

Coffee break @ the Winery



Barista Mitchell Wilcox and Sandhills Winery owner Leslie Rose enjoy a cappuccino by the Winery's new coffee bar. [See page 6 for the full story.]

And the voting has begun

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Twelve percent of Moore County's 63,000 registered voters had either voted early or requested an absentee ballot by mail Octo-

ber 24, with just thirteen days to go before Election Day, Tuesday, November 6.

Early voting — which is technically "one-stop absentee voting, began at the Moore County Agricultural Center on October 18, and will continue through November 3.

An early voting site opened at the old West End School Gym on Wednesday, October 24. Hours of operation are: Monday - Friday 11:00am - 6:00pm; Saturday, October 27 9:00am - 1:00pm; and Saturday, November 3 9:00am - 3:00pm.

Among the many competitive races on the ballot is one for District II County Commissioner. *The Times* interviewed Ellen Marcus and Nick Picerno, the candidates for that office; you'll find the results of those interviews on pages 5 and 6 of this edition.

Whatever your political persuasion, *The Times* encourages you to exercise your right and your duty to participate in the democratic process, and vote.

West Side needs Board candidates

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



One name has been penciled in for the 2013 election ballot of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors and another prospective candidate has been identified; but the list ends there.

"We need candidates. We need people to come forward and be willing to sit on this side of the table at meetings," SLWLA Secretary Jane Sessler said during the Tuesday, October 23 General Meeting.

Anticipating three vacancies on next year's Board, Sessler reported that the Nominating

Committee is seeking at least two more candidates which would allow voters to have more choices during the election.

"Last year, we had three candidates for three seats," she cautioned, noting that the limited ballot created consternation. "Please, if you are at all inclined to serve, contact myself or any member of the Nominating Committee."

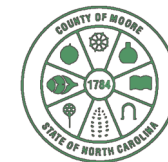
Siren-activated gates

Making progress to comply with a county order to improve the emergency gates on Lake Auman Dam, Safety & Security Director Ed Cockman said he is collecting bids to replace the existing manual

(See "Westside," p. 12)

Broadlink tower deal questioned

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



The County Manager's snap decision to allow a temporary antenna on a County-owned water tank without compensation prompted a lengthy two-pronged discussion on broadband service during the Moore County Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, October 16.

A Labor Day weekend emergency had County Manager Cary McSwain caught between the desire to maintain reliable internet service for mostly rural Moore County residents and state laws that discourage partnerships

between local government and private companies.

McSwain explained that Broadlink, a Moore County company that provides high speed internet service, requested the temporary antenna after a failure of their standard tower. He said the decision to allow the temporary antenna was made quickly and included an understanding that the antenna would be removed when a lease contract with the County— then in progress — was completed.

Subsequently, the County Attorney notified McSwain that the temporary antenna was not a legal placement because of the lack of compensation to Moore County.

(See "Commissioners," p. 27)

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7 Lakes Village Beautifiers need your help

by Barbara McElroy
Seven Lakes Village
Beautification Committee

The Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee is asking for your help to allow us to continue our enhancement of the village grounds. We are a volunteer group from the entire community whose mission is to improve the landscape appearance in our village, which means that all our work is outside of the

gates. The committee is entirely dependent on contributions and the work of volunteers.

Seven Lakes Village has no village governance to provide funding for landscape maintenance and enhancement and receives no money from the governing boards within the gates.

The business owners carry a heavy burden that includes maintaining the roads within

the Village, taking care of their own properties, and maintaining the village green. The Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee does its best to maintain and upgrade the right-of-way between Highway 211 and the railroad tracks, and the stone (Zen) garden at the east end of Seven Lakes Drive. The "Welcome to Seven Lakes" signs on Highway 211 and near the triangle on Seven Lakes Drive were also made and installed by committee members.

We hope you have noticed the visible improvement during our ten years of existence. We have not requested support for over two years and our funds are running low. Although planting, pruning, and weeding labor is volunteered, financial support is needed to cover the cost of plants, mulch, and mowing.

Your donation of any amount is appreciated and will be acknowledged.

Please make checks payable to Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee and mail to: Barbara

McElroy, 1249 Seven Lakes North, West End, NC 27376.

The Steering Committee thanks you for your continued support: Al and Linda Geiger, Don and Barb Gerhardt, Kathy Goodman, Tere-

sa Hessler, Paula Hill, Barb and Phil McElroy, Barb Mercer, Edie Reinhardt, Alice Shaughnessy, Nancy Shereda, Magda Sonderfan, and Deb Temple.

Robbins hosts Harvest Festival this Saturday

Join in for the Harvest Fest on Saturday, October 27, from 12 pm to 10 for an exciting day of fun.

Box car derby at noon; food vendors, games, and family fun all day long.

Bluegrass music from 5 to 8 pm, face painting, 6 to 9 pm; Trick or Treat with local businesses 6 to 7:30 pm.

There will be a costume

contest for kids and adults, with Registration 5 to 6 pm; judging 6 to 7:30 pm, with winners announced at 8 pm.

The Town of Robbins and Robbins Fire Department will have a Ghost Ride from 7:30 to 10 pm, with all hay rides free for kids.

Come to Robbins and enjoy the Harvest Fest with your family!

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Nov 16	Nov 23
Nov 30	Dec 7
Dec 14	Dec 21
Dec 28	Jan 4

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

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Literacy Council needs Seven Lakes tutors

Imagine going through life without being able to help your child with homework or understand medical information. This is what life is like for over 15,000 adults in Moore County who are "functionally illiterate."

In the Seven Lakes area, a lack of tutors is the only thing standing in the way of a number of adults who are trying to improve their literacy skills. "We have more students than tutors right now," explains Paula Hill, Coordinator of the Moore County Literacy Council's [MCLC] Seven Lakes Tutoring Site.

The Seven Lakes site currently has sixteen students, eleven women and five men, with eleven tutors, who meet Tuesdays between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm at Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church on Seven Lakes Drive. The free program has been active for over five years and serves adults from Eagle Springs, Candor, and the West End area.

"Our student population includes two husband-wife pairs and a mother and her grown daughter," said Hill. "All our current students speak English as a second language and want to improve their communication skills."

Ellen Frazier, who responded to the call for tutors at Seven Lakes, taught reading recovery in first grade in Connecticut prior to relocating to the area. Frazier has touched the life of Lorena Zabaleta, from Eagle Springs, who says she is grateful for the individual attention she receives from working with her tutor. "Once I speak better," says Zabaleta, "I will be able to find work."

Most tutors are not former teachers like Frazier. They are community volunteers who take the tutor training provided by Moore County Literacy Council. Once training is completed, volunteers are invited to fill out a preference sheet if they are willing to proceed.

"A match with a student is made based on the expressed preferences and

schedules of each," explains Marian Maroney, Program Specialist for Moore County Literacy Council. Both commit to a year's work, meeting once a week for one to two hours, using an individual learning plan developed for the student."

All materials are provided by MCLC staff members, who

offer teaching tips, training opportunities, and information about on-line resources. Tutors also hand in monthly time sheets and quarterly progress reports.

While the purpose of the program is to help adults improve their literacy skills, tutors often comment on how the experience benefits them.



Literacy Tutor Ellen Frazier and her student Lorena Zabaleta



"Getting to know people from other cultures and other walks of life is a great learning opportunity for the tutors, as well as for the students,"

explains Hill.

According to Hill, some fun occurs during the fifteen minute round table discussions.

(See "Literacy," p. 9)

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Ellen Marcus – Commissioner Candidate

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Ellen Marcus thinks outside the box — that box being the standard cut-taxes-economic-development box that defines the objectives of many candidates for local office.

"Affordable housing." That's the first goal Marcus names when asked what she hopes the Moore County Board of Commissioners would accomplish in the next four years if she were elected to represent District II.

It's not a goal that a reporter hears every day from a candidate for County Commissioner. And she follows that up with a couple of other objectives that approach economic development from the ground up.

Marcus, who lives in the Pinedale section of Pinehurst, is running as a Democrat for the seat currently occupied by McLendon Hills resident Nick Picerno.

We need more affordable housing, and I think that there is a way to do that."

"They are always going outside and getting people to save us and build a new golf course. We already have some really well-established golf courses. Why bring in competition for the other golf courses?"



Ellen Marcus

Affordable Housing

Pointing out that the percentage of Moore Countians living in poverty jumped from eight percent to nineteen percent in the past four years, Marcus said: "Lots of lower and middle income families are being priced out of homes.

"Bringing in affordable homes for the people that already live here is what would make our economy grow. If you can afford your home, you have more disposable income."

"A one-bedroom rental starts at \$500," Marcus explained. "That's almost a

house note. When you look at the minimum wage, at \$7.25 per hour — and we have low wages in this county — and try to do the math of how a family can pay that for rent, it's really, really tight."

Where affordable housing is located is also important, Marcus told *The Times*.

"It needs to be close to resources and services. I have great respect for Habitat for Humanity, because the people who get those homes work for them. But sometimes they are located pretty far out, away from the resources. If you are closer to resources, then transportation is not a problem."

"In a lot of communities, you see vacant homes. It makes sense to build up where the infrastructure is." Turning to housing on the other end of the spectrum, Marcus pointed out that "gated communities keep moving out farther than the existing infrastructure — and we're the ones who have to pay to have it extended to them."

"I am a huge proponent of building up rather than building out," Marcus said, "because that builds stronger communities. When you con-

tinue to build out you lose that sense of community."

Job Training

And once folks can afford a place to live, if they are going to get a good paying job, Marcus continued, they need specialized training.

"If you look in the classified ads, most of the jobs are job-specific for training — especially at the hospital. A lot of adults who have lost their jobs need retraining. They need to be able to fit into the job market that we have. We need to support the college and the high schools in providing that training."

Marcus said she herself has been on a job search,

after giving up freelance reporting for the *Fayetteville Observer* when she decided to run for office. With a degree in anthropology from Stephen Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX, Marcus was Director at Malcolm Blue Farm, administered million-dollar budgets for academic departments, and cleaned houses with a friend's cleaning service.

"It shouldn't be just one time a year that the School Board goes to the Commissioners and says 'This is our budget' and then they have to wait on pins and needles to know whether it has been approved or not," Marcus

(See "Marcus," p. 17)

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Nick Picerno – Commissioner Candidate

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Rising taxes persuaded Nick Picerno to run for the Board of Commissioners in 2008, and he's spent the past four years trying to trim the size of county government, in order to avoid tax increases in the future.

"Six years ago," the McLendon Hills resident told *The Times*, "the County had a property revaluation. Property tax bills for the average citizen went up thirty percent."

"In between that and the next budget, the voters approved \$69.5 million in school bonds. And we had another tax increase. That was close to a forty percent tax increase in two years. I didn't like the trend. Something wasn't right to all of the sudden need that kind of revenue — and the bigger increase actually happened before the bond issue."

"I had some skills that I thought I could apply to the problem," Picerno continued. "The economy was hitting some tough times. I didn't think it was time to be raising taxes again. I wanted to see if we could continue to grow as a county without growing tax revenues."

"And, in my first year, we cut the property tax rate. As a result, every year since I have been a commissioner, \$2 million, approximately, has been saved by the people of this county — they've kept it in their pocket, instead of sending it to Carthage."

"I do not believe we have a revenue problem in Moore County," Picerno said. "The current tax rate is adequate to give the citizens the services that I believe they are asking us to give them."

Nor does Picerno accept the criticism that budget cuts have hurt public education. "The schools are in good shape," he told *The Times*. "Every year, we have given the schools what they asked or requested."

"I read that Mike Griffin [Moore County Schools' Finance Officer] said they were starting off this year in one of the best financial con-

ditions they had been in."

"That's important," Picerno said, "because, to grow as a county, you have to have good schools, good health care, and a good business economy."



Nick Picerno

Development

"One of the other things I ran on was to grow Moore County responsibly," Picerno told *The Times*. "Growth is important, but it needs to be balanced with quality of life."

He points to the contentious rezoning of the Pine Forest tract as an example of

responsible decision-making.

"We had a huge issue in Pine Forest," Picerno explained. "After eleven hours of testimony, the developer felt like he won, and the citizens were protected. The developer would have to satisfy the water and the sewer agreements. These agreements were hammered out. The environment was protected. And we reduced the number of potential homes that could have been put on that property under the existing zoning. What we got was a better solution than what was possible under the original zoning."

"All I had to do, in that

decision, was make sure we protected the citizens of Moore County. I think we

made the proper decision." Asked to explain his under-

(See "Picerno," p. 14)

The Times' candidate interviews

In early October, *Seven Lakes Times* Editor Greg Hankins met individually with Nick Picerno and Ellen Marcus, both running for the District II seat on the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

Our conversations were relatively free-form, in an attempt to focus on the issues each candidate felt were most important for the County in the next four years.

The articles on page 4 and 5 report the substance of those interviews. At www.sevenlakestimes.net you can find our report on comments Picerno and Marcus made during an October 11 League of Women Voters forum in Pinehurst. *The Times* does not endorse candidates; however, we do encourage all citizens to vote on or before Election Day, Tuesday, November 6.

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Coffee at the Winery

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Whether you're craving a fun-flavored latte or a simple cup of freshly-brewed coffee or tea, the new coffee bar and lounge area at Sandhills Winery is the perfect spot to enjoy a steaming cup of inspiration.

"This is something that has been missing in our community," said owner, Leslie Rose. "We listened to what people wanted and they all said, 'We miss having a coffee shop.'"

Already a well-established social gathering place and community hub, Rose knew Sandhills Winery was the perfect location for a new coffee bar.

"We are so pleased to be able to extend our 'Cheers' environment into the morning. Our goal has always been creating a place here in Seven Lakes where everyone knows your name," Rose said. "This is why we opened our business. We want our neighbors to have an enjoyable place to come without having to drive to town."

Featuring a relaxed lounge area with sofas and gathering tables and also a beautiful outdoor garden terrace, Sandhills Winery offers an ideal location no matter the weather and coffee is being served all day long.

Created especially for Sandhills Winery by barista, Mitchell Wilcox, and co-owner Bob Rose, Leslie said their house blend is a mix of global flavors that has proved to be quite popular.

"Every week, our coffee is roasted fresh at Cactus Creek and then we grind it daily in our shop," she said.

Delicious on its own or with a little something extra mixed in, Wilcox can create specialty lattes or coffees to order using a variety of fun flavors including Snickers, Milky Way, Peppermint Patty, hazelnut brit-

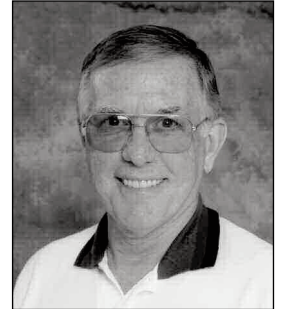
(See "Coffee," p. 13)



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New chiropractic office opens in 7 Lakes

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

"Where the quality of life counts" is more than just a business slogan for Dr. Sharon Wright — it is how she defines her practice.

As the owner and operator of Moore County Chiropractic, which recently opened in Seven Lakes Business Village, Wright said her focus is on looking at the whole patient as a person rather than just focusing on a back, neck, or headache concern.

"I'm trying to get to the root of their condition or to where the problem started," she explained. "I start by looking further into their history. A lot of issues are related in some way and may be overlooked. All conditions have an underlying inflammation. By decreasing it, you can improve your overall condition and quality of life."

In practice in North Carolina for more than twenty years, prior to studying chiropractic medicine, Wright worked as a medical lab technician at hospitals in North Carolina and Missouri. She earned a Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine degree from Logan College of Chiropractic in St. Louis, MO, in 1989, and has also studied at Pembroke State University, NC State University, and Sandhills Community College.

A lifelong learner, Wright said she is always looking for new and innovative ways to treat her patients. She has extended her knowledge with post-graduate coursework in radiology, nutrition, clinical diagnosis, neurology, orthopedics, detox and weight loss, candidiasis, fibromyalgia, and much more, studying with experts throughout the United States, as far away as Canada, and even a two-week course in Germany at The Institute for Innovative Medicine.

In addition to her new practice in Seven Lakes, Dr. Wright also sees patients in Raleigh and Charlotte, with care extended to children, teens, and adults.

"No one is too old or too young to be treated by a chiropractor," she said. "I will do my best to help anyone improve their quality of life. I may get a patient calling about neck or back pain. But as I get more information, I may recommend a course of treatment that will benefit their overall health."

She describes a typical consultation as an exam with x-rays — because it is important to see the spine clearly — and then a proper course of treatment is determined. Wright performs traditional manual adjustments and also activator adjustments,

using a handheld instrument. Treatment may also include some physical therapy with muscle stimulation, stretching, and exercise. In addition, Wright said she can offer a nutritional evaluation, if needed, as well as herbal supplements and a unique detox foot bath therapy.

"The detox foot bath is a commercial machine that pulls the toxins out of the

body," Wright explained. "Your largest pores are in your feet. By getting the toxins out, you are able to decrease any inflammation."

In particular, she noted that detox therapy can be used to improve a variety of difficult to treat conditions including arthritis, fibromyalgia, joint pain, and allergies.

A good example is Lisa Newstrom, a young adult patient of Dr. Wright's.

After starting a new posi-

tion at Food Lion in Seven Lakes, Newstrom noticed she had tingling sensations and other neck and back problems due to overhead lifting required for her job. In addition, she has a chronic thyroid disorder, has long suffered from migraines, and takes daily prescription medicines.

"What I wasn't expecting was, after I had those first few adjustments, that my

(See "Wright," p. 16)



Dr. Sharon Wright

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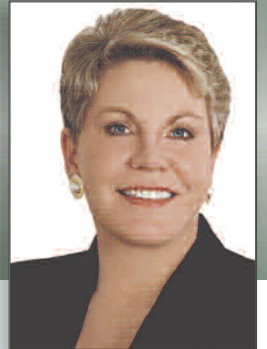


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Keri Garner joins Seven Lakes Massage

Massage Therapist Keri Beck Garner has joined Seven Lakes Massage & Body Therapies in Seven Lakes Business Village.

Garner received her diploma in the 660 hour program for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork, from the Body Therapy Institute in Chatham County.

Keri is very excited to be the newest member of the dedicated staff at Seven Lakes Massage & Body Therapies. She will be offering both Swedish and deep tissue massage. Keri lives with her husband, Gary, in High Falls in Northern Moore County.

Book an appointment before the end of October with Keri and receive a massage special of 25% off the appointment.

Call 910-673-2000 to schedule your appointment at Seven Lakes Massage & Body Therapies.



Keri Garner

Literacy

(Continued from page 3)

sions where the group convenes in the middle of the evening.

Last week, Hill showed a video of herself jumping out of an airplane and explained this had been her dream for many years. Students then explained their dreams and

goals.

"Thankfully we live in a community where people care for one another, so once the word goes out, tutors will hopefully come forward," says Hill.

To learn more about tutoring, call 910-692-5954 or e-mail pammclc@nc.rr.com.

Moore County Literacy Council is a United Way partner and provides tutoring in Aberdeen, Carthage, Robbins, Southern Pines, Pinehurst, Vass and West End.

The Seven Lakes Tutoring Site is supported by a grant from the Moore County Community Foundation.

Methodist Fall Festival

The West End United Methodist Church will have a Fall Festival on Sunday, October 28, from 5:30 – 7 pm, at the West End Scout Lodge (3164 Carthage Road – just outside Seven

Lakes).

There will be games, crafts, bingo and a cake walk, and also serving Hot Dogs. Everyone is invited to attend this time of fun and fellowship.

Zumba at Seven Lakes Baptist

Everyone is invited to join in for a Zumba Dance Class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church every Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 8:00 pm and Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30 am, in the Hankins Family Life Center.

A Zumba licensed instructor will be teaching. This is a Free community class. Questions? 673-4656.

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For more information, call NAMI at 910-295-1053 and leave a message. We will return your call.

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In memory of . . .

Florence White "Suzy" Kernan, died on October 21, at St. Joseph of the Pines Nursing Center, Southern Pines. She was the daughter of Frank and Mary White of Philadelphia, PA.

Upon completion of nursing school, she joined the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during World War II and was assigned to England where she met her husband, William F. Kernan.

They had an exciting and rewarding thirty-three year Army life together with assignments around the U.S., Germany, and Panama. Col. Kernan and Mrs. Kernan retired to San Antonio, Texas in 1973. She moved to Pinehurst in 2008.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Joe, and her husband, Bill.

Survivors include four children and their families, Buck and Marianne Kernan of Pinehurst; Suzi Lowrey of Hampton VA; Michael and Bobi Kernan of San Antonio; TX; Jim and Letti Kernan of Austin, TX; also six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the chapel of St. Joseph's Nursing Center on Friday, 26 October at 11 am. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Memorial contributions

may be made in memory of Mrs. Kernan to the: Linden Lodge Foundation, P.O. Box 4153, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Barbara Ann Kass, 84, of Seven Lakes West died October 18, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

She was the daughter of the late Walter and Margaret Binck Kunsek, and sister of Walter Kunsek.

Funeral services were held Monday October 22, at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes.

Mrs. Kass enjoyed cooking, gardening, crocheting, and enjoyed the long seasons of good weather in North Carolina. She is survived by her husband of 62 years Samuel Kass; daughter Sandra Houle and Andre; sons, William Kass and Christina, and Robert Kass and Rhonda, her nine grandchildren.

Ralph Ernest Grossheim, 83, of Seven Lakes, died Thursday, October 18, at FirstHealth Hospice House, Pinehurst.

Mr. Grossheim was born in Newark, NJ, he was the son of the late Ernest Rudolph Grossheim and Henrietta (Langenberg) Grossheim. He attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on a Navy scholarship and served as a Lieutenant in the US

Navy during the Korean War.

After serving his country, Mr. Grossheim went to work for the Aluminum Company of America. He had a distinguished career that took him and his family to a variety of locations including Trinidad, Washington, Pennsylvania, Suriname, Alabama, and Texas. He and his wife retired to Seven Lakes in 1992.

Mr. Grossheim participated in the Seven Lakes Landowner's Association, Lion's Club, the Investment Club, Junior Achievement, and Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Irene; son Ralph and wife Becky; daughters Gail and Reanie; son Todd and wife Lisa; and son Kurt and wife Jill; and twelve grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to FirstHealth Hospice Foundation or the Alzheimer's Association.

Col Richard J (Joe) Fellingham, Sr., USMC (Retired), died at the age of 89, at his home in Seven Lakes West on Sunday, October 14.

Mr. Fellingham was born in Hastings, Nebraska the son of Catherine Kelly Fellingham and Richard Arthur Fellingham. He grew up in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He

enlisted at the age of 19 into the Marines in 1942 after finishing one year at Iowa State University, to serve his country after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

He earned two degrees while serving his country, a B.S. in Military Science at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and an Aeronautical Engineering degree at the Navy Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He married Frances Bierl in 1948 and raised three daughters and one son. He served 27 years as a Marine Corps fighter pilot was on active duty in World War II, the Korean

War, and the buildup in Vietnam, retiring as a Colonel in 1969.

He then worked as an Aeronautical Engineer at Grumman Aerospace in Bethpage, New York for 15 years.

In May of 1983, he and his wife retired to Seven Lakes, where he took on several leadership roles in the fledgling community. He served as the first President of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association for five years, served on numerous committees throughout the years and was the first Wall of Honor designee for the Seven

(See "In memory," p. 11)

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'Trick or Feed' with West Pine Middle FCA

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Looking to fill up their Halloween bags with canned goods for the homeless rather than chocolate and candy, members of West Pine Middle School's Fellowship of Christian Athletes [FCA] club are sponsoring a 'Trick or Feed' event on October 31.

This is the second year the interdenominational, student-led group has sponsored a food drive to coincide with Halloween; but they are hoping — with a little advance notice to area residents and through a partnership with the God Sent Angels mission — that they'll be even more successful this time around.

"Every year, we do community service projects including collecting donations to purchase and build bicycles for the Bikes for Tykes program, and we're also planning a toy drive for Christmas," explained Dr. Barry Kavanaugh, Jr., of Seven Lakes Eye Care, who has served as a sponsor and mentor of West Pine Middle's FCA program for nearly a decade.

"Last year, the kids had the idea that, instead of trick-or-treating for candy, they could go door-to-door to collect canned goods," Kavanaugh said. "Most people were able to grab something from their own shelves. But we decided to do it again — only, this time, to give the

community a heads up. Trick or Feed is a cool way to have a food drive and for the kids to get out and do something positive while they have fun with their friends."

To ensure their collected goods are delivered to where they are needed most, the FCA students have partnered

with God Sent Angels, a West End-based charity mission established by Brenda and Ron Burt.

Using her barbershop in West End as a base of operations, Brenda Burt established God Sent Angels two years ago. Together with her husband, Ron, she collects

and distributes canned goods, clothing, hygiene items, blankets and furnishings to over 200 homeless people in Moore County. The Burts were recognized and honored with the Governor's Medallion Award for Volunteer Service, this past Spring.

The West Pine Middle FCA

welcomes all students to join them in collecting canned goods, pasta, and dry cereal this Halloween. Donations to Trick or Feed may be offered to collection boxes placed in the Seven Lakes North, South, and West mail houses or at West Pine Middle School.



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In memory

(Continued from page 10)

Lakes West Landowners Association.

Survivors include his wife Fran; son Joe, daughters Linda and Kelly, and his grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Friday, October 19 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pinehurst. Interment was at Seven Lakes Cemetery with full military honors.

Memorial donations may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 300 Dundee Road, Pinehurst or FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst.

Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

locks with a siren-activated gate system.

He noted that recent discussion of the gate system had prompted several emails from members. Cockman said most of the input was helpful and included ideas and suggestions, at least one of which will be acted upon; however, other emails were described as "inappropriate."

Cockman said he would welcome a conversation with anyone at anytime, but warned that he expected civil language and behavior from Association residents.

Joe Fellingham recognized

Opening the meeting with a prepared statement, SLWLA President Mick Herdrich described the late Joe Fellingham as a great asset to the community and offered his deepest sympathy to Fellingham's family.

A founding member of Seven Lakes West and a tireless volunteer, Fellingham, who died at home on Sunday, October 14 will long be remembered for his efforts through the Joe Fellingham Community Service Award for Volunteerism, Herdrich

said. The award is presented annually to a resident who best exemplifies that same spirit of outstanding service.

Septic inspection program

A technical glitch prevented communication between two SLWLA office computers; and, as a result, several residents were sent a second notice regarding the mandatory septic inspection program, prior to receiving an initial notification letter.

Community Manager Jeanette Mendence apologized for the confusion.

In a related discussion during member comments, Chuck Spelman said an awareness campaign about the septic program was needed. Specifically, Spelman said, some homeowners have not understood the distinction between a septic system inspection and simply having the tank pumped out.

"People are confused, and they do not know what they have to do," Spelman said.

Mendence responded that the Association septic program requires an inspection every three years, and the inspector will determine if the system needs to be

cleaned out, at that time. Following the inspection, it is the resident's responsibility to ensure that a copy of that inspection has been filed with the Association office.

'Trunk or Treat' & other upcoming events

A Halloween 'Trunk or Treat' event featuring pumpkin picking, a fortune teller, face painting, fishing for prizes, and costume contest will be held Saturday, October 27 from 2-4 pm, at West Side Park Community Center [WSPCC].

Volunteers are needed to come out and help decorate for the holidays! On Friday, November 16, starting at 9 am, meet at the mailhouse to help decorate the entrance gates. Then on Saturday, November 17, again starting at 9 am, join your neighbors with some holiday spirit and put up the Christmas tree and help decorate the Community Center.

Director Rosemary Weber reported that there was a good turnout for the Yellow Dot Program last Saturday, with thirty-eight residents signed up. She thanked the Events Committee for a fab-

ulous job with the recent Octoberfest party, which was a big hit with a few additions this year, including Bavarian-style pretzels and tasting of harvest seasonal beers. The event also included a Bavarian Brass Band and German foods.

Infrastructure

Three more fire hydrants have been installed, reported Director Jim Pierman, including units placed near Dennis Circle and Baker Circle on Longleaf Drive.

A soil stabilization effort at the lower pond dam required grass seeding. For a yet-unknown reason, some of that seed did not take and there are bare areas on the

dam. Pierman reported the committee has struggled a bit with the problem and have sent soil samples to the NC Extension Service Office for chemical analysis.

Lake & Dam

Good progress has been made with the Pond Dam #3 remediation process, reported Director Bruce Keyser, Sr.

Work on the sheet piling is complete, the old drain has been filled with cement, the removal of stumps and other organic materials is complete, and embankment work to meet specifications is ongoing on both the pond face and dam face sides. Keyser anticipated the project

(See "Westside," p. 13)



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November 17 - Thanksgiving Turkey
Featuring fresh local turkeys. We will take the stress out of preparing your Thanksgiving turkey by showing you some simple steps to brining, stuffing and cooking.

November 24 - Soups and Sandwiches
What to do with holiday dinner leftovers? Colder weather calls for warm soup and what better to accompany the soup than a warm sandwich. Let us show you some wonderful soup and sandwich ideas.

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Westside meeting

(Continued from page 12)

will be complete in the next three weeks.

In other discussion, he reported the Lake & Dam Committee interviewed sev-

eral engineering firms and have accepted the recommendation of Dr. Dan Marks to work with Geo Technologies, Inc. [GTI], as Marks' successor. Dr. Marks has

agreed to assist with the transition of documents and paperwork, which will be combined, reviewed, and then assembled by GTI prior to completing a prospective quote for annual engineering services. The transition process is expected to take a year, during which time, Keyser noted, Dr. Marks' expertise and knowledge will continue to be vital to the community.

Amendments to Bylaws and Rules approved

The Board unanimously approved two amendments related to set fines and penal-

ties for violations. Legal Director Jack Stevens presented the revisions as a house-keeping request to keep the community Bylaws and Rules & Regulations in compliance with related sections of the NC Planned Community Act.

Treasurer's Report

Cash disbursements of \$124,894 in September were typical, except for two large non-recurring items, reported Treasurer Don Freiert.

Those expenses included the purchase of twelve new fire hydrants, at a cost of \$34,862, and a \$15,000 deposit to Bill Reaves Con-

struction Company for the mailhouse project.

October marks the end of the second quarter of the fiscal year, and Freiert anticipated quarterly investment reports and a forecast report for the entire year would be distributed in November.

Architectural Review

Pleased to announce a "fairly significant number of new projects" initiated in the last month, Director Dan Blue said the committee has reviewed six major projects, including three new home construction applications.

(See "Westside," p. 14)

Coffee

(Continued from page 6)

tle, pumpkin spice, white mocha and more. Other family-friendly options include Chai tea, decaf options, hot chocolate with miniature marshmallows and fresh baked goods, which are also made locally.

"Just come and try our coffee. I know you'll like it and it's so important to support the local, small business community," Rose said.

"I am very concerned that we are starting to lose some of our longstanding businesses here in Seven Lakes. It increases our property values and our quality of life to have restaurants and places to shop," she said. "We would like to thank all of our customers who have brought us this far and we really appreciate the support but, it is important to not overlook the opportunities here in our town," she said.

Established over three years ago, Sandhills Winery made an immediate and lasting impact on both the business and social scene in

Seven Lakes. In 2009, the Rose's were honored by the Moore County Chamber of Commerce with the 'Entrepreneur of the Year' award.

Offering hundreds of varieties of wine – that match or beat grocery store prices – Sandhills Winery will deliver preordered cases of wine, free of charge, and the shop also features craft beers from around the world, fine foods and cheeses, and made-to-order gift baskets.

"We can add that personal touch to our gift baskets," said Rose. "And if we don't have what you are looking for, we will find it."

Sandhills Winery is open Mondays from 6:30 am to 11 am, and then Tuesday through Saturday 6:30 am to 7 pm. Every Thursday evening, Sandhills Winery presents a wine tasting event with hors d'oeuvres. To subscribe to a weekly email newsletter with information on special events and wine specials, find Sandhills Winery on Facebook or visit www.sandhillswinery.com

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Picerno

(Continued from page 5)

standing of the Board of Commissioners' role in shaping development in the County, Picerno said, "You try to get all the facts out on the table and to weed out the emotional arguments . . . It's the factual arguments that you actually have to apply, because the thing that I would not ever want to see is for the county to get into the lawsuit with a developer that we can't win, because we were emotionally making decisions instead of factually making decisions, based on what we can do as Commis-

sioners."

"It's my job as a Commissioner to encourage development where it makes sense, but to make sure that the guys doing the development understand where we are and what we want to be. A good developer would want to play into that rather than bring in something new that no one would want to buy."

"I think we have a role, and I think Pine Forest was a good example of that role. We were fair to both sides, we listened. I think we have a role, and this Board recognizes it and takes it very

seriously."

"There are pros and cons and it is a fine line," Picerno said. "The one thing you won't find, when you become a Commissioner, is a handbook of correct answers."

"Moore County's value is in our liberty and our quality of life. The reason I moved my business from Fayetteville to Moore County, was because I liked the pace of life here."

Water Supply

Acknowledging that the Commissioners have had some difficulty in deciding among the various options for expanding the County's water supply, Picerno said, "I believe, within the next six months, you will likely see a direction. We will actually decide."

"We are continuing to secure additional water supplies," Picerno added. "Over my four years we have added Harnett County as a source. That gave us another million gallons of capacity — and another million available if we build the infrastructure. We have added more capacity with new wells in Pinehurst." "We have added a couple

of million gallons in capacity, taking the focus off the short term and letting us look at the intermediate and long term options for bringing more water into the system. A key question is how you pay for it. That is one reason the board hasn't decided which way to go."

"Robbins [as a source of water] was a big issue," he explained, "and we've tried to give every opportunity to make that work. Even though it's not a dead issue, it has lost a little of its attractiveness. But it is still part of the puzzle, and that's what makes it difficult."

"Everything has a cost," Picerno said. "If we could just print money, then we could do them all. But there is not a lot of appetite to

raise the cost of government or utilities."

Debt

Asked about the County's level of indebtedness — and Commissioner Tim Lea's recent attempts to draw attention to it — Picerno said, "I'm like anyone else. If we could do it without having debt, I'd be the first one to say let's do it."

He noted that the analysis Lea has been using to point to the growth in County debt has as its baseline June 2007 — just before voters approved a \$69 million school bond issue. By choosing that date, "you have increased your debt by 200 percent the first year, and that was two years before I took office," Picerno

(See "Picerno," p. 15)

Westside meeting

(Continued from page 13)

"We are very excited to see that," he said.

Blue said the committee has noticed an uptick in the number of requests for permission to remove dead or diseased trees. In an effort to make life easier for residents as well as the committee, he said that notification letters recommending removal of dead or diseased trees include a short three-item form. Specifically, rather than send a separate request to ARC, residents may return the signed form that includes the name of their contractor and the scheduled date of the tree removal.

"We are looking to reduce the burden on our commu-

nity members, while also continuing to maintain our standards as best we can," Blue explained.

Other business

In other business during the General Meeting on Tuesday, October 23:

- Operating hours at the Yard Waste Site will be reduced to 3 pm to 5 pm, starting November 7.

- President Herdrich said an unexpected permit issue delayed the start of construction on the mailhouse, but work should begin next week.

- The Board next meets in Work Session on November 13; due to Thanksgiving, a General Meeting will not be scheduled for November.



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Picerno

(Continued from page 14)
said.

The bulk of the County's indebtedness is based on voter-approved school bonds, along with infrastructure improvements in the water and sewer system, Picerno explained.

"The only debt the Board has incurred was the \$29 million for the Public Safety Center," he said. "And we have paid off \$32 million in debt."

"In the time that I have been a Commissioner, the County is running a \$1.0 – \$1.5 million surplus each year. We take that, and pay down debt, and save millions in interest. If we were raising taxes to service the debt, then you would have a problem. The fact is that we are cutting taxes, and paying off the debt early."

"There are only two ways to build things," Picerno explained. "We can overcharge you as a taxpayer and save the cash — save the money until we have enough to build whatever it is the County needs. The problem is that, in the 15-20 years that it took to save the money, the people paying the taxes won't be the people to benefit from the new school. So, debt does make some sense when you are doing long term capital projects."

"What debt have we spent that wasn't a long-term capital project?" Picerno asked. "That's the only debt that I support. You don't borrow money to pay for operating expenses."

Veterans' Memorial

The Times asked Picerno to comment on the unexpected turn taken in the first meeting of the Veterans' Memorial Advisory Committee, of which he is a member. The Committee was ostensibly created to address the question of protecting 3.5 acres of County-owned land near the Memorial. But, in the Committee's first meeting, ownership of the land on which the Memorial sits, as well as developing a landscaping plan for the site,

were the first orders of business.

"This issue only surfaced because we had an outside inquirer ask about the availability of the land," Picerno said, referring to an offer from a representative of Bojangles' to buy a portion of the tract in order to locate a new restaurant adjacent to Hardee's. "We were in the middle of capital needs assessment for the county. The public safety center was being built, and we had discussed building a government center."

"The whole thing has blown out of proportion," he continued. "There was never an impending sale of that land. We didn't even consider it. None of us took it [the proposed purchase contract] home. It was non-offer offer. We never had a chance to have a grown up discussion about what the future of that land should be."

"The thing is, there's no hurry," Picerno said. "That Memorial is going to look like

it is today until the Memorial Committee makes it recommendations." The Board of Commissioners has passed a resolution formally taking the property off the market until the Committee's work is done.

"I am on record having supported having a joint ownership of that property with the veterans," Picerno continued, referring to a motion that he and Commissioner Lea supported. "That wasn't passed by the Board. I am only one member. My number one goal is to protect the sanctity of the memorial, on the committee and as a Commissioner."

"It shouldn't be an issue at this point," Picerno concluded. "The Veteran's Committee has time to do its work, because the land has been taken off the market. It is not a time of the essence issue."

Looking ahead

"We have some issues to deal with going forward,"

Picerno told *The Times*.

Revaluation. "For example, we have another property revaluation in two years. Based on the data that we are getting, property values will be flat to down — no increase — and that will put a further microscope on our budget. My skills really fit being able to help in that, to ensure that there is no tax increase on the citizens of Moore County."

County Manager. "And we have the selection of a new County Manager," Picerno

continued. "We need to find the right fit. That person needs to be fiscally conservative, respectful of employees — needs to get to know them — so the citizens of the County will be well-served. All we do as Board members is set policy. He — or she — has to carry it out. We have to find the right guy or gal."

Economic Development. "Everybody talks about jobs and the economy," Picerno said. "We need to do all we can as a government to get (See "Picerno," p. 16)



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Picerno

(Continued from page 15)

out of the way of entrepreneurs and small businesses, to make it possible for them to create jobs."

Picerno is the founder and currently Chairman of Southern Software, a company that provides a variety of applications to local governments. Explaining how government can get in the way, he recounted his company's need, in the mid-1990s, for a nine-inch variance when they built their first building.

"The process was very difficult, time-consuming, and eventually cost the business thousands and thousands of dollars," he explained. "We ended up having to redesign the building . . . That's an example, where government and private enterprise have got to be able to find some common sense solutions."

Wright

(Continued from page 7)

headaches would start improving," said Nestrom. "So, I was able to start lowering my dose on my daily meds to a bare minimum in just four weeks."

Happy with her progress, she stopped visiting Dr. Wright, but soon noticed that numbness and circulation problems in her fingers were returning.

To jump start her recovery, in addition to a chiropractic adjustment, Wright also recommended a detox foot bath.

Newstrom said she noticed an immediate improvement and has once again lowered her daily medicines to a minimum.

If you would like more information about the services available at Moore County Chiropractic, contact Dr. Sharon Wright at (910) 673-4325 or moorectychiro@gmail.com

Appointments are available at the Seven Lakes clinic located on MacDougall Drive near Sandhills Memory Care on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; or at Dr. Wright's offices in Carthage on Tuesday and Thursday.

"The Planning Board has come up with a Unified Development Ordinance," Picerno noted. "Hopefully, a lot of the rules and regs that weren't state-required — hopefully, they are gone."

"Everyone says we need less government spending and more jobs," Picerno said. "The way you do that is what we have done in Moore County. We are spending less. We spent just over \$82 million in the last budget. That is down several million dollars from previous years. And we have done it not by cutting services, but by prudent planning. By making sure we have the right people in the right spots. We haven't fired or terminated a single person, but have eliminated a lot of unfilled positions. We have made Moore County a very efficiently-run county."

Fracking. *The Times* didn't include Hydraulic fracturing for natural gas, commonly called "fracking," among the issues we asked the candidates to address, and Picerno said he was surprised that we hadn't done so.

"But, I don't think it is a county commissioner issue," he said. "We tried to get the General Assembly to allow us to have a say [by passing a resolution asking for local authority to regulate some aspects of fracking]. They are not going to give us that say. So, we will have deal with that some other way when it happens."

Assets

Asked what assets he brings to the job of Commissioner, Picerno said, "I have time to do the work. That's a big consideration. I spend hours — a lot of hours — preparing for meetings, researching issues, serving on five to six additional boards, traveling. And I am financially able to do that. The job doesn't pay. It, in fact, will hurt your bank account."

"It is a time consuming job," he continued. "You are always on the clock. Anyone who runs needs to be aware of that. It is going to affect your family."

"Financially, I understand

how to make government efficient without sacrificing services," Picerno said. "I understand the role of government to keep it from expanding into areas where it doesn't need to be."

"I am going to take time to read the school budget," he said, "just like I read our budget. I'll have a meeting with [MCS Finance Officer] Mike Griffin. We'll have a good conversation about their plans and needs. That's the talent I bring to the Board. A board needs to have multiple talents."

Law enforcement and emergency responders are a priority for him, Picerno said, adding that the Board authorized the hiring of seven new

paramedics and a medic truck in this year's budget.

Noting that he receives an email every day giving him the census of inmates in the County detention center, Picerno said, on the day prior to his interview with *The Times*, the jail was housing 152 inmates in a 108-bed facility. "And the law is changing to require us to house misdemeanants," he added.

Listening

"That's my emphasis. That's what I believe," he said at the conclusion of our interview.

"I try to listen. I haven't ever not returned a phone call."



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Marcus

(Continued from page 16)
told *The Times*.

The commissioners "should be working year-round with the school board and the community college looking for alternatives in funding. The best way to be productive is to work together."

Marcus pointed out that state and federal funding for the schools has been cut dramatically in the past few years, yet the county has not compensated for those cuts by raising its contribution. "When you say, 'We gave you what you asked for, so we aren't responsible for teachers losing their jobs,' Well, that's hogwash."

Public transportation

You can't train people who can't get to school, and they can't hold down a job if they can't get to work. That's the logic behind the third leg of Marcus' ground-up economic development plan: public transportation.

"Moore County has no public transportation," Marcus told *The Times*. "A car is your lifeline to your job. If you can't afford a dependable car, you can't get to work."

Students need public transportation to get to Sandhills Community College, she added. "Once you graduate from High School, you lose

the public transportation."

"If we want to not fill up our jail, we need to provide a way for young adults to get to the community college and the resources," Marcus explained.

Noting that the county already provides a modest public transportation system that serves lower-income citizens, Marcus said, "If you don't have to start from scratch, I don't think you should. If there's a way to start in small increments, and build on what you already have in place, that would make the most sense."

"What would work best is sitting down with people who have already researched this in the past," Marcus said, adding that the League of Women Voters is one group that has looked at public transportation in some detail.

Job description

Marcus acknowledged that her vision of increasing the county's involvement in affordable housing, job training, and public transportation is more expansive than the basic county to-do list of setting a tax rate and administering the planning and zoning ordinances.

"I believe the job is not limited to those basic duties," Marcus told *The Times*. "As

a commissioner you have access to presentations and reports that other people don't. Commissioners sit on a variety of other boards and committees."

"You're in a unique position to serve as a liaison to bring communities and organizations together to work on common problems," she continued.

"If they [the current board] can pass resolutions on Agenda 21 and Amendment One, then they can work with the schools and communities to reduce poverty. You can't say that's not in the job description."

"The Commissioners should be willing to roll up their sleeves and go to work."

Development

Noting that the largest approved developments in the western end of the county — Pine Forest and Stonehill Pines — are both golf course communities, while existing golf courses are going bankrupt and being rescued by their members, *The Times* asked Marcus what role the County should play in shaping development.

"We have a lot of developers

knocking on the door wanting to build," Marcus said, "but what they want to build and where they want to build it doesn't always make a lot of sense. She pointed to plans for a luxury gated community near the Armory in Pinehurst, which is surrounded by low-income housing.

"You put up a fence, but you are still surrounded by low-income," Marcus said. "Wouldn't it make more sense to build a community of middle-income homes? There are a lot of contractors around here that are out of jobs that might be willing to put their money into middle income housing."

"There are ways to encour-

age economic development," Marcus said.

"For example, you have some amazing hardware stores in Moore County that have been there for generations, and they may be the best example of how small businesses can thrive. In addition to nuts and bolts, many of them provide a service — someone who can fix something for you. They are the center for communities."

"That's what we want to encourage — more small businesses and entrepreneurs, rather than bringing in big industries. Because it's nothing for a big industry to pack it up and move it

(See "Marcus," p. 20)

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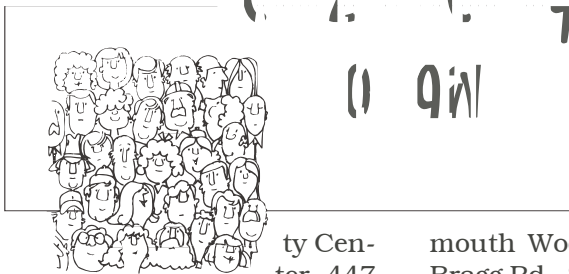
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

- **WEE Scarecrow Run** – 8 am, in McLendon Hills Sub-division. www.active.com or Brian Povish 910-400-5062, bpovish@yahoo.com.
- **Harvest Fest in Town of Robbins** – 12 pm to 10 pm, Box car derby, food vendors, games, family fun, Ghost rides and Face painting. Bluegrass music 5 to 8 pm. Trick or treat at local businesses 6-7:30 pm. Costume contest for kids and adults, register between 5-6 pm, judging 6-7:30 pm. Ghost/hay rides.
- **Elliott's Provision Co. Free Cooking Demo** – 12 & 2 pm, *Ghoulish treats*. Share some recipe treats for Halloween holiday. 905 Linden Road Pinehurst, (910) 255-0665.
- **Elliott's Provision Co. Free Wine Tasting** – 12 pm - 4 pm. *Chardonnay: California and French*. 905 Linden Road Pinehurst, (910) 255-0665.
- **SL Business Guild Fall Festival and Chili Cook Off** – 3-6 pm, Live Music, Corn Hole Tournament, Kid activities, a Bouncy House, Lots of Chili, Local Artisans. Grant Street between Temp Control and Lake House Bar & Grill. Tickets: \$7 Chili tasting, mugs \$3 each.
- **Sandhills Presbyterian Church** – Reformation Celebration will be held from 4 to 7 pm. Come in cos-

tume and join in for music, food, activities, and prizes. Bobbing for apples, pie eating contest, enjoy the Bounce House and face painting. Jacob Skogen 910-692-5834. 650 Pee Dee Road, Southern Pines.

- **Jackson Springs Chicken and Dumpling Supper** – serving 5 pm to 8 pm, at The Communi-



ty Center, 447 Mill Road, Jackson Springs. Take out \$7 Adults/\$3 Children 12 & under.

- **Impact Ministries** – 6:30 pm, praise and worship service at Faith Baptist Church. Faith Baptist Church, 2180 Carthage Rd, West End. www.fbcwestend.com or call 910-947-3797 with questions.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **Children's Halloween Party at SL Chapel** – 3 pm - 5 pm, children, ages 4 through the sixth grade, are invited to a Halloween celebration at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines,

in the Fellowship Hall. Fun, fellowship, games, crafts, prizes, and light refreshments. Children wear Halloween costumes and to bring a can of food as a donation for the Food Bank. RSVP by calling (910) 400-5396.

- **Naturally Scary Stuff** – 3 pm, Folklore about plants and animals find their way into our imagination. Join the Park Ranger in the auditorium, followed by a short hike. Weymouth Woods, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd., Southern Pines, 910-692-2167.

- **Belford Baptist Church** – 4 pm, a service of celebration & appreciation for Pastor Brenda K. and John M. Robinson. Guest speaker, Dr. Harold C. Miller. Belford Baptist Church, 925 Windlbrow Rd., Jackson Springs.
- **WEPC Hosts Trunk or Treat** – 5 pm - 7 pm, West End Presbyterian Church hosting their annual "Trunk or Treat." Games for kids,

a hot dog and chili dinner, and plenty of trunks for trunk-or-treating. All are invited for this night of fun! West End Presbyterian Church, 275 Knox Lane, West End.

- **WEUMC Fall Festival** – 5:30 – 7:00 pm, West End United Methodist Church will have a Fall Festival at the West End Scout Lodge (3164 Carthage Road – just outside Seven Lakes). Games, crafts, bingo and a cake walk, and also serving Hot Dogs. Everyone is invited to attend.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight is *Chris Smithers; Moses Atwood* opens. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30

- **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.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31

- **Halloween**
- **SLLA Halloween Party** – 5:30 and 8:00 pm, at Seven Lakes North Clubhouse for a Halloween Party. Little ghosts and gypsies may drop by anytime. Scary music, Halloween paper crafts, games of Twister, and other family-friendly activities will keep everyone entertained. Punch and baked goods served and be sure to pick up a safety glow stick.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Welcome Home Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead this session. Meet



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5	6 Broccoli Spinach Soup ♥ Salisbury Steak Dinner	7 Split Pea with Ham Soup Chicken Tetrazzini Dinner	8 Chicken Dumpling Soup Bourbon Salmon Dinner ♥	9 New England Clam Chowder Beef Stroganoff Dinner
12	13 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	14 Goldie's Chili Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	15 Vegetable Soup ♥ Shrimp Creole Dinner ♥	16 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥ Pork with Apples Dinner
19 Lentil Soup ♥ Baked Spaghetti Dinner	20 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Spice-Crusted Tilapia Dinner ♥	21 Butternut Bisque ♥ Turkey Dinner	22 CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving!	23 CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving!
26 CLOSED	27 Tuscan White Bean Soup ♥ Italian Meatloaf Dinner	28 Curried Chicken Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	29 Mexican Meatball Soup Herb-Crusted Salmon Dinner ♥	30 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo Beef Enchiladas Dinner ♥

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- **The Village Chapel of Pinehurst** – 10 - 10:30 am, new weekly prayer service with Communion, in the Sanctuary, followed by a Bible study led by the Rev. Dr. John Jacobs from 10:45-noon. 10 Azalea Road, Pinehurst.
- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship, devotion and a meal at \$5
- **Women of Seven Lakes Fashion Show and Card Party Luncheon** – 12 Noon at the Chapel in the Pines Fellowship Hall. Fashions are featured by Lisa's Boutique. Tickets \$20. Patsy Thomas- 673-5268 or ticinc104@embarqmail.com
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Ruth Pauley Lecture Series** – 7:30 pm, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. will discuss "The Green Gold Rush: a Vision for Energy Independence, Jobs, and National Wealth." Kennedy was named one of Time magazine's "Heroes for the Planet" for leading the fight to restore the Hudson River. Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College Pinehurst. Free to the public. 910-245-3132.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- **Dinner and Game Night** – at Beacon Ridge Country Club. \$15 inclusive. Dinner served from 5 pm to 6:30 pm. Reservations required, call 673- 3158. Evening open to everyone. You do not need to be a member.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- **White Elephant Sale and Raffle** – 8 am – 1 pm, sponsored by the Knight of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary of Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Founders Hall, Hwy. 211 and Dundee Rd. Pinehurst. Information or to donate items for the sale www.sacredheartpinehurst.org or call 695-0886.
- **Golf Capital Chorus Show** – 7 pm, "A Salute to All Who Serve." Pinecrest High School auditorium. Featuring songs from WW I and II. Proudly presenting "Let's Sing" the 2010 Carolinas' District Championship Quartet." Call 295-3529 for tickets: \$15 –adults; \$5 students or purchase at the Country Book Shop, Given Book Store or Moore County Arts Council.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- **Daylight Savings Time Ends**
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **Bensalem Presbyterian Church** – doors open at 4 pm, concert at 5 pm. A

Free Concert by the Whisnants, the Number one Southern Gospel group. Limited seating, so come early. Bensalem Presbyterian Church, 2891 Bensalem Church Rd, Eagle Springs. Call Bob at 910-585-0993 for information.

- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight is *Layah Jane, and Cabinet* opens. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse Game Room. Open to all landowners.
- **Moore Republican Women Luncheon** – held at the Pinehurst Country Club. Valet Parking available. Registration: 11:30 am - Luncheon 12 pm. Checks payable at the luncheon to: Pinehurst LLC. Cost: \$17 Inclusive. Joan Ward 910- 295-6544.
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- **Election Day**
- **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.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Welcome Home Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong

will lead session in the WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Fellowship, devotion and a meal provided at \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – 2 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. WEE Principal, Leigh Ann McClendon, teachers, and volunteers will discuss the WEE Garden Program and its impact.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com



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Marcus

(Continued from page 17)
out.”

“Starworks, in Star, NC is an excellent example of a community tapping talents and creating their own industries,” Marcus said. “They have made an industry where none existed.” The various companies in the Starworks small business incubator make blown glass and sell glass blowing supplies, make ceramics and pottery and sell supplies for this industries — including locally-sourced clay, among other things.

“Our county is big enough for three or four Starworks,” Marcus said, suggesting that such efforts could tap skills already resident in the population — for example textile mill experience. “Raleigh Denim company is making \$250 a pair jeans that they sell at Barney’s,” she noted, adding that an even better strategy may be to create products locally that can be sold locally.

Water

Noting that the Board of Commissioners often begins the year with increasing the water supply as its number one goal, but has yet to choose one among the half-dozen options available, *The Times* asked Marcus whether she had a preferred source for more water.

Noting that she is “not an expert,” Marcus said her childhood in the longleaf pine ecosystem of East Texas helped her understand that water is “precious.” “We had the same droughts and water

shortages there that Moore County experiences from time to time,” she explained.

Noting that she had attended a presentation by Moore County Public Works Director Randy Gould on the various options available to the County, Marcus said, “I think Asheboro is a really good direction to go.”

Asheboro has constructed a new water plant that draws on the Uwharrie River, and is eager to sell water to other communities. Marcus noted that bringing water from Asheboro would involve laying pipe through communities that are currently not served by County water.

She expressed skepticism about relying on Robbins as a source for more water: “Robbins has had two droughts in the recent past. I would hate to divert water from the town when they may need it.”

“They keep saying it’s going to benefit Robbins,” Marcus said, “that they will get water. But do they get to control the water going out of Rob-

bins?”

Aside from new sources of water, Marcus said the County also needs to work harder to encourage water conservation, “starting that in the school system — the kids go home and tell their parents. They take the things they learn in school very seriously.”

Marcus also pointed to the need to protect the County’s current water resources from the potentially harmful effects of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas.

“We have to protect our water sources,” she said. “I thinking fracking in Moore County and the peripheral damage could be devastating, not only to the County but to the aquifer. What worries me first is that, in order to blast these chemicals into the ground — they have to have so many millions of gallons of water — already increasing water usage drastically. Later, that water goes into waste pit, creating the danger of run-off into the aquifer. If you have a split

in the well casing — or it’s not waterproof like it is supposed to be, you have a leak.”

Marcus related her family’s experience in East Texas, when a gas exploration well drilled by a neighbor sunk an artesian spring that represented a large part of the value of the family land. “That Spring had been there for God knows how long — it was the wealth for our land.”

As the daughter of an oil-field worker, Marcus said she knows a thing or two about the drilling industries, adding that “fracking won’t bring in local jobs.” Working a drilling rig is a highly-skilled occupation, she said, the skills take years to acquire, and those skills aren’t resident in the population of Moore County. So workers will be brought in from else-

(See “Marcus,” p. 21)

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Marcus

(Continued from page 20)
where.

County Debt

"At some point we are going to have to pay for the \$40 million-plus jail," Marcus said, when asked about Moore County's level of indebtedness. "We have the school bonds. Those will have to be paid off."

"But, in order to have a good strong county government, we have to have taxes," she said. "Paying taxes is not a bad thing if that's what creates our infrastructure, keeps our kids in school, lets us retire."

As far as whether the County has too much debt," Marcus added, "if you can pay off your debt in a timely fashion, without impacting the county and the county's infrastructure, then no. But if you are piling it up to come due when you are out of office, then our kids will be the ones paying for it."

"I would much rather pay to have a new school built for Pinehurst Primary or Pinecrest than a jail that is more than we need. The issue not the debt, but what you used it to buy."

"You have to figure out the priorities," Marcus said. "And anytime you are going to spend that kind of money, the voters ought to get to weigh in on that."

erans Memorial in Carthage, Marcus said an important consideration is whether the County will need the land in question for future expansions of services.

"You already have social services right there," she said. "At some point it is going to need to grow. Holding onto that land for future use by the county might be the way to go. Do you need another fast food restaurant right there — or are you going to need that for social services? It makes sense to have the services located at the same spot."

"And you definitely shouldn't talk about it behind closed doors," she added. Marcus said she had listened to the audio recordings of the closed door meetings in which the Board of Commissioners discussed an offer from Bojangles' to purchase County property near the Memorial.

"I really took offense to some of the comments about shrinking social services. If the poverty rate is nineteen percent, and social services its the last lifeline before you lose your home, why cut that?"

"If they had been upfront about it, they might have gotten what they wanted. But they went about it the wrong way."

Assets

"I am a mom," Marcus said, when asked what assets she would bring to the job of

Commissioners. "I have two daughters; and I think, as a mother, you have more insight and patience. It has taught me patience." Marcus' daughters attend West Pine Elementary and West Pine Middle Schools.

"My family is middle to lower middle income, especially due to our medical bills. We need that diversity on the Board. When Abby was little, for about a year the formula that went into her feeding tube was about \$400 per month. Had we not been able to make use of county services — because the state

health insurance wouldn't cover it — we could have lost our house."

"I am a woman, and you have all men sitting up there," Marcus said, "and we need a woman's perspective on the Board. Women make up half of this county, and they should be represented."

"If you look at Hoke County's commissioners, they really reflect the diversity of the county," Marcus said, noting that she had reported on that Board for the *Fayetteville Observer*. "I don't see that with our Board." The Hoke County Board includes three

men and two women; two African Americans, and three Caucasians.

"I am smart and eager to learn," Marcus added. "I know that I am not stepping in knowing everything and the right way to do everything, but I am willing to continue to learn on the job. And I have an amazing support system of friends and family."

Finally, Marcus said, "I have common sense. If you can't afford it, you don't buy it."

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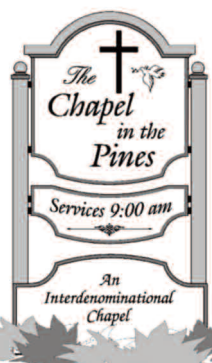
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Protection of Veterans' Memorial still in doubt

by Ruby Hendrick, Carolyn Mealing and Chuck Spelman on behalf of Citizens Concerned with the Preservation and Protection of the Veterans' Memorial in Carthage

Veterans' interests remain challenged by the delaying and diversionary tactics of the Moore County Board of Commissioners' as veterans continue their fight to preserve and protect the sanctity and purpose of the Moore County Veterans Memorial in Carthage.

On October 18, 2004, after considering several other pieces of county property, the Moore County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution permitting the Moore

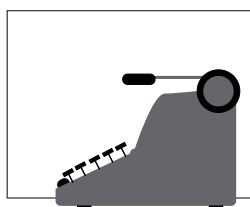
County Veterans' Memorial Committee to erect the Veterans' Memorial (at their own expense) on the piece of property identified as part of the Carriage Oaks property in Carthage. The memorial was designed by Quincy Edgerton, and its purpose is to honor all veterans from Moore County who have served in any branch of military service.

Over the years it has become sacred, hallowed ground to the families and veterans who visit the memorial. Many come to remember their loved ones and com-

rades in arms, to pay them homage and to reflect on the many sacrifices they have made and are still making for us. Veterans' organizations also use the memorial for

Your Turn

Members of the
Veteran's Memorial
Committee



more formal presentations, ceremonies and gatherings on various holidays throughout the year.

Last May, following the disclosure of three reported violations of the Open Meetings Law by the Moore Coun-

ty Board of Commissioners concerning the proposed sale of a portion of the land between Hardees restaurant and the Veterans' Memorial, to Bojangles', veterans groups became incensed and very concerned that the sanctity and purpose for which the memorial had been established would be greatly diminished, if not destroyed, were such a sale to take place.

Subsequently, at Commissioners meetings from May until September, veterans groups testified, made presentations and proposed various resolutions, the purposes of which were to ensure that this sale would not happen.

After listening to one of resolutions presented by the Moore County Veterans

Memorial Committee, Chairman Larry Caddell stated that he would not sign anything unless the entire piece of property between Hardees and the memorial remained open space, and he proposed that the best way to do this would be to have that property and the site on which the memorial sits jointly owned by the County and the Moore County Veterans' Memorial Committee.

He stated further that the joint ownership should include a provision that the county would continue to maintain insurance and normal maintenance as it currently does. Veterans groups quickly agreed that this would be the best way to ensure

(See "Memorial," p. 25)

Should Christians avoid Halloween?

Question: In our family, we do not celebrate Halloween and we do not let our children go "trick or treating" or attend Halloween parties. Halloween is a pagan holiday that Christians should avoid. Our children tell us that we are narrow-minded and that they are deprived of the fun their classmates have on Halloween. Do you think Halloween is evil?

Response: When the Christians arrived in Northern Europe and the British Isles, they found Celts celebrating a harvest festival at the end of October.

The animistic Celts believed that at this time on the eve of this festival, the spirits of their dead relatives and friends "slipped through the thin veil that separates flesh and spirit" and came back to join in the festivities.

The Christian church did what it became adept in doing. It baptized the festi-

also banished the celebration of Christmas and Easter for the same reasons, not to mention the

pagan celebration of love on Valentine's Day. The rest of the colonies celebrated all these days,

for Easter eggs?

Some of the best Halloween parties I attended when I was a child were held at the church. Now some churches are actually creating "Journeys to Hell" on Halloween and using this night to convert young children to the faith. I'll bet that scares the hell out of them.

Others make the children dress up as Biblical characters and forbid skeletons and ghosts, even though they also appear in the Bible.

I think Halloween is a lot of fun and does little harm . . . and think what it does for the economy. People don't have to wait until after Thanksgiving to spend money in our consumer-oriented culture.

Let the kids have some fun.

Don Welch, the minister at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines welcomes your questions and comments at: dwelch1@nc.rr.com



Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

ities and made them Christian by putting All Saints Day on the first Day of November and declaring October 31, a "hallowed evening" . . . thus "Halloween." Since there are not enough days in a year to honor and revere all of the saints of the church, this day became the day to include "all" saints in our prayers and worship. Later, the church made November 2 "All Souls Day," to honor all dead Christians.

In America, the Puritans banished any celebration of Halloween as both a pagan and Roman practice. They

and only recently have some of the more conservative churches reverted back to the Puritan prohibitions.

Do you believe that ghosts, goblins, and witches are real? Do you think that your children are involved in some act of pagan worship when they go from house to house for candy and treats?

Do you celebrate those other Christian holidays with non-Christian origins, like Christmas and Easter? Do your children unwrap gifts at Christmas and visit Santa Claus at the Mall?

How about the ancient "fertility cult" practice of hunting

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Yankees lost, but showed real class

I love October.

Football season is well under way, basketball is about to begin, and baseball is in the final few weeks of the year.

Watching baseball is a passion of mine; and, because I am a lifelong Pittsburgh Pirates fan, my team is rarely ever in the post season. I can watch without being invested in any team, so I am able to enjoy the purity of the game.

Baseball is such a strategic game, with many twists and turns. Each year, various personalities and strategies that are diametrically opposed seem to be pitted against each other with the outcome

impossible to predict.

Baseball parallels life in so many ways and it is fun to

were not that interesting to watch, as the Yankees struggled with the bats — and none more than the highest

paid player in the game, Alex Rodriguez.

What was most interesting was the way the Yankees handled the

controversy when manager Joe Girardi chose to bench the highest paid player in the game.

I must admit that I have never been a New York Yankees fan, probably because in baseball there are the

“haves” and the “have-nots.” The Yankees have always been the “haves” and the Pirates have always been the “have-nots.” But, I have to acknowledge that the Yankees handled this whole controversy with a lot of class to this point.

The difficult position that each man was put in was incredible. Here we have arguably the best player in the game sitting in the highest stakes game of the year.

When asked about it, Rodriguez said that he felt like he could certainly help the team if he were in the line-up, but that he respected Joe Girardi and understood that his decision was what he thought best for the team.

Girardi praised Alex

Rodriguez and called him the best player in the game, who just happens to be struggling against right-handed pitchers right now.

In today's world of sports with steroids, scandals, contract disputes, and so many negative things tearing the game down, I thought that both of these men deserve a tip of the hat for how each has handled this difficult situation.

We need more sports figures acting the way that these two handled this particular situation.

It is nice to see an action in professional sports that I can show my boys and say: “That is how you should behave.”



Farewell, Master Kleen

Dear Editor:

On December 1 of this year, our community will be losing a valued business, neighbor, and friend.

Master Kleen will be closing its doors after twenty-six years of excellent service, professional presentation and welcoming, friendly, and countenance.

The economy and the unusually mild weather have made it impossible for the owners to replace equipment that has actually served well beyond its years.

Having used their personal money to keep the business afloat for some time, they have reached the heart wrenching decision that they cannot continue.

The Embler family has been such a vital part of our business community, beginning

with the late Jack Embler and continuing with his sons, Rick and Randy. They have served the community well their honestly and commitment. Their example of hard work and dedication have been an inspiration to those

of us in the working community.

The closing of the Embler business will be measured by far more than a dollar sign.

Susan Adams
Seven Lakes West



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Hunting in Seven Lakes West?

Dear Editor:

As a resident of Seven Lakes West, I'm voicing my concern about the deer hunting that seems to be taking place in our residential area. My husband and I created River Jack Outdoor Trading Co several years ago and were a certified Orvis dealer carrying sporting goods and offering expeditions to fishing and hunting lodges.

Seven Lakes West was not on that roster, because it is a "residential community," and our own by-laws state that hunting by any means is prohibited. Last February, we were shocked, when walking in the woods on our property, to come upon an area on our property where trees had been cut down and piles of corn had been dumped to create a killing field. This was destruction of private property in addition to violating the no hunting clause.

We contacted the Seven Lakes West Landowners

Association Board, and two members came out to our house and walked around our back yard to see the area where someone encroached on our property in setting up a deer killing station. The deer stand was removed, and, a day later, so were the tree spikes.

We were very concerned that someone was hunting in a residential community — and on our lot — when children play in this neighborhood, school buses stop here, and people are out walking in early morning and late afternoon.

On Sunday, October 13, we discovered a truck with no visitor's tag or bar code parked on the side of the road near a school bus stop. We also found a large bag of corn propped against a tree, and so, called security, as well as the Sheriff's Department. We can only guess that another staging area was being created again

in our residential area with neighbors all around.

Hunting has no place in a residential community.

In numbers we can make a difference, so I urge every resident to join in a community watch effort — and if you see any vehicle parked

on the side of the road, immediately call security. Take a photo of the vehicle along with the license tag to report.

Let's keep our communities safe and keep hunters out of Seven Lakes.

Ann Wooten Kunce
Seven Lakes West

A vote for Picerno

Dear Editor:

Having been a resident of Moore County since 2003, I have seen the economic cycle from both ends of the spectrum. Starting in 2009, Nick Picerno became Chairman of the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

At or near the bottom of the economy both nationally and locally, Moore County, through his leadership, among other notable progress, was able to cut property taxes, reduce spending, fully fund the public

school system, all the while maintaining the service level provided to county residents.

He was the right person at the right time, as it was time for a person with business acumen to lead. Though inexperienced in politics, his ability to get a quick grasp on the budget and make effective change has served the people of the county well.

I am proud to support Nick Picerno for County Commissioner.

Tom McGinnis
Seven Lakes West

Sheriff endorses Picerno

Dear Editor:

Without a doubt, Nick Picerno is the best qualified to serve as our Commissioner.

He has served the last four years as one who hasn't hesitated to make the tough decisions for our county. He brings honesty, fairness, and

thoughtfulness in his decisions and efforts to keep us moving forward.

It is my hope that you will join me on Tuesday, November 6, and vote for Nick Picerno for County Commissioner.

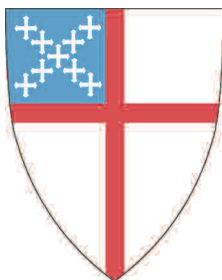
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Memorial

(Continued from page 22)

the protection and preservation of the memorial. Commissioner Lea made a motion to that effect, but the motion was defeated by a 3-2 vote. In its stead, Commissioner Melton proposed, on motion, that a committee be formed with representatives from the county and from the veterans groups to work together to find a solution that would be acceptable to the county and to the veterans. That motion passed.

It should be noted that a period of four months had gone by from the time this issue was initially brought up to the commissioners by veterans organizations and the time a committee was appointed. At each meeting where resolutions were presented, the commissioners refused to take any action, citing various reasons for their inaction. By the time the county appointed committee was formed and had held its first meeting, less

than two months remained before the election.

This had become a volatile, contentious issue, with the potential of serious negative consequences for a commissioner running for reelection. What better way to get it out of the public discussion than by assigning it to a committee for further study? This is typically done when you don't want to deal with an issue or when you want to postpone making a decision that could be contentious or unpopular. Once assigned to a committee, it became a simple matter to stretch out the time between meetings until after the election, thus minimizing the potential for negative publicity.

At the initial meeting of the county appointed committee on September 20, there was more subterfuge. Confusion was created by changing the focus of discussion from joint ownership of the entire piece of property between Hardees and the memorial to many

different scenarios ranging from the county's ability to move the memorial from its current site, to the division of the three-acre parcel between Hardees and the Veteran's memorial site in such a manner as to make it possible to sell the portion of property originally under negotiation with Bojangles' to them or to some other similar entity in the future.

After considerable discussion, when it became evident there would be no agreement

with respect to the portion of the property that should be under discussion or how landscaping and design ideas should be approached, it was decided to form a sub-committee to address these issues, and two members representing county interests and two representing veterans' interests were appointed. Quincy Edgerton, the designer of the memorial, was also asked to participate at the request of one of the appoint-

(See "Memorial," p. 26)

Lions say thanks

Dear Editor:

This year's Lions Annual White Cane Drive was a great success. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Food Lion, Seven Lakes Friendly Mart, BB&T, and First Bank for providing access to their facilities.

We would also like to thank

those that generously contributed to our White Cane Drive. Your generosity will allow the Lions Club to provide much needed help for the blind and visually impaired.

Thank You,
Bill Seldomridge, President
Seven Lakes Lions Club

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Memorial

(Continued from page 25)

ed members. Then, more delaying tactics. Several weeks went by until a date was finally set for the subcommittee to meet on October 29 — six weeks after the initial meeting of the county-appointed committee.

Commissioner Melton made the statement, "we need to do what is right for all the citizens of Moore County, not just the veterans."

Our veterans make up a very significant portion of Moore County's citizenry. Recent attempts have been made to confuse the issues and to divide veterans' groups. Now more than ever, it is imperative for veterans to stand united. The statement, "United we stand, divided we fall," is not a cliché. It is a proven effective strategy for winning battles.

All that is being asked is that the veterans of Moore County be treated with the dignity, honor and respect they deserve. If we, the citizens of Moore County cannot spare a mere three acres of land for our veterans — property that has been determined by a recent county land use study is not needed for future county needs — then perhaps we need to reexamine our values.

This issue should not be about money. What amount of money could possibly equate to the sacrifices that our veterans have made and continue to make to preserve and protect our freedom and democratic way of life.

The county has determined

that there should be parks and open areas located throughout the county. This is what the Moore County Veterans' Memorial Committee envisions for the use of the property between Hardees and the current Veterans' Memorial — that it be a Veterans' Memorial Park. Some initial thoughts that have been discussed include a walking/biking path around the perimeter of the park; a permanent amphitheater that could be used for the many programs and presentations that are done there throughout the year; planted areas and areas for family gatherings. And there is a need to expand the areas for granite memorials, as the current area is almost exhausted. History has shown that there will be more wars in the future, and therefore there will be a need for even more expansion for those names to be placed on granite memorials.

When is enough, enough? There has been enough talk. Now it is time for action.

Chairman Larry Caddell has already proposed a solution that would ensure that the sanctity and purpose of the of the Veterans' Memorial would be preserved and protected. Veterans' organizations agree with Chairman Caddell's proposal that joint ownership of the entire piece of property from Hardees to and including the current site of the Veterans' Memorial would accomplish this purpose, with the provision that the County would continue to provide insurance and do normal maintenance, as it currently does now.

It should be noted that this solution would require no additional expenditures or outlays of money by the County. This is a win/win solution. It is the right thing to do for the veterans and for all the citizens of Moore County!

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Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

McSwain said he ordered it removed, reluctantly, knowing that would disrupt residential and commercial service in the area.

In response, Chairman Larry Caddell explained, a resolution was drafted — and approved during the October 16 meeting — that “authorizes and directs” the County Manager to negotiate payment for past, current, and future placement of the Broadlink antenna — or any similar antennas — on county property. The Manager is directed to present any such agreements to the Board on or before November 1 (though the Board is not scheduled to meet in regular session again before mid-November).

“We need to be aware of what went on, and what we are trying to do to fix it,” Caddell said.

Broadlink service versus alternatives

“I would not have made the same decision today,” McSwain told the Board, but explained that his intent was to limit disruption to area customers. However, he agreed it was important for the county to not appear to be in a partnership with

Broadlink.

In addition, McSwain reported, a recent decision by the North Carolina General Assembly does allow counties to engage in partnerships with businesses for economic development projects.

“A state and federal goal is to provide broadband service to those areas where otherwise they would not be able to have it,” he said. “One positive is that they [Broadlink] have been able to provide that service.”

Commissioner Tim Lea agreed with McSwain’s assessment, noting that internet connection — and, in particular, broadband service to those who otherwise would not have access — is a primary goal of the Triangle J Council of Governments.

Lea said he understood that the lack of compensation from Broadlink to the County is a problem, but noted that Moore County and the company had an established relationship when the issue arose. Broadlink provides the County’s broadband link to the internet. Lea said he hoped the County and Broadlink would be able to continue working together in good faith to complete the still in-progress contract.

Commissioner Craig Kennedy expressed concern that the project had not been the subject of competitive bidding and asked whether other services were available, like fiber or T-1 lines.

“We do need to look at broadband, but this Board has never made a motion to pursue only this [Broadlink] option,” he said.

McSwain responded that other options and alternatives for service would be presented for consideration alongside the proposed Broadlink contract.

“We did not just jump on the Broadlink bandwagon,” McSwain cautioned. “One option we looked at, but could not afford, was fiber . . . Every year, we go back and check alternatives to cost compare.”

Land swap with Pinehurst

In a lopsided exchange with the Village of Pinehurst, the County Commissioners approved a swap of two properties.

The County provided two former Moore County Public Utilities well sites, each less than one acre in size, located at Ridgewood Road and Beulah Hill Road, with a combined tax value of \$77,200. In exchange, Pinehurst gave

the County two adjoining tracts of Village-owned property, located on McCaskill Road, with a combined tax value of \$310,380.

The Village asked for the swap, with an eye to using the former well sites during the upcoming US Opens in 2014.

Commissioners may live-stream meetings

Noting that there would be no cost to Moore County, since the equipment is already in-place, Commissioner Tim Lea put forward a motion to live-stream future meetings of the County Com-

missioners. Live video of meetings would be available through the county government website. The Board asked the Clerk & IT Director to bring a proposal to implement streaming to the next Commissioners’ meeting.

In other action related to upcoming meetings, though only a quorum of three is required for Board of Commissioners meetings, a motion to cancel the upcoming November 5 meeting was approved, after concerns were raised that two commissioners would be absent.

Commissioner Lea spoke (See “**Commissioners**,” p. 28)



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Commissioners

(Continued from page 27)

against the cancellation, noting that the Board has met previously when only three members were present.

Four-year-old hero honored

During Tuesday's meeting, the Commissioners honored four-year-old, Lucas Daniel Odom, a Southern Pines resident who, in late September, called 911 emergency services to assist his mother, who was experiencing a potentially life-threatening event. Described as calm and composed throughout the ordeal, four-year old Odom was praised for his heroism and ability to effectively communicate with emergency services, keeping them updated on his mother's condition and relaying vital address information.

In addition to being commended by the Commissioners, Odom was also greeted by members of Moore County EMS and Southern Pines Fire Department, among others, along with some very recognizable friends — McGruff the Crime Dog, Sparky the Fire Dog, and Smokey the Bear.

Emergency Services Director Bryan Phillips noted that many 911 calls are made by children and stressed the importance of teaching even very young children how and

when to dial for assistance.

Land Use Plan update

Offering a brief progress report on the work of the Land Use Plan Steering Committee, Planning Director Debra Ensminger said the group dynamics are very strong, that the committee clearly understands the County Commissioners' objectives, and that a facilitator was hired to allow Chairman Robert Hayter to more fully participate in discussions.

However, Ensminger said, with discussion frequently touching on the topic of reduced regulations, Hayter asked permission to allow the group to submit a revised mission statement that would reflect their work thus far and address those concerns.

"The reason for the request is we have several members that are word-smithing at every meeting to reduce regulations," she explained.

Commissioner Tim Lea said he supported the request, but cautioned that all members of the committee, both voting and ex-officio, should have equal opportunity to offer input on the mission statement.

Other business

In other business conducted on Tuesday, October 16, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Approved two major purchases related to the Information Technology [IT] Virtual Computing Project, including a contract not to exceed \$122,600 for professional services to SLAIT


Consulting and a \$119,215 purchase of Citrix software. The project, originally green-lighted last April, is nearly complete and being funded through a combination of IT fund balance and capital reserves for government projects. IT Director Darlene Yudell reported expenses are on target.

- Approved a three-year update to the comprehensive Moore County Solid Waste Management Plan. Originally developed in 1997, the plan has been regularly updated, most recently in 2009 at a cost of \$22,000. As approved at the October 2012 meeting, the new update will be completed at a reduced cost of \$14,000.


- Granted a change order to Terry's Plumbing for work at the Little River regional lift station totaling approximately \$43,000, including an alternate tie-in with Southern Pines water lines, a safety grate, and control panel modifications. Public Works Director Randy Gould said costs were within the anticipated project expenses and anticipated project completion early next year.

- Accepted a change order to Terry's Plumbing for air-relief valves, to allow for more efficient operation, at a cost of \$12,500, at the Atex Manufacturing facility. The County extended sewer lines to the facility so that it could expand

(See "Commissioners," p. 29)



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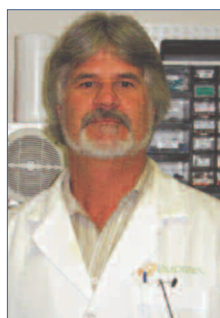
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Commissioners

(Continued from page 28)

- operations and increase the size of its workforce. Commissioner Nick Picerno described the project as a good example of government providing infrastructure that would assist with economic development instead of getting in the way.
- Approved a change order to provide coating on clarifiers at the Water Pollution Control plant, at a cost of \$126,601, to Wharton-Smith. The original work proposal only included coating on some of the facility's clarifiers, but Public Works Director Randy Gould explained, as work progressed, it was determined that a new coating was required for all.
- Finalized a housekeeping action item related to a promissory note for the Lake Pinehurst Lift Stations. County Manager Cary McSwain reported that half the cost of the \$2,924,000 project would be paid with state funding

and the other half would be funded through a zero-interest loan.

- Proclaimed November as Adoption Awareness month. Currently, there are twenty-five children in the care of Social Services with seven planned for adoption. Last year, twenty-six children were adopted in Moore County. In particular, it was noted that many have special needs, are siblings that need to be placed together, or are older children. Adoption Awareness Month promotes the timely adoption of these children to homes that will provide security, guidance and love.
- Offered kudos to the Board of Health staff for the extremely low amount of bad debt required to be written-off, and approved a \$312 request for last fiscal year.
- Called two public hearings required for the Catalyst Program CDBG Funding, which would be used to staff and operate the North-

ern Moore Family Resource Center's program for educating low-income families on budgeting skills and home-ownership.

Appointments

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the Board of Commissioners:

- Appointed George Erickson and reappointed Carol Nash to three-year terms on the Aging Advisory Council.
- Appointed Brian Tyner, Chief of Carthage Fire & Rescue Department, to the Emergency Services Advisory Committee.

Other discussion

In other discussions that did not require action, the Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, October 16:

- Heard from County Manager Cary McSwain that Arnold Key, a supervisor

with the Public Works Department, had been killed in a motor vehicle accident.

- Acknowledged October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and heard from McSwain that the disease has directly affected twenty-six county employees and that Lee and Moore Counties recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Susan G. Komen Founda-

tion for awareness programming.

- Heard from Commissioner Tim Lea that he recently visited the Union Pines High School JROTC program. Currently, 140 students are enrolled in the program, Lea reported. There is an opportunity to expand the program to North Moore High School, which Lea said he hoped the Board would support.

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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TREE SERVICE — ALLEN & SON TREE SERVICE. Topping, trimming, complete removal, clean-up, insured, 24 hour service. Free estimates, senior citizen discounts. Call James M. Allen at 910-974-7629 (Home) or 910-572-6818 (Cell). tfn

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – serving Seven Lakes, Foxfire, and Pinehurst w/lawn maintenance & more for residential and commercial customers. Year round service. Mowing, weed eating, picking up debris, blowing. Shrub pruning, limb & tree removal and hauling away. Seeding/sod lawns. Leaf & straw removal. Haul and spread pine straw, bark, soil, gravel and mulch. Aerate, de-thatch, and edge lawns. Weeding of flower beds, planting shrubs. Re-surface gravel driveways. Blow roofs and clean gutters. Pressure washing homes, decks, concrete walks, driveways, & boats. Install driveway curbing and sprinkler systems. Garden tilling. Other odd jobs around the house? You need it done! We will do it! Call John 673-7320 or mobile telephone 910-690-6491.

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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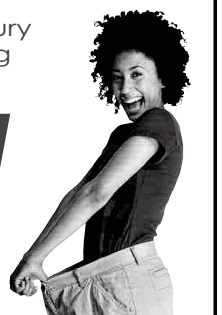
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