leadership Assistance in Systemic Science Education Reform" — is sponsoring pilot projects in school districts in three states, aiming to find ways to improve science education in US schools.

Only seven districts in North Carolina were selected to participate, and MCS was among them.

For teachers and administrators, the program includes more than ninety hours of professional development, providing guidance as districts learn to develop their own strategic plans for

improving science education.

In the classroom, it means top-notch materials that can be used in the "inquiry-based" approach to science education — that is, hands on investigation and experimentation by the students.

"Last year, I didn't have all the proper supplies," West End Elementary Fourth Grade teacher Renee Robbins told the Board, describing the classroom "kits" supplied by the LASER program sponsors. "This year, I'm not going to be struggling for anything."

"The first unit is on Thomas Edison," Robbins explained. "We have non-fiction readers. They have given us all the tools to teach about Thomas Edison. I step back and give them a problem, and they have to run with it. I am a facilitator. I can't wait to teach this again, because this year I have everything I need."

The LASER program is being rolled out in a two-phase approach through

2015 that will ultimately involve eight MCS schools.

### Budget Approved

Though the Fiscal Year started back in July, delays at the General Assembly prevented the School Board from approving a final FY 2011-2012 budget until Monday night.

Chief Finance Officer Mike Griffin presented the "Original Budget" — that is, the budget at the beginning of the year, before it has been amended — during Monday's meeting, reviewing key elements of funding for this year.

The state will contribute \$62.5 million, which is \$2 million more than MCS had expected. However, the General Assembly works with a two-year budgeting process, and next year's state allocation will be cut by at least \$1.7 million.


The County's contribution is the same as last year: \$26.3 million. Federal funding, however, has seen dra-

matic cuts, primarily due to the expiration of stimulus dollars from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. MCS will lose \$5.2 million in ARRA funds this year, as well as \$2.5 million in federal funding from the Education Jobs program. Additional federal cuts are expected next year.

To make up for some of the cuts, the School Board appropriated \$4 million from its fund balance to help meet operational expenses this year, and has already allocated another \$2 million in fund balance to next year's operational budget.

Board Member Dr. Lorna Clack said same would like to see some of the unexpected \$2 million in state funding allocated toward putting more teacher's assistants in primary grade classrooms, but Griffin said that would create problems for next year's budget.

The Board unanimously (See "School Board," p. 19)



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## School Board

(Continued from page 18)

approved Griffin's Original Budget as presented.

### Board Goals

Chairwoman Lang reviewed the Board's three goals for 2011-2012:

1. Keeping the community informed and gathering feedback from the community.
2. Implementing an effective leadership transition plan — that is, identifying and hiring a replacement for Dr. Purser.
3. Determining the future implementation of the year-round program.

The controversy this Spring over the closing of Academy Heights Elementary School brought the year-round program into sharper focus for the Board. Lang said the Board's efforts in the early part of this school year would be focused on gathering data about the current program — quantitative and qualitative — and gathering feedback from parents.

Later in the year, the Board will look to the new superintendent for a recommendation on how best to move forward with year-round schools — for example, whether the size of the program needs to be increased or whether there is greater interest in one sector of the county than in others.

All of the Board's goals include implementation plans, monitoring steps, and target completion dates, Lang said. That process is the same one used by all MCS departments and schools.

Board members voted unanimously to adopt the 2011-2012 Board Goals as presented.

### Transportation

MCS is serving its students with 18 fewer buses this year than last, Executive Supervisor Charles McDowell, of the MCS Transportation Department, told the Board. Last year, the system operated 138 buses; this year, changes to the school day schedule mean that only 120 are being used.

Not only does that save on

operational costs, CFO Griffin explained, it also means MCS can forego the purchase of two new buses, a \$160,000 savings in the capital budget.

Despite using fewer buses, student ridership is up to 6,300, versus 6,165 last year, which increases the system's capacity rating.

Security cameras have been installed in 96 buses and will be installed in the entire fleet by the end of the year, McDowell reported, adding that the cameras have resulted in a significant decrease in "discipline incidents."

Buses are already outfitted with passive GPS systems that allow the production of a variety of reports, but McDowell said he is exploring the installation of active GPS systems that would allow real time monitoring of bus locations.

### Nutrition

The MCS Child Nutrition department is continuing its efforts to provide healthy, appetizing menu selections to the student body, Director Amanda Cagle told the Board.

This year, that means only whole wheat products and only skim milk, flavored or unflavored, are on the menu. Meals include more raw fruits and more vegetables. And fruit and vegetable snacks are priced lower than other snacks. Water is also priced lower than other drinks to support an effort to increase water consumption.

MCS serves 9,000 meals per day, CFO Griffin said, adding that increasing that number could ultimately result in Child Nutrition gen-

erating income that can be used to support MCS instructional programs.

Currently, fifty-three percent of MCS students buy lunch at school, but only nineteen percent participate in the breakfast program. Forty-six percent of students receive free or reduced price meals.

MCS uses the website lunchprepay.com to provide both students and parents with information on menu selections for each day. Cagle said Child Nutrition is making an extra effort this year to make the menu descriptions targeting students exciting and appetizing, while also offering parents the nuts and bolts of portion sizes and nutrition information.

### Other Business

In other business during their Monday, September 12 regular meeting, members of the Moore County Board of Education:

- Heard from member Bruce Cunningham that MCS had been invited to conduct a workshop on the Growing to Greatness initiative at the national conference of the National School Boards Association.

- Heard from Dr. Purser that the opening day of school for those on the traditional calendar had gone well. Purser noted that those in the year-round program would shortly begin a two-week intercession. Early in October, Purser said, she will convene a task force to help develop better lines of communication with parents of students in the year-round programs.



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## SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 6)  
on it.”

As the only other veteran Director of the seven-member Board, Bruce Keyser, Jr., agreed.

“I am very impressed with this Board,” he said. “I didn’t think it would do well and it has done exceptionally well.”

Treasurer Meyer also took the opportunity to recognize committee members for their assistance.

“The lifeblood of this community isn’t necessarily the Board members,” Meyer said, “but having active and vibrant committees. The reality is: that is where most of the work — the tough work and heavy lifting — gets done,” Meyer said.

### Finance

A detailed financial policy that documents procedures and signature authority over Association checking accounts, investments and credit cards, expenses and

reimbursements, and competitive bid processes was unanimously approved by the Board at the Wednesday, August 31 meeting.

“You are seeing that we’re starting to put together policies and procedures in place [formally in writing] so that there are no misunderstandings of what those policies are,” Treasurer Meyer said.

During the Finance Committee report, he noted that the annual financial audit is still in process and that expenses related to the Yard Debris Site continue to run very high and significantly over budget.

A recent review of competitors’ fees for yard debris removal confirmed that the Association is receiving a fair price from the contractor. A review to ensure the contractor is removing the proper number of loads is underway.

Meyer also suggested installing a new, larger sign at the Yard Debris Site that

clearly states what materials and sizes of debris are allowed.

“We are spending considerable funds to remove branches that are too big and construction debris,” he said.

Looking ahead, Meyer said the Finance Committee will be finishing up a draft mileage reimbursement policy that will include business travel.

In addition, an ad hoc committee that includes Meyer, Alina Cochran, Alice McPheeters, Jim Allen, and George Temple is reviewing the annual registration and billing procedures.

“Our goal is to document the current process and to

look for ways to streamline it,” Meyer said. “Not all of us are satisfied with how the process is working now,” he added, noting that the committee is currently brainstorming improvements that they hope to have in place for next year.

### Road Repaving Project

Seven engineering firms have submitted bids for the engineering portion of the road repaving project.

Director Shaver has reviewed the bids and presented his analysis to the Board, and the firms will be interviewed individually on September 8.

“We will be ready with a lot of questions,” said Darr.

“Because of what we sent out, all seven firms have said the same thing on whole a bunch of items, but some have offered different things they could provide as well.”

He continued, “We intend to look at those additional things and see if there are others who would also want to do it. But, some have offered things that we don’t want, so we need to ask them, if they take those out, does their number change?”

“This is going to be a very busy and a very important day,” said Darr.

Unfortunately, Darr added, after closely analyzing the time necessary to collect bids and make decisions, it is

(See “SLLA,” p. 24)

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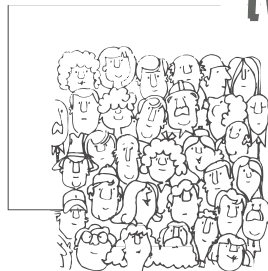
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 10 am to 3 pm, Sandhills Community College, Van Dusen Hall, 3395 Airport Rd, Pinehurst. Appointment [www.membersforlife.org/cbsr/schedule](http://www.membersforlife.org/cbsr/schedule) enter sponsor code 1769. 1-800-236-3276 for donor questions.
- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – 5-9 pm. Buffet 5-6:30 pm. Spaghetti w/meat sauce \$8.15 (+ tax & gratuity). Food, games & socializing.
- **POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony** – 6 pm, Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America conducting a remembrance ceremony at the Moore County Veterans Memorial Park, Carthage. Ceremony is a tribute to former prisoners of war and remembers those who are still listed as missing in action. Union Pines High School Navy ROTC Color Guard will present the colors. Chapter President Mike Pusillo invites everyone to attend this memorial.
- \* **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 'Movie: Cave of Forgotten Dreams, 7:30 pm. Werner Herzog gains exclusive access to film inside the Chauvet caves of Southern France, capturing the oldest known pictorial creations of humankind in their astonishing natural setting. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

- **Moore County Kennel Club All Breed Show** – 8:30 am to 5 pm. Held at Pinehurst Harness Track, NC 5, Pinehurst. Enjoy all the dog show in both rings. Microchip clinic, facilitated by Pine Tree Animal Clinic, 11 am to 3 pm for a small fee. Today Moore County Animal Control will be offering rabies vaccines for a minimal fee, from 11 am to 3 pm. Karolynne McAteer, 914-772-7873.
- **Farmers' Market – at Sandhills Winery** - 9 am - Noon, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. [www.sandhillswinery.com](http://www.sandhillswinery.com)

- **Dog Day of Summer** – 10 am – 2 pm, Seven Lakes Northside Pool. Give your pooch a day to remember with a cool splash around the pool. Moore Humane Society will be on-hand with information on adoption, volunteer opportunities plus a few little friends looking for a new fur-ever home. Bring a leash, copy of current vaccination record, and be



prepared to clean up any doggie messes. (Rain date Sunday, September 18, 1- 4 pm).

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **Moore County Kennel Club All Breed Show** – 8:30 am to 5 pm. Held at Pinehurst Harness Track, NC 5, Pinehurst. Enjoy all the dog show in both rings. Microchip clinic, facilitated by Pine Tree Animal Clinic, 11 am to 3 pm for a small fee. Free parking. Karolynne McAteer, 914-772-7873.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 'Movie: Cave of Forgotten Dreams, 2:30 & 7:30 pm. Werner Herzog gains exclusive access to film inside the Chauvet caves of Southern France,

capturing the oldest known pictorial creations of humankind in their astonishing natural setting. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

- **Senses Hike** – 3 pm, Visitor Center. Discover what nature has to offer through all five senses, touch, smell, sight, sound, and taste during a walk along some of the trails in Weymouth Woods. Hike 1.5 miles. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167 [weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov](mailto:weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov)
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Jonathan Byrd in concert tonight. Buy your tickets on line with debit or credit cards. Cash and checks accepted at the door. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, [www.theroosterswife.org](http://www.theroosterswife.org) (910) 944-7502.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Group leader Rachel Carr.
- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Town Hall Meeting** – 7 pm, at West Side Park Community Center, in the Great Room. The board will be discussing information related to the proposed

Mailhouse recommendation, answer questions and receive feedback from the Community.

- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 'Movie: Cave of Forgotten Dreams, 2:30 & 7:30 pm. Werner Herzog gains exclusive access to film inside the Chauvet caves of Southern France. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

- **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.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County Annual Kick-Off Luncheon** – 11:45 am, International Journalist and Pinehurst resident, Mohsin Ali, O.B.E., will speak. His subject: "Uncle Sam, Yogi and the Sleeping Giant." At Table on the Green, Midland Country Club. Cost: \$12. Charlotte Gallagher, 910-944-9611.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 1:30 pm to 6 pm, at Penick Village, Village House, 500 E.

Rhode Island Avenue, Southern Pines. For an appt. call 692-8571. 1-800-236-3276 for donor questions.

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, regular meeting. Held at Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **American Red Cross Blood Donation in Seven Lakes** – 1:30 pm to 6 pm. At the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Sponsored by the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club. Blood levels are at their lowest, please consider donating, the life you save may be a friend. For an appt. call 673-4931. 1-800-236-3276 for questions.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

- **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.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Mag-

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dalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

- **Community Open House** – 1 to 4 pm, at FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care Campus, 251 Campground Road (off Highway 15-501 North), Pinehurst. The afternoon will include tours of the Hospice & Palliative Care campus, which includes the Hospice House, Chapel, FirstHealth Grief Resource & Counseling Center, and Hospice & Palliative Care administrative building. Light refreshments served. For information, call (910) 715-6000 or (866) 861-7485 toll-free.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Special Meeting** – 5 pm at the Agricultural Center, 707 Pinehurst Ave., Carthage, to discuss Redistricting.
- **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](http://www.sandhillswinery.com)
- **NCDOT Local Project Update** – 7 pm to 8 pm, John Olinger, NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Division Construction Engineer will be at the Center with an update on NC Dept. of Transportation projects for Moore County. He will explain the road widening project on NC 211 from NC 73 in West End to the traffic circle in Pinehurst. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Hwy. 15-501. Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, Movie - *7 Days in Utopia*. Stars Robert Bear, Lucas Black, Madison Burge and Robert Duvall. *7 Days in Utopia* follows the story of Luke Chisolm, a talented young golfer set on making the pro tour. When his first big shot turns out to be a disaster. He escapes the pressures of the game and finds himself unexpectedly stranded in Utopia, TX. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 3 to 7:30

pm, at Cameron Baptist Church, 593 Carthage Street, Cameron. For an appt. call 245-7222. 1-800-236-3276 for donor questions.

- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – 5-9 pm. Fried Chicken Buffet 5-6:30 pm. \$8.15 (+ tax & gratuity). Food, games & socializing.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, Movie - *7 Days in Utopia*. Stars Robert Bear, Lucas Black, Madison Burge and Robert Duvall. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- **Farmers' Market** – at Sandhills Winery - 9 am - Noon, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. [www.sandhillswinery.com](http://www.sandhillswinery.com)
- **42nd Malcolm Blue Historical Crafts & Farm skills Festival** – 10 am - 6 pm, Crafters and Demonstrators, Pottery, basket making, woodworking, blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, leather smith, soap, candle making, paper quilling and more. Entertainment: Folk and country musicians & dancers, food and refreshments: Admission: Adults \$5 Children (under 12), \$3 Preschoolers – Free, Active Military – Free. Malcolm Blue Farm, 1177 Bethesda Rd., Aberdeen. (910) 944-7558 [www.malcolmbbluefarm.com](http://www.malcolmbbluefarm.com)
- **8th Annual Worldwide Day of Play at Weymouth Wood** – at 2 pm. The program is FREE and open to the public. Turn off your TV and come out to the park for a hike and trail games along the way. Wear long pants and bug spray, Group will be out on the trail for a little over an hour. 910-692-2167 for more information. 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm, Movie - *7 Days in Utopia*. Stars Robert Bear, Lucas Black, Madison Burge and Robert Duvall. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

- **Weymouth Night Hike** - 7 pm, Visitor Center. Discover the kinds of wildlife that appear in Weymouth Woods after dark. The night hike will last about an hour. Bring one flashlight per family. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, 692-2167 [weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov](mailto:weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov)

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **42nd Malcolm Blue Historical Crafts & Farm skills Festival** – 12 noon - 5:00 pm, Crafters and Demonstrators, Pottery, basket making, woodworking, blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, leather smith, soap and candle making, paper quilling, Entertainment, food, refreshments. Adults \$5 Children (under 12), \$3 Preschoolers – Free, Active Military – Free. Malcolm Blue Farm, 1177 Bethesda Road, Aberdeen. (910) 944-7558 [www.malcolmbbluefarm.com](http://www.malcolmbbluefarm.com)
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm,

Movie - *7 Days in Utopia*. Stars Robert Bear, Lucas Black, Madison Burge and Robert Duvall. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines) 692-3611.

- **Nature Bingo at Paint Hill** – 3 pm, Visitor Center. National Take a Child Outside Week! Hike with a park ranger. Ranger will guide exploration with a BINGO scavenger hunt. Meet at Visitor Center, car pool to Paint Hill. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, [www.weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov](http://www.weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov) 910-692-2167.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. *Little Windows* is the musical guest. Buy your tickets on line with debit or credit cards. Cash and checks accepted at the door. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, [www.theroosterswife.org](http://www.theroosterswife.org) (910)944-7502.

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- **Qigong and Tai Chi in the SCC Gardens** – 9 am to 11 am. Meet at Ball Garden, Visitors Center. Lee Holbrook instructor, will teach about these two dis-

ciplines that benefit the mind and body. Feel free to stroll into the gardens to participate in an interactive class. Horticultural Society members the program is Free, nonmembers will pay \$5. To register 695-3882 and prepay.

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Group leader Rachel Carr.

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- **Seven Lakes Singles** – If you are single and would like to meet other singles please joins in at Sandhills Winery, 5:30 pm to -7 pm. For more information call 910-986-9481 Melinda.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- **Ruth Pauley Lecture Series** – at 7:30 pm. Terry Holland, East Carolina University's Athletic Director, and Jim Dodson, The Pilot's Writer in Residence will have "A Conversation on Collegiate Athletics." In Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College campus, Pinehurst. Program is open to the public. Lectures are free. Call 910-245-3132.

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## SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 20)

unlikely any blacktopping would occur this year.

"From a timeframe standpoint, we are looking at next Spring to get this thing on its way," he explained.

However, he held out the possibility that some road repair work could be accomplished in the near future, including root removal in some areas and correcting problem areas on Lancashire Drive in Seven Lakes South.

"We're not just delaying and delaying," Darr said. "Our idea behind this is that, when the Association gets involved in a huge expenditure, that we have to do it right. We have to go through this process and analyze and listen, but this work will be done right."

### Lakes & Dams

Moderate drought conditions and natural evaporation have lowered water levels considerably throughout the community, reported President Darr.

Addressing concerns about homeowners using lake water for irrigation, he said the consensus from past experience is that such use does not have much of an impact on the overall lake level.

"I have discussed this matter with a number of people," Darr explained. "If it continues to get worse, we may have to ask people to stop irrigating; but we're really hoping for more rain."

Reporting on the Lakes & Dams Committee for Director Don Fentzlaff, who was unable to attend the meeting, George Temple said committee members and other interested residents would be attending a Friday, September 2 workshop led by a NC State professor on lake weed identification and control methods.

"We hope to learn how to deal with the problem more effectively," explained Temple.

Temple also reported that recent piezometer readings appeared to be consistent with past results and had been forwarded to S&ME for professional analysis. In addition, three proposed new boating rules have been discussed at the committee level and will be taken up by the SLLA Board at a future work session.

Of thirty-five boats without current stickers, spotted at private docks on Lake Sequoia, all but six boat owners have responded, Temple reported. A few boats were removed from the lake, and the others are now properly registered.

Darr thanked Temple and the members of the Lakes & Dams Committee, and other community committees, for their efforts.

"I am amazed at the amount of work our volunteers are doing," Darr said, "and I am so grateful. They are doing so many things

and we [SLLA Board] are so appreciative."

### Recreation

The Northside Pool closed for the season on Sunday, September 11, and the following weekend the pool will go to the dogs — Dog Day of Summer, that is.

On Saturday, September 17, between 10 am and 2 pm, Seven Lakes residents may bring their dogs to the Northside Pool for a special doggy-only swim time. [Rain date is Sunday, September 18, 1 pm - 4 pm].

Owners should bring a leash, a current copy of your dog's vaccine record, and be prepared to pick up any messes. The event is sponsored by the SLLA Recreation Committee and coordinated with the Moore Humane Society, and a small donation is requested. Come out and bring your furry friend or maybe even make a new one! Adoptable animals and information will be available.

Community Manager Alina Cochran thanked Ginger McLean and Barbara Keating for their work over the Summer directing the SLLA Summer Camp and Seven Lakes Stingrays Swim Team respectively.

In addition, Cochran thanked the staff and several volunteers for their help in securing the pool furniture and supplies in preparation for Hurricane Irene.

Director Bob Racine welcomed any interested residents to consider joining the Recreation Committee.

Noting that the pool schedule has generated a number of complaints, Racine recommended an open meeting in October to give all residents a chance to voice their concerns.

"Get involved. We want to hear you, but don't just sit there and complain. Join a committee," said Racine.

(See "SLLA," p. 25)

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## SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 24)

### Upcoming meeting with County Commissioners

Preparing for an October 13 meeting between the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council and the Moore County Board of Commissioners, Darr reported the agenda will include ongoing concerns over water and the Pine Forest Planned Unit Development.

### Increased police presence

"I have good news and bad news," Darr said. "The bad news is we are getting reports from residents about misbehavior from some other residents — particularly, some young adult behaviors."

Darr noted the Association has long wrestled with how best to handle such issues, weighing the limited effectiveness of private security patrols against the cost-prohibitive \$30 per hour rate for an off-duty police officer.

"The good news is that we pretty much know who is

involved in the misbehaviors," Darr said, "we know what they are doing, and we know when they are doing it. In terms of using additional part-time police enforcement, we believe we can take some positive steps that will stop or at least really hinder these behaviors."

### Security

In other security matters, Director Andy Lowe reported a camera company is analyzing photographs taken at the Yard Debris Site to determine what improvements and resolution will be necessary to adequately document any violations.

Lowe said that a recent complaint about house checks performed by Roving Security has been resolved.

Two vintage speakers removed from the North Clubhouse were recently sold for a net profit of \$100.

In addition, Lowe said had spoken to NC Department of Transportation [NCDOT]

about reinstalling the blinking safety light on Seven Lakes Drive near the North and South gates. Lowe reported that NCDOT had determined the lights were ineffective.

### Grounds & Maintenance

Hurricane Irene generated a lot of wind. Director Keyser thanked Davenport Landscaping for their quick and thorough clean-up of the community.

Keyser said he will be reviewing information compiled by Cochran and the SLLA office staff on boats and trailers stored at Sequoia Point. In addition, he will continue to investigate boat ramp area parking concerns.

Picking up on a suggestion by Northsider Bob Cook to place pine straw on bare areas along the community's roads, President Darr said having Davenport do the work would create additional cost for the Association.

Instead, Darr suggested that residents should get

involved and assist with the project.

"We have to look at all these expenditures and be really tight about where we're going," he said.

### Judicial Committee

Thirteen cases were scheduled to be heard by the Judicial Committee in August, reported Director Racine. Of those, six violations were corrected before the hearing, five were granted a brief grace period to correct the violation, and one case has been appealed to the SLLA Board.

Noting that daily fines will be issued for any ongoing violations, Racine said the purpose of the fines was not to generate revenue, but rather to encourage compliance with community rules and regulations.

Richard Weber was appointed to serve on the Judicial Committee, filling the seat held by Frank Krohn, who recently resigned. Harold "Sam" Halpin was appointed

to serve as alternate member.

### Election procedures

The Board has been working to improve the Annual Meeting election process. During this year's election, Darr said, there was confusion over exactly who was eligible to vote.

"For example, we have many properties owned by corporations and LLCs," he explained. "We got into a push and shove on who was eligible to vote."

He thanked Ray Pardue and Brenda Massimo for their assistance on helping to draft a policy that will clarify eligibility in future elections.

Director Shaver also said he would be submitting a recommendation to the Board for the Judicial Committee to serve as the official counters for annual election ballots.

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## Herding Biscuits . . .

I am a civilized and sensitive person, at least most of the time, so I knew I shouldn't have laughed at her.

But sometimes you just can't help yourself, even when you know it's wrong. And no, "laugh" isn't quite right. That cackle erupted more like a guffaw to the point of tears.

It wasn't my fault though: it was hers — the dog, that is.

I was just minding my own business and professionally administering my primary occupation: opening and closing doors for my pets.

With a mighty effort, I had heaved open the sliding glass door with the intent of putting

said pooch out on the sun deck for some fresh air.

Or as I prefer to describe it, I was "releasing the kraken."

That is when it happened.

Taking a flying leap towards freedom — or at least a fenced in and protected version of such — Biscuit, my Labrador underachiever, bounced snout first off the screen door.

That was my fault: not hers. She simply couldn't see it.

You see, it was new — brand new.

It had only been a day or two prior to that unexpected

several places with cat-sized escape hatches and rife with spider webs, this was a home improvement project long overdue.

But as bad as they looked, what's worse is how many of these atrocities I actually owned. One per pet is a fairly accurate mathematical formula. And that's just along the front of the house.

My sorry excuse for procrastinating the inevitable was that my resident critters are more than likely to accomplish an encore performance of ripped screenage in record time.

If my job is opening doors, their craft is the ritualistic

and predictable tearing, scratching and the otherwise general dismantling of my home and goods.

And, on most Summer nights, I have free admission tickets to my own dinner and a show as my zoo of guilty-eyed kitties and one slack-jawed wonder hound spend hours stalking unlucky beetles and moths who are also likewise attracted to the warm glow of light bursting through my screen doors.

Truth be told, it's been over a week and those new screens remain unmolested and intact.

Maybe Biscuit will have the last laugh after all.



### Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

## U2 not only sing their faith, they walk it

**Question:** I saw a poster today advertising a program to be held at your church. I was shocked and surprised that you are featuring a rock band, "U2." I have seen them on YouTube and read a lot about them. I don't think their music is Christian at all; and I understand that they smoke, drink, cuss, and don't belong to any church. How can your church sanction such music and such behavior?

**Response:** You are correct on most every count. The Chapel in the Pines is con-

ducting an eight week discussion group on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. beginning on September 25. We will be listening to U2 recordings and discussing the texts of these songs. I'm sure that their personal habits do not meet the approval of some of the people called Christians. I disagree that their songs do not have a Christian message. If you listen closely, you will discover a spiritual message that describes this group's journey of faith that is similar to mine and thousands of other people who

are searching for meaning in their lives.

It may interest you to know that three of these four men once belonged to a charismatic Christian group called "Shalom." At first, they were spiritually fed by the simple life of faith lived by this community, but eventually they were forced to choose between staying in Shalom and giving up the rock band or leaving and following the career that over the past 30 years has made them the most "listened to" band in the world. They thought and prayed a great deal, before making this decision.

Growing up in Ireland, they were also exposed to the continuing violence between Catholics and Protestants. Bono, the leader of the group, was once heard to say that "in Ireland we got just enough religion to inoculate you against it." Their exposure to organized religion thirty years ago has made them leery of committing themselves to a church. Right-wing Christian politics and TV evangelists have further driven them away. If asked,

each of the members would identify himself as certainly spiritual and the three who once belonged to Shalom — Bono, Edge, and Larry — would say

often in sermons.

I have found that the theological language of the church today is failing to communicate the great story of God and Jesus. When I view a U2 concert, I hear thousands of people of all ages singing about love and justice, and I watch a group of

strangers bond together with the music and words.

U2 does not just sing about faith, they live it out in their witness to the world. Among many other things, they have done more for AIDS victims and starving children in Africa than any church I know.

I can hardly wait to start the course. You may want to join us.

*Don Welch, the minister of The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, welcomes your questions and comments at: [dwelch1@nc.rr.com](mailto:dwelch1@nc.rr.com)*



### Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

they were Christian, but they have not seen the church living out the religion of Jesus.

I have experienced the sacred in every form of music. I am often moved to tears during a symphony concert or a Metropolitan opera production. When I lived in Nashville for nine years, I came to appreciate the straightforward ethical values of country and western music; and the sound of a great organ recital leaves my soul shaken. My early exposure to rock music was Elvis and The Beatles. I still listen to them and quote from them

## SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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# The answer, my friends, is right under our feet

Water.

It seems like every month or so, I write another article on water, usually because the Moore County Board of Commissioners has done one thing or another aimed at bringing more water to Seven Lakes, and to the rest of the southern end of the county.

It's gotten so I know most of the options pretty much by heart — though the county's new Public Utilities Director, Randy Gould — managed to slip a couple of new ones into the last presentation. If you read all those water articles I write, you probably know the options as well as I do.

Montgomery County, Robbins, Harnett County, Lee County, Asheboro, Laurinburg, Westpoint Stevens, and, of course, more wells. Did I leave any out?

Sometimes, when you know the details so well, when you're lost among the trees, so to speak, you can lose track of where you are in the forest — and even why you wandered into the forest to begin with.

In other words, the details can obscure the big picture.

The other day, writing yet another water article, I had a big picture moment. It went like this . . .

Grass.

That was it: Grass.

You see, most every week-day, the one guy who probably knows more about the

Moore County water system than any other human being — a guy named Ben Vaughn — emails me a snapshot of water usage in Seven Lakes. So, every day, I pull up a spreadsheet that details how much water Seven Lakers have used each day in the past month.

the county can squeeze into the two 150,000 gallon Seven Lakes water tanks.

And it's only a fraction of what the county can squeeze through the big pipe and pump station in front of West Pine Middle School — the pipe that brings Seven Lakes almost all of its water.

## Digging Deeper

Greg Hankins



Running flat out, that pipe can carry 1.1 or 1.2 million gallons of water per day to Seven Lakes — nearly

four times the amount of water that Seven Lakers use on a normal winter day.

If you've been following along with your calculator or abacus, and if you've been thinking about all those articles you've read about the county's efforts to bring more water to Seven Lakes, right about now, you should be feeling your brow furrowing and your puzzler puzzling.

"What a minute," a voice in the back of your head should be saying. "If Seven Lakes uses about 300,000 gallons of water a day, and our current source of water can supply four times that much, then how come the County Board of Commissioners and the Public Utilities folks are spending so

much time, effort, and money looking to get more water to Seven Lakes?"

That, gentle reader, is an excellent question.

It has a one word answer. Grass.

Brushing teeth, flushing toilets, cooking dinner, washing dishes, doing laundry, taking showers — all of that consumes 300,000 gallons of water a day.

The rest goes for grass.

It's no different down in Pinehurst. The County owns that Village's water system. In Winter, the Villagers use 1 million gallons or so per day. In Summer, it's more than 3 million.

The Moore County Board of Commissioners are trying their best to figure out how best to spend millions of dollars to bring another million gallons of water to Southern Moore County for one reason.

Grass.

All that water, all those pipes and pumps and tanks and dollars, so that folks living in the Sandhills region of North Carolina, in what was once a vast pine forest, can surround their homes with grass.

If you go down to the pine forest east of West End that

may soon become Pine Forest, you'll find plenty of grass among the pines — dry, flammable, hummocky stuff called wire grass. That's pretty much the only kind of grass that grows around here without lots and lots of imported water.

Now, there's nothing wrong with grass. After all, it's tough to putt or play croquet or even tag team football on wire grass. And, though you can definitely get used to a no-mow pine straw lawn — we had a non-mow lawn made out of volcanic rock when we lived in New Mexico — most folks seem to have a preference for the green stuff.

So go ahead and mow, if it suits you. But, if you wake up one day a couple of years from now and find the rate on your water bill is twice what it used to be, remember, it's not the kitchen or the laundry or the bathroom that's forcing Moore County to spend millions of dollars looking for water.

Nope, the key to your water bill is right out in your front yard.

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# Are we building a mailhouse, or McMansion?

Dear Editor:

Kindly tell me how constructing a facility consisting of 4 walls, a floor and a roof is going to cost in excess of \$150,000 even including the \$50,000 for mailboxes.

We need a mail drop off facility . . . not a home.

We do not need to socialize there, as one facility will

require all of us to "go in get your mail and leave" with regard to others (parking spaces, etc.). There are many, many places to socialize within the Westside community. I do not need to mention them. Hence, what is costing so much?

A mail facility does not need fireplaces, granite, hard-

wood floors or upscale lighting. We do not need bathroom facilities as the Community Center located nearby has one. (The current facility does not nor ever has had a bathroom! The carriers seem to function just fine). And, by the way, who knows how much longer the Postal Service will even be in the busi-

ness of delivering mail!

In speaking to other families in Seven Lakes West, we cannot, for the life of us, figure out what could be making the cost of the new facility run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. This figure sounds more like the current price of a new or existing home complete with kitchen, bathrooms, hardwoods, fireplace, fixtures, plumbing, running about 2500 sq. ft. (I did appraisals in my former life).

When are you planning to get bids? Hopefully, before

you proceed. With the building business in the slump it has been experiencing, my guess is that the bidding should be very "competitive and favorable" toward Seven Lakes West (working construction vs. not working).

The entire community needs to be involved in building plan, cost planning and final awarding of bids. Be transparent and it will be in everyone's best interest. Please, no going "behind our back" on this issue.

Bernadette York  
Seven Lakes West

## No 'conceptual' Christ

Dear Editor:

In his August 19th opinion column, it appears that Rev. Don Welch speaks of Jesus as a conceptual "Christ" that many religions seek after, one that is "also found in all the religions of the world."

I feel compelled to respectfully clarify that the Bible does not present Jesus as a concept shared by many religions.

It clearly teaches that Jesus was God come down to earth as a man at the appointed time, fully God and fully man.

Jesus is one coequal part of the Holy Trinity, the prophesied Messiah, the resurrected Christ, the Son of God. Jesus obediently offered Himself as the necessary sinless sacrifice for our sins. God offered Jesus for us because He wanted to make a way for us to spend eternity with Him.

Jesus is one Truth that makes Christianity unique among world religions.

The Bible attests that it is only through belief in the person Jesus and His sacrifice on the cross for us, and making Him our personal Lord by repenting of our sins, that we are saved from eternal separation from God when we die.

For many people, including

some Christians, the truth that there is only one way to heaven is hard to accept. Why would a loving God be so narrow-minded in how mankind can have eternal security? It is because He is a just God who sticks by His never-changing Word. Other world religions break his first and greatest commandment to love Him alone and no other gods.

The best way to love my fellow man is sometimes the hardest, and that is to tell them the Truth.

Please don't rely on my word, or books written by men. Read your Bible and humbly ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the Truth.

Barry Kavanaugh  
Seven Lakes

## What's with the gas prices?

Dear Editor,

My travels with the Patriot Guard Riders have taken me through most of the counties surrounding Moore County. I usually stop for gas on the way home. I have noticed that the price of gas outside Moore County is 10 to 20 cents per gallon less.

Do you know why?

Bruce Macdonald  
Seven Lakes West

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## Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

ment of the Western Connector, Erickson said his understanding is that using the existing Hoffman and Roseland Roads is off the table.

Instead he presented a map of two potential new roadways under consideration. Both options create a new travel path along the east side of the Stonehill Pines development border and the Lake Diamond community; however, option one connects to Hwy 5 beginning further east along Hwy 211, crossing an undeveloped portion of the Pinewild community. The second option is a much longer roadway that begins beyond Hwy 73 at West End, crossing Hwy 211 and entering the Wilson property, which lies within the Foxfire ETJ [extra-territorial jurisdiction], and then travels southeast to a connection with Hwy 1 near Aberdeen. A map of the proposed route options is available online at [www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/tpb/PDF/MooreCo\\_SouthWest-ConnMap.pdf](http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/tpb/PDF/MooreCo_SouthWest-ConnMap.pdf)

### Equestrian acreage

In the Fall of 2005, the Vil-

lage Council held a public hearing to discuss several ordinance amendments, including increasing the minimum size of lots zoned "Equestrian" from six acres to ten acres. The change was approved at that time, but the decision was never formally written into the Village ordinance book.

Looking to correct the oversight, the Council has called a public hearing for October 11 to discuss lot size requirements.

Grande Pines developer Pete Mace addressed the Council during the September 13 meeting and strongly recommended that, rather than codify the ten acre requirement, the minimum acreage for horses should be revised to the original six acre requirement.

He explained that six acres is a much more appropriate lot size for today's economy, and better suited to current equestrian care practices. Horses do not need three acres per horse for pasture as required in the 2005 amended ordinance, Mace said.

"Today people buy hay and feed horses grain rather than

use pasture," he explained. "It just doesn't make sense."

Additionally, Mace said the covenants of Grande Pines were written in accordance with Foxfire ordinances and still reflect the original six acre requirement for horses, including what he described as a standard, accepted formula of incremental requirements for additional horses.

Mace recommended the requirement for private wells, as permitted equestrian properties, should also reflect a six acre minimum as opposed to the ten acre requirement.

Councilman Ed Lauer responded that the acreage requirement for wells was specifically written to protect the water supply.

"I have been trying to find

an accommodation [for equestrian needs], but what I care about is being able to supply the entire community with water," Lauer said. "What I was trying to do was limit the total number of wells."

"The real issue is the water supply," he explained. "The State is making it very difficult for us to manage water resources in this area."

### Trails and greenways

In a related discussion, Mace also recommended the Council consider adding a greenway around the perimeter of the undeveloped 160 acre property owned by Foxfire, which was donated earlier this year in lieu of a \$1.4 million assessment related to the Woodland Circle Extension project.

sion project.

"The number one amenity in communities across the country are walking trails and greenways," Mace said. "In Grande Pines, my number one amenity is the eight-mile horse trail."

He suggested that anywhere possible in Foxfire — including around developments, such as Stonehill Pines — there should be a 15' easement or greenway. He said such trails are not expensive and recommended only clearing off the smaller trees while leaving substantial, larger in diameter pines untouched.

Mayor Erickson noted that the Stonehill Pines master plan does include greenways

(See "Foxfire," p. 30)

## Best Buddy, Claude



The Sandhills Photography Club meets the second Monday of each month, at 7 pm, at Christ Fellowship Church on Midland Road at Pee Dee, Pinehurst. Meetings alternate between programs, competitions, and field-trip presentations. All meetings conclude with a social time with refreshments. Workshops and field trips round out the Club's activities. Guests are always welcome.

Brenda Hiscott's "Best Buddy, Claude" image was a third place winner in the "Macro" competition, chosen from close to 100 photos.

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## Foxfire

(Continued from page 29)

and the development, while not currently under construction, remains under a twenty-year agreement with the Village.

### Park pavilion fee

The Council during Tuesday's meeting unanimously approved a new fee structure for reserving picnic pavilions at the Village Green Park.

Frusco recommended residents be charged \$25 for three hours of exclusive use of one of the two park pavilions. Each additional hour would incur a \$10 fee, plus each reservation would require a refundable \$50 deposit. Non-residents of Foxfire may reserve a picnic pavilion for \$75 for three hours; each additional hour would incur a \$10 fee, plus each reservation would require a refundable \$100 deposit.

Individual and family use of a pavilion do not require a reservation or fee, likewise, community-wide events sponsored by the Foxfire Property Owners Association or the Foxfire Men's or Foxfire Women's Golf Associations are also exempt.

Frusco also recommended that the two pavilions be numbered or posted, and the fee is set per pavilion. Reservation of the entire pavilion facility would require paying a double fee.

Councilman McCue expressed concern that the non-resident fee was too high and argued that the Village Green Park was constructed using PARTF funding as a regional park.

"I'm all for a fee and charging non-residents more, but this fee looks like we're trying to keep them out," said McCue.

Frusco responded that she felt the fees as recommended were appropriately set.

Councilman Eltschlager also questioned the necessity of setting the fee structure for the pavilions as separate structures.

"Is the demand really that high that we need two?" he questioned.

Frusco responded that a

reservation for a private event at one pavilion would allow the second picnic area, as long as it too was not reserved, for family and casual use by other park users.

"They are renting the pavilion — not the entire park," she said. "A family would still be able to come and use the playground or walking trail, and then stop to have a picnic."

### Beautification Day

On Saturday, September 17, a small army of sixteen volunteers will be mulching flower beds at the corner of Hoffman and Tie Roads, and then pruning and weeding along two beds at Richmond Road, reported Frusco.

Spearheaded by the Appearance Committee, this is the first in a number of planned beautification efforts using Village funding for materials and supplies, but volunteer manpower to accomplish the projects.

She anticipated the second Beautification Day project will be held prior to Winter, with hopes of oiling or otherwise applying a protective coating to the pool fencing.

Councilman McCue also thanked the Appearance Committee for their efforts in identifying health and safety violations.

### Finance

As of August 31, the General Fund balance was \$722,207, which included restricted funds of \$21,000

in the Stonehill Pines account, \$75,000 in capital reserves, and \$8,300 held in the Woodland Circle fund. The Water Fund balance was \$272,402, which included \$591 held in the Woodland Circle fund. In addition, \$135,000 is held in a restricted escrow fund for a new well.

Property tax bills were sent out to residents in August, and over fifteen percent have responded, which is "right on track," Finance Director Frusco reported.

### Public Safety

The Foxfire Police Department K9 Officer 'Ruger' is on light duty, reported Councilman McCue, following a leg strain injury the dog suffered during a demonstration. He is able to perform his duties and expected to make a full recovery.

McCue also reported that Foxfire's fire hydrants have been inspected by West End Fire Rescue [WEFR] personnel. Several were discovered to be turned off, an issue that is being addressed and, in the near future, all hydrants will be repainted. The Village is providing the paint supplies and WEFR has volunteered the necessary manpower to accomplish the project.

### Other Business

In other business on Tuesday, September 13, the Foxfire Village Council:

- Approved preliminary

steps necessary to request a 10-week student intern from the UNC-Chapel Hill Master's of Public Administration [MPA] program. Frusco said an intern could provide valuable service to the community and that the program guidelines set specific responsibilities of the student intern and the Village.

• Heard from Lauer that several laws enacted recently during the 2011 General Assembly are worrisome, particularly annexation issues. "They can force us to put in water and roads, at no cost to the property owner, even under voluntary annexations," explained Lauer. "This is not the way we do business in this Village, and I recommend the Council read these laws over very seriously."

• Heard from McCue, on behalf of the Long Range Planning Committee, that 217 survey responses have been received. He noted the survey was not meant as a referendum or vote on issues, but instead as a forum to gauge resident interest on a

number of issues. Results are being tabulated and will be presented in the future.

• Heard from McCue that Steve Sparks was appointed to chair the Planning & Zoning Board. McCue also recommended a Council review of the required number of members for the Board and other similar boards in the community. Current ordinances recommend nine members on the P & Z Board, while state law only requires three, he explained.

• Approved a memorandum of understanding with Michael Brough to serve as the Village Attorney.

• Heard from Mayor Erickson that a special Work Session has been called for Tuesday, September 20 at 6:00 pm to listen to presentations from two real estate agencies interested in marketing the 160 acre property at Woodland Circle. In case additional time is necessary, a second Work Session has also been called for Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00 pm.



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## Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

worked out, noting, “we don’t know what the agreement is going to be.”

“I think we are trying to jump ahead,” Commissioner Jimmy Melton said, adding that the only thing the Board Order should be approving is the rezoning — not the water and sewer agreements.

### Protecting Nick’s Creek

During the Board’s August 16 meeting, Save Our Sandhills Secretary Ruth Stolting had asked the Commissioners to look into what she called a “loophole” in the Pine Forest rezoning application. According to Stolting, developer MHK, Inc. could use a 147-acre MHK-owned tract, which lies adjacent to Pine Forest but was not part of the rezoning, to withdraw water from Nick’s Creek.

The Planning Department addressed Stolting’s concerns at Tuesday’s meeting, reporting that Professor Rich Ducker, of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill School of Government, had advised that the county could not legally enforce water withdrawal restrictions on property that was not included in the rezoning application.

Although MHK Principal Rusty Mackey volunteered to accept, as a condition of the rezoning, a prohibition on Nick’s Creek water withdrawals from any MHK property — rezoned or not — that promise cannot be legally enforced by the County. To impose the same water withdrawal conditions for the additional 147 acres would require that the rezoning application process — which has dragged on for nearly two years — start all over again.

The Board Order, as approved, does include Mackey’s promise that water will not be withdrawn from Nick’s Creek or its tributaries on the property. UNC’s Ducker told county planners that, if MHK begins developing the property with that condition in place — thereby deriving benefit from the Order — a court could rule against any future objection the developer

might raise to the restrictions.

Board members explained their support for the Pine Forest rezoning as an attempt

to protect the property.

“I don’t know what else we can do to protect it legally, than what we have already done,” said Picerno.

During the public comment segment of the meeting, SOS’s Stolting asked that Little River also be protected in the Board Order, along

with Nick’s Creek.

“Little River was drained dry by MHK in 2009,” Stolting

(See “Commissioners,” p. 32)



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## Commissioners

(Continued from page 31)

said, arguing that MHK “could also bring water from Little River to Pine Forest for its needs.” Stolting was referring to the point made by some Pine Forest critics that MHK withdrew huge amounts of water from Little River while establishing the grass on the tees, greens, and fairways of the Dormie Club, a nearby MHK development.

However, the Board Order was approved with no mention of Little River.

Though the Board decided not to impose a time limit on the process, the next step for the developer of Pine Forest is to negotiate the necessary water, sewer, and wastewater treatment plant agreements with the County, before moving forward with the development.

### Seven Lakes Area Street Names Changed

After a Public Hearing, the Board voted to change the names of nearly 70 roads in the county, including 46 roads in the Seven Lakes area, as well as adding one road to the map of Moore County and deleting two others. Most of the changes, requested by GIS Director Chris Koltyk, either correct misspellings or add words like “Lane” or “Drive” to the name of the roads.

For example, the Seven Lakes West Road officially known as “Smathers” in the county system will now be officially known as “Smathers Drive.”

East Devonshire Avenue in Seven Lakes South, however, will become Devonshire Avenue East. Similarly, West Shenandoah Road in Seven Lakes North will become Shenadoah Road West. A list of the changes is available on the county website.

### Lea objects to Airport Loans

The Board’s decision-making process in regular meetings customarily begins with a “consent agenda.” A series of routine matters that are approved altogether, without discussion or debate.

During their Tuesday, September 6 meeting, the Com-

missioners unanimously approved items one through four on the consent agenda, but not items five and six, which concerned budget amendments that will fund upgrades at the Moore County airport.

Commissioner Lea objected to the amendments, saying he did not agree with the County lending the airport money without collecting some interest on the transaction. Given that the county is loaning “taxpayer money,” Lea said, “some type of return should be seen.”

The upgrades in question will cost a total of \$462,000, which is being repaid to the County through a percentage of the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau lodging tax. Chief Financial Officer Carrie Neal told the Board that repayment of the loan began in August.

### Planning Department

The Board on Tuesday night approved a request from Planner Tim Emmert for a change order to increase the contract of Sanford Construction by \$19,000 for work being done in the River Bend Community under a Community Devel-

opment Block Grant [CDBG].

The Board approved a request by Emmert to update the Moore County Section 3 Plan, which sets county goals for providing job training, employment, and contract opportunities to low-income families in connection with CDBG-funded work in their neighborhoods.

Two contracts for home rehabilitation under the 2009 Scattered Site Housing CDBG were awarded. A contract for \$4,900 and was awarded to Oral’s Construction Company, and another for \$40,000 was awarded to D&A Complete Construction Company.

A request by Moore County Planner Tim Garner to remove .20 mile of Samar-cand Road from the State Secondary Road maintenance system was approved by the Board. The road is located off Hwy 211 in the western portion of the county near the Moore-Montgomery County line.

### Other Business

Other Business conducted at the Moore County Board of Commissioners’ Tuesday, September 6 meeting included:

- Moore County Human Resources Director Denise Brooks presented the Board with employee recognitions for the month of September.

- Brooks also presented the Board with the NC Association of County Commissioners [NCACC] Risk Management Award for recording the lowest number of claims per \$1 million in payroll. The NCACC offers risk management pools that counties can use to insure themselves against workers compensation, property damage, and liability claims.

- A review of the goals the Commissioners set for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 have been put on hold until the next Board meeting on September 20 at 6 pm.

- Chief Finance Officer Carrie Neal presented the Board with the Sandhills Center Quarterly Report.

- The Board called a public hearing for Tuesday, Sep-

tember 20 at 6 pm for the Rural Operating Assistance Program [ROAP] Application. Moore County Transportation Services Manager Tawanna Williams told the Commissioners that funding from the ROAP application will help in providing safe and reliable public transportation to the citizens of Moore County.

- The Commissioners’ work session scheduled for Thursday, September 15 has been moved to Thursday September 22 and will be held at the Moore County Agricultural Center. The realignment of county voting districts is on the agenda.

- At the request of County Attorney Leland, the Board called a Tuesday, September 20 public hearing on a new county policy that would establish a percentage goal for participation by minority businesses in county con-

(See “County,” p. 33)



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## SLLA Work Session

(Continued from front page)

of the renewed concern about Echo Dam last week when the SLLA office distributed an email announcement, and information was posted on the community website. Darr said he is committed to sharing additional information as soon as it becomes available.

"I will report to you what is happening, but that is what we know right now," Darr said. "The bottom line is, I will keep you informed."

### Repairs to Little J Dam

The Board also discussed during Monday's Work Session, how best to deal with seepage on the left downstream side of Little Juniper Dam. The problem has existed for so long, however, that some Board members and residents questioned the need for and urgency of any repairs.

"Yes, we've had the problem for years," explained Lakes & Dams Director Don Fentzlaff. "But the urgency is that we have had this for years, and it is something that needs to be fixed."

"Call it preventive maintenance," he continued. "If we let this seepage continue, you have not only loss of water [which has been regularly replenished by pump-

ing water from other lakes back into Little Juniper], but you have loss of the dam material itself, which is what seems to be happening at Echo Dam. You don't want to be losing dam material along with the water."

To correct the problem, Fentzlaff recommended accepting a \$9,700 engineering proposal from S&ME that will include design, calculations, and permitting necessary for the repair.

The repair itself is estimated to cost no more than \$1,000, if completed in-house using Association equipment, and no more than \$5,000 if the project is contracted. As presented, the proposed repair includes installation of a toe

drain that would allow water to exit through a course of pipe protected by a sock-type covering and a siphoning drain.

"The repair will redirect any water coming down the face," said Fentzlaff, noting that the repair is to correct the existing problem and not to eliminate all seepage, as all earthen dams naturally seep water.

Treasurer Conrad Meyer asked whether it was worthwhile to seek bids from other dam engineering firms, given that the repair is not urgent.

Fentzlaff replied that his experience with S&ME suggested that the firm's fees are competitive. In addition, he pointed to the advantages of

working with a single dam engineer to maintain consistency of record-keeping.

Northsider George Temple, who serves on both the Finance Committee and the Lakes & Dams Committee, agreed with Fentzlaff.

"I look at hiring a dam engineer as similar to hiring a management company," Temple said. "If you look anywhere else, you will have to start again from scratch, and they will charge you more. S&ME is doing a really good job for us; and, if you look back, part of our problem with Echo Dam is that S&ME diagnosed the problem, and

then we hired someone else to fix it."

"Now nobody has the records of what was done," Temple concluded, referring to the \$245,000 state-mandated dam repair at Echo Dam initiated in 2006.

Meyer explained that while the Association's newly approved financial control policy recommends competitive bidding for contracts over \$5,000, the Board has the option to override that process, if it is determined there is no advantage to be gained with acquiring additional quotes.

(See "SLLA," p. 34)

## County

(Continued from page 32)

tracts.

### Appointments

The Board of Commissioners made the following appointments during their Tuesday, September 6 meeting to include:

- Tiffany Bartholomew to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.
- Mike Dunn and Kevin Fleece to the Criminal Justice Partnership for a three year term
- Vernon Kelly to the Town of Carthage Planning Board ETJ.
- Foxfire Mayor George Erickson to the Region J Advisory Council on Aging for a three year term.



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## SLLA Work Session

In further discussion, Director Bud Shaver said he would support using an outside contractor for the repairs — assuming no significant difference in cost — because an outside firm could be held accountable for the quality of their work.

The Board will decide whether to fund the S&ME proposal during the September 28 Open Meeting.

### Updating EAPs for the dams

Fentzlaff also recommended, during Monday's Work Session, updating the Association's five high hazard dam Emergency Action Plans [EAP] at a total cost of \$9,000. The updates essentially involve who gets notified — and by what means — if there is a problem with one of the dams.

The EAPs were originally drafted by S&ME in 2008. Fentzlaff explained that the Board should anticipate the need for regular updates to the plans as technology changes — for example, more people who need to be notified have access to cellphones — and properties downstream of the dams changes hands.

As presented, the update project would include new maps of areas that would be inundated in a dam failure and an updated emergency contact list. In addition, the update will tie into the Moore County GIS map system and includes reverse 911 phone capabilities.

Northsider Jim Allen said he supported an update.

"A valid reason to consider this now is that it will show the state that we are operating in good faith," Allen said. "There is a practical consideration and also common sense to doing it. In showing an abundance of caution, the more we can get the State on our side and they understand we are being proactive, the better off we'll be in the long run."

Treasurer Meyer and Southsider Ray Ulansey both expressed interest in seeing if future administrative updates could be handled in-house.

"We've already identified

the properties that need to be included [in the emergency contact list]," Ulansey said, "so we just need to make sure we have the updated information."

Fentzlaff said he would contact S&ME regarding the administration portion of the project to identify what work could be done by the SLLA and will present those findings at the September 28 Open Meeting.

### Three new boating rules proposed

In what was described as an easing of the existing rule, the Lakes & Dams Committee recommended that boats traveling outside of the ski area on Lake Sequoia at speeds less than five miles per hour may travel in either direction. Currently, all boats are required to navigate the lake in a counterclockwise direction.

The exact wording of the rule was not presented during Monday's Work Session, but will be made available prior to a vote later in September. In addition, any new boating rules will not go into effect before March 2012.

Additional rules recommended by the Lakes & Dams Committee would prohibit swimming in the designated ski area, and also prohibit any person or boats from hanging on or tying up to lake buoys, or damaging them in any way. Director Fentzlaff said the buoys are expensive to replace and that chronic abuse has left many partially submerged or moved off their appropriate placement.

Director Bob Racine cautioned that rules must be enforceable, noting that preventing swimmers from jumping off boats anchored in the ski area may be difficult.

### Boat Storage Area

Offering a brief overview of the comprehensive listing of boats and trailers — and their current conditions — stored at the Sequoia Point lot, Director Bruce Keyser, Jr. noted, to the amusement of the assembled room, that Director Fentzlaff's boat trailer

has a flat tire and Director Racine's trailer does not have a license tag.

Keyser said he would meet with Community Manager Alina Cochran for a more thorough review and discussion of options that could improve the boat storage area.

While license tags are not necessary unless the trailer enters a state-maintained roadway, Keyser said, he did recommend that an annual SLLA registration sticker should be required of all trailers. Such practice would make it easy in the future to identify any potentially abandoned trailers.

Keyser reported that all boats at the storage area have been identified and only two trailers have yet to be unidentified by their owners. However, there are several boats, previously hauled to the Yard Debris Site, that remain unidentified and are assumed to be abandoned.

Director Andy Lowe cautioned that there may be a lengthy process that must be followed before selling or junking those boats.

Darr said that one boat in particular, a catamaran, draws regular interest from

(See "SLLA," p. 35)

## Shaw House Fair

The Third Annual Shaw House Fair of vintage collectibles and antiques is Saturday, October 8 from 9 am - 4 pm at the Shaw House, corner of Morganton Road and Broad Street, Southern Pines.

Admission is free, free parking, free house tours and vintage craft demonstrations on the grounds of the historic Shaw House, built in the 1820s, the Britt Sanders Cabin and the Garner House, two restored settler dwellings built in northern Moore and occupied in the late 1700s. All proceeds benefit the Moore County Historical Association.

The fair will be held, rain or shine, and in addition

to the main offerings for sale by vendors, Clyde Maness and Friends, the Allen Smith family, and a new group, 2nd Childhood will play live music to get you in the mood. Sly Fox Restaurant will offer boxed lunches, so bring the kids and stay all day.

Other features will be the silent auction, a Moore Treasures Sale, items from the Shaw House Gift Shop that include custom designed soaps, historic photograph reproductions, note cards and writing paper, plus books and other items to make your early Christmas gift shopping simple.

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## SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 7)

potential buyers and he would like move forward with whatever steps are necessary to clear out any abandoned boats and trailers to make way for an improved boat storage area.

### Security incident

Calling it a serious incident, Darr reported that several young adults in the community had recently threatened a SLLA office staffer who was working after hours and then vandalized the windows and doors of the administration building.

The incident began with a report of a damaged picnic table located near the basketball courts at Northside Park, but escalated to the point that the Moore County Sheriff's office was contacted.

While no charges have been filed, Director Lowe said he is in contact with the District Attorney, and arrest warrants may be issued.

While this incident was isolated, Darr said petty vandalism has been an ongoing issue that the Board is determined to resolve.

"We continue to have the same problems," he said. "It is not any worse than before; but, I feel, if we can stop the minor offenses, then we can also prevent any major incidents from happening as well."

"We have an idea where the kids congregate and a number of places where they hang out," Darr continued. "The previous Board looked at sophisticated cameras, but they cost an enormous amount of money. We came in and decided they cost too much — but now here we are again. We have to have a discussion of what we are willing, as a community, to do about it."

In discussion with local law enforcement, Darr said he learned that a camera recording of activity can be solid evidence in a prosecution. He suggested that purchasing high resolution cameras that can be placed at known hot spots, rather than hiring additional off-duty

police enforcement, may be a better use of Association funds.

Picking up on a suggestion by Ray Ulansey, Lowe said he would look into options for hand-held cameras that could be used over long distances and in low light by

Roving Patrol.

Director Shaver also recommended that any off-duty enforcement would be more effective if conducted in unmarked vehicles.

Later in the Work Session discussion, Treasurer Meyer suggested forming a Security

Committee of volunteers made up of the several police officers who currently reside in the community.

Darr agreed and said he would also be interested in developing a Community Watch program, which was discussed several years ago,

but never implemented.

Director Keyser suggested that more recreational activities and programs geared toward older teens could be developed. Racine responded that it can be difficult to get parent volunteers to assist

(See "SLLA," p. 36)



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## SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 35)

with such programs, and Northsider Joan Cook argued that older children are often not interested in preplanned activities.

### Paving engineer proposals

Providing a comprehensive baseline of information about each road in the community and the recommended paving solution for each trouble spot is the primary goal for the paving engineering proposal. Last week, Board members interviewed each of the seven engineering firms who responded to the SLLA bid request for the paving analysis.

Treasurer Meyer said each of the candidate firms was qualified and could do a good job, but he felt that some offered more solid proposals than others.

He suggested that it would be worthwhile to determine whether the top candidate firms would also be able to provide additional services in the future that have already been identified, such as preparing quote packets for paving contractors and developing a design for realigning the North and South gates.

Shaver disagreed and said the decision of which engineering firm they select should be based solely on the quoted proposals.

"The first question is can they do the job," Shaver said, "then the second question

in our review should be how much is their proposal."

After discussion, Darr tasked each director with providing a list and brief explanation of their top three engineering candidates.

### Questions on covenants

Following a recent lot audit, Darr reported, research on combining and un-combining lots in the community, and a review of the covenants, has raised several questions.

Perhaps the most important question is: "Who is a member of the Association and who isn't?"

Darr noted that the bylaws refer to affiliate members based on family and contractual relationships, language he believes is left over from the original developer's documents when Seven Lakes was first created.

"As we work towards getting a lot of crazy things taken out of our Bylaws," Darr said, "we need to make sure we have policies in place that make sense and are in keeping with what we all want."

He continued: "Some of this stuff dates back to when the 1978 covenants were drawn up. But then there was a bankruptcy, and what we have now is no guidance on how to update the covenants."

Darr said it would be a huge process to update the covenants and questioned whether such action would be worth the effort.

"Bylaws and rules and regulations have been updated, but not the covenants," he said. "This Board wants to take care of some of this stuff and get it where it needs to be."

Director Fentzlaff noted that a lot of historical policies in place were initiated on a case-by-case basis. He recommended that future policy wording needed to be simpler and straight forward.

Northsider Joan DeBruin told Darr she had helped a large non-profit rewrite their bylaws and said it would be a cumbersome process that would require legal expertise and review.

"This is not something that you will be able to solve quickly," said DeBruin. "It will take a lot of time and a

lot of thought by a group of people. It is not fun, but it must be done."

Shaver agreed that an update would be a tremendous task and cautioned Darr about overextending an already burdened Board. He also expressed frustration that, when new or revised rules are approved by the Board, they are often forgotten and frequently never added into the official rules and regulations books.

Treasurer Meyer said he only uses the online version of the rules for reference, since it is the most frequently updated source, and also warned that rules and regulations were very different from covenants.

"This is a whole different ball game," he cautioned.

"Updating covenants is in a league of its own."

### Other Business

In other business on Monday, September 12, the SLLA Board:

- Appointed Don Fentzlaff to serve as Vice President, by a vote of acclamation. The executive position has been vacant since Director Melinda Scott's resignation earlier this Spring.
- Received a copy of a proposed annual evaluation form to review the Community Manager's performance. A separate evaluation form will be drafted to review the performance of Talis Management Group.

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Sandhills Animal Rescue League [SARL] is a no kill shelter, 501(c)3 organization operating since January 2002.

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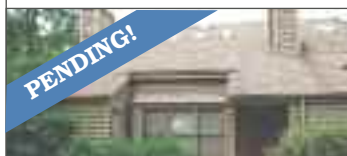
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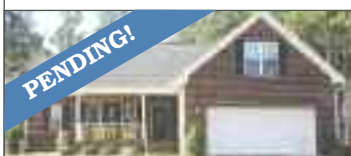
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