

McKenzies Mill comes home



McKenzies Mill — West End natives Ryan & Justin Harris — packed Village Central for a concert sponsored by Seven Lakes Business Guild Friday night, August 30 — and spent time hanging out with their Dad, Rick Harris of Harris Printing. (Dudley Crawford photo)

Workman joins Westside Board

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Nancy Workman will serve out the unexpired term of Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Director Rosemary Weber. Weber's resignation was announced, and Workman's appointment unanimously approved, by the Westside Board during its Tuesday, August 27 regular meeting.

Weber's husband, Ron Weber, died on July 28.

SLWLA President Jack Stevens praised Weber's work as Director in charge of recreation. Weber and her committee have been responsible for planning and hosting a

wide variety of family-friendly events for the Westside community.

Weber's term was slated to end in March 2014, so her resignation created a short term opening on the Board of Directors.

"The nominating committee has met and discussed several excellent candidates at this time," Director Ed Cockman reported, recommending resident Workman. "Nancy has had a long standing history in our community. She has many years of experience running her own business."

The board vote unanimously in favor of Workman, who took her new director's seat for the remainder of the meeting.

(See "Westside," p. 35)

Board votes to buy horses

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



After much neighing and whinnying, at the Wednesday, August 28 Open Meeting, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors voted to increase the stable herd by two horses.

The Board has wrangled with what constitutes a healthy herd for months. Director Bob Racine saddled up for his first trail ride. Director Bob Darr spent countless hours volunteering at the stables and reviewing records. Director Chuck Leach sought compromise, amending the original motion

to purchase one instead of two horses. Residents for and against the herd expansion have faithfully attended work sessions and meetings.

Temple presents research

During the August 12 Work Session, the Board asked resident George Temple to review the data on stables usage. After visiting the stables and reviewing the last two years of numbers, Temple recommended increasing the herd.

Even with the addition of two horses, Temple reported, the stables will continue to operate under budget. The expected drop off in rides during Fall and Winter can be offset by providing after school programs and early evening trail rides for adults.

The Board can continue to

(See "Horses," p. 33)

Pondering future of water in Foxfire

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Though the Council recently turned down a Moore County proposal to acquire the Village's water system, the future of water for Foxfire has not been put on the back burner. During their Thursday, August 29 work session, the Council discussed the recent negotiations with Moore County and their next steps in securing ample water to support the Village's growth.

The Council approached Moore County in February to discuss the feasibility of connecting the Village and County water systems. The

County was already moving forward with its own system expansion, planning to purchase a stake in the expansion of Harnett County's water treatment plant and bring water from there to the Seven Lakes area. The plan was to finance that project through zero interest loan. The loan application was due in September, so engineering work had to be completed in August.

The County offered to purchase the Village's water system, and include infrastructure needed to connect the two systems in the state loan application — if the Council could make a quick decision. After much deliberation, several public hearings, and a hastily drafted contract by

(See "Foxfire," p. 32)

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Lake Echo host to Open Water Swim

This weekend, September 6th - 8th, 48 swimmers from South Carolina and North Carolina will be coming to Seven Lakes, to swim at Lake Echo for the Open Water Select Camp.

These swimmers qualified for the camp by placing in the top four of their respective age groups at their State Championships meets in

June. This is the fourth year North Carolina has hosted the camp and the first time that South Carolina is joining North Carolina. Races start at 3:30 pm and will run until 6:00 pm on Saturday, September 7.

This year, the Sandsharks will have two World Class Open water swimmers help at the camp. Both swam in

the Olympics in 2012: Alex Meyer is a 2012 Olympian, 2011 Breakout Performer of the Year (Golden Goggle Award) and 2011 10K World Champion. 2010 Gold in the 25K and Ashley Twichell is the 2011 5K Gold Medalist (Team Event), 2011 5K Bronze Medalist (Individual), 2011 5K USA Swimming National Champion. Bronze

in the 2011 10K. 2013 World University Games Gold Medalist. 2012 Olympian.

In addition to the Open Water Select Teams and Olympians, both USAS swim-

mers and collegiate swimmers from all over the state will be competing in the 3K race, 2K race, and the college teams, in a 2K Team Pursuit Relay.

The dance of photography

Award winning photographer Laura L. Gingerich will conduct a full day photography workshop at the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens on Monday, September 16.

Gingerich is a freelance street photographer specializing in the documentation of mission, relief and disaster assistance worldwide.

Her work has taken her all over the world, including Afghanistan, the West Bank, Pakistan, India and recently

Haiti.

Start the day at 9 am in the Ball Visitors Center for a review of the basic functions of digital cameras. Then, move outdoors into the Gardens where the real work begins. The workshop is geared for those who have knowledge of their camera but want a better understanding of shutter speed, aperture and advanced settings. Learn how composition, light and the controls on your camera can turn a simple picture into an exhibition quality photograph.

The workshop is 9 am to 4 pm on Monday, September

16. (Tuesday, September the 17 is the rain date.) Class is limited to a minimum of 10, but no more than 15. Cost is \$80 for Horticultural Society Members and \$90 for non-members. Lunch is included.

Reserve your place by sending a check (payable to SCC-SHS) and the workshop name to: Sandhills Horticultural Society, Attn: Tricia Mabe, 3395 Airport Rd., Pinehurst NC 28374.

For more information on the workshop, call 910-695-3882, or email Laura at lgingerich@embarqmail.com

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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Deadline	Issue
Fri, Sep 13	Fri, Sep 20
Fri, Sep 27	Fri, Oct 4
Fri, Oct 11	Fri, Oct 18
Fri, Oct 25	Fri, Nov 1
Fri, Nov 8	Fri, Nov 15
Thu, Nov 21*	Fri, Nov 29
Fri, Dec 6	Fri, Dec 13
Thu, Dec 19*	Fri, Dec 27

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

Chapel wants your rummage for annual Fall Rummage Sale

The Chapel in the Pines is holding its 30th annual rummage sale on Saturday, October 19, at the Old Gym in West End.

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SLLA Board approves bocce court, repairs

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Seven Lakes bocce aficionados will finally get their court.

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board voted during the Wednesday, August 28 Open Meeting to approve the installation of a temporary bocce court at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. The Board's discussion during the August 12 Work Session also contemplated the installation of a pickle ball court; the refurbishing of the fence poles, light poles, basketball goals; and the purchase and installation of a new chain link fence.

During the Open Meeting, Director Chuck Leach reported, "I believe we need to look at the facilities first before we add new things. I honestly believe we have to restore the things we have first. The recommendation is to accept the bid of Carolina Sport in the amount of \$26,730 to replace the chain link fence and all vertical posts and all necessary hardware. The reason I think it is the better recommendation is that it will provide a longer life."

Leach's recommendation omitted the pickle ball court, which was part of the motion brought over from the Work Session.

"That bid came in slightly higher, and that is why I took out the pickle ball," Leach said.

Board members questioned whether the motion forwarded from the Work Session could in fact be modified, under the Board's operating procedures.

SLLA Manager Ray Sohl explained, "Just because you elect one and not the other, doesn't mean the other can not be added later on. We can come back and revisit it at another work session."

One resident advised, "Take it back to work session. Take it back and work it out."

Resident Les Sommers, who seldom misses a meeting, replied: "We did; you didn't come to the meeting."

Leach explained that he had modified the Work Session motion because "we [the Maintenance Committee] received a late quote, and we thought that was the right way to go." Leach repeated the motion, making sure to omit pickle ball. Darr seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously in favor of it.

A second motion was made by Leach to refurbish eight light poles and two basketball goals. The motion passed unanimously.

Monthly payment plans for dues

To better meet the needs of residents, Sohl recommended allowing members to enroll in a monthly payment plan for dues.

"The advantage of having monthly plans is that it helps lower delinquency rates,

allows for automatic bank withdrawals, and helps people on fixed incomes," Sohl said.

The motion passed unanimously.

Paying Up

Buyer's remorse does not negate paying association dues.

Sohl reported on a complicated case of unpaid dues that goes back to 2006. The landowner believes fees should be waived, because the lot he owns is not buildable.

Under North Carolina law the Association can only bill for three years of back dues. The Board voted unanimously to assess dues for the last three years.

Slow Down!

Neighborly courtesy extends to SLLA's road ways and drivers need to respect pedes-

trians. For that matter they need to respect people mowing their yards.

During public comment a resident expressed his concern for his family safety. "I have lived here 13 months. Speeding in the neighborhood is ridiculous. Just the other day there was an accident. My wife was cutting grass in the yard and was almost run over. The cars come up so quick, and then they beep their horns at kids on their bikes. It is just getting ridiculous. It is not just the North,

but also on the South side, where I live."

"I know that the LOA can't do anything about it," he said. "But something has to be done. Someone is going to get killed. Someone is going to get hurt. This is a great neighborhood. I would love people to talk to their neighbors and say slow down."

Speeding has been a long-standing complaint in Seven Lakes. Director Conrad Meyer, in researching old records, had come across

(See "SLLA" p. 31)

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TempControl, VVA assist veteran's family

by Daniel L. Conrad
VVA Chapter #966

When Matt Bialer, President of TempControl, Inc., in Seven Lakes, heard that a Goldston, NC Army Special Forces Veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan and his family needed a heat pump, he stepped up to the

plate to help.

Ethan and Kate Young were going through financial difficulty at the time and a replacement heat pump was not in their budget. To keep costs down, Bialer donated his labor, was able to locate a used heat pump with a

partial warranty, air handler, 5KW heat strips, the needed duct work transitions, digital thermostats and miscellaneous materials.

Also coming to the aid of the family, were the Moore County Vietnam Veterans

Chapter #966, Hope for the Warriors, and individuals.

They all donated cash to help with the remaining expense of the materials.

For more information about membership or to make a donation, contact: Charles

"Chuck" Spelman, President, Vietnam Veterans Chapter #966, at 910-975-1905.



Bill and Sandy Carl, Kate and Ethan Young, Chuck Spelman.



Matt Bialer, President TempControl, Inc. with certificate of appreciation from Moore County VVA Chapter #966.

Methodists hold revival

Revival services will begin on Sunday, September 8 morning at the 8:30 am and 11:00 am worship services and continue Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights with dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm followed by service in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm.

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Loving life together for the long, long haul

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

In the dark denim sky of West Texas, a small silver-lined square cut through the darkness to reveal clear radiant sunshine. "It was as if I was looking into God's window," Beverly Cagle says quietly. Peering into that window blessed Beverly with the courage for the battle that lay ahead.

The battle that just about whipped Larry Cagle was in a tobacco field.

"I quit farming in 1970," Larry said. "I prayed to the good Lord, if he let me save that harvest, there would be no more tobacco." The harvest was spared; and Larry took to the road, crisscrossing the nation in a 18-wheeler to support his young family.

Larry and Beverly Cagle have been married for twenty-one years. They lived in a small camper trailer while they built their custom home

together, in four months, without one cross word.

"To this day, we have never had an argument," Larry says.

"We don't agree on everything, but we listen to each other," Beverly says. "I love going and being with Larry and taking a day trip or one of our longer trips." Beverly is talented baker and serves toasted sour cream pound cake on pretty dessert plates with sweet iced tea.

Defying the seasons

Truckers defy the seasons, shipping fresh sweet strawberries from balmy California to chilly Baltimore. August is the beginning of the apple haul: sweet Carolina apples stacked by the pallet and hauled to Pennsylvania, averaging three round trips a week through the first of October.

"I would start with the A/C on and end seeing a little

(See "Life," p. 24)



Beverly & Larry Cagle relax on their front porch swing.

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School Board sets goals, cancels joint meeting

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Finalizing a facilities master plan — and convincing voters to authorize school bonds to pay for new and upgraded facilities — was at the top of the list as the Moore County Board of Education met in a goal-setting work session on Thursday, August 29.

Turning to other matters near the end of that meeting, Board members voted to cancel a joint meeting with the Moore County Board of Commissioners that had been scheduled for Thursday, September 5.

Vague Objectives for Joint Meeting

The joint meeting, which was originally suggested by School Board Chairman Ed Dennison to Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno, was supposed to focus on finances, facilities, and Moore County Schools' [MCS] digital learning initiative.

But some School Board members felt that neither the agenda nor the School Board's objectives for the meeting had been well defined.

"I don't think we have had time to discuss what we want the outcome of that meeting to be," Kathy Farren said. "I don't think we are ready to go into the meeting."

"I don't think our objectives and the County's objectives for the meeting mesh," Laura Lang agreed.

Dennison noted that the idea for the joint meeting came up just before the regular August School Board meeting, leaving little opportunity for the Board to discuss the agenda and objectives.

Dennison told *The Times* that the two Boards had also not agreed on whether staff members would be participants in the meeting.

"They wanted it to include just the members of the two Boards," Dennison said. "We always want to have [MCS Superintendent Aaron] Dr.

Spence present and participating."

Farren made the motion to cancel the meeting, which was approved unanimously by the members present. Charles Lambert and Dale Frye were not in attendance.

Winning approval for school bonds

The Board settled on three key goals for the coming year, focused on facilities, advocacy for public education, and strategic planning. These are goals for the Board itself to accomplish, as opposed to systemwide goals for the schools. Those are laid out in the MCS strategic plan.

The Board is already well along in the process of developing a master facilities plan, having commissioned research on the state of MCS facilities and the cost of school upgrades and replacements. They have settled on three options that will be presented to the public for input during meetings expected to take place in September and October.

Based on that input, a plan will be finalized, a budget developed, and a request for a bond referendum sent to

the Board of Commissioners.

Each Board goal has associated strategies and action steps, and Farren succinctly summarized the strategies that fall under facilities: "Having our community meetings. Deciding what we are going to build. Passing our bond."

"The goal is to provide a better education," Board Member Bruce Cunningham said.

The Board decided not to get bogged down in crafting the exact wording of each goal during the work session, instead asking Superintendent Spence to "wordsmith" the document for final Board approval at a later date.

Working on the fly, Spence crafted a draft of the Board's goal on facilities: "Finalize facilities master plan and gain support for facilities construction by increasing the community's understanding of and getting feedback on the school system's facilities needs and challenges as they relate to student learning."

Standing up for public education

Noting that the Board had

approved in its last meeting a resolution critical of the General Assembly's 2013-2015 education budget, Cunningham suggested that a Board goal should be to "stand up for public education."

"I think the teachers appreciate the support from the board," he said.

Dennison suggested "Be strong advocates for our students and employees" as a possible wording.

Spence wrote: "Continue to be strong advocates for public education, our teachers, students, and staff" on the draft document.

Lang noted that Board Member Charles Lambert

had suggested that the Board take up the issue of providing local teacher supplements to help counteract the cuts to teacher pay made at the state level. The Board agreed that investigating supplements could be an action step under the general goal.

Turning to a more immediate opportunity, Board members also discussed the possibility of participating in a Moral Monday event, focused on education, planned for September 9 in Southern Pines.

Updating the Strategic Plan

Facilitator Trogon brought up the issue of strategic plan-
(See "School board," p. 31)

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— Shannon Stites, 7 Lakes West

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Commissioners critical of meeting cancellation

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno “was really sort of dismayed” at the Moore County Board of Education’s vote to cancel a joint meeting of the two Boards that had been scheduled for Thursday, September 5.

“And I was particularly con-

cerned about the comment of one School Board member that the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners seem to have different goals in mind,” he added.

“I believe the goals of both boards is giving the children of Moore County the best education that we can afford.”

Picerno addressed the meeting cancellation during the Tuesday, September 3 Commissioners meeting. [See

story on page 6 for more on the School Board’s decision.]

The purpose of the joint meeting was to discuss financial planning for Moore County Schools [MCS] facilities and the digital learning initiative, as well as the goals of the two boards.

In addition to those new school-related expenditures, the Commissioners face the prospect of building a new courthouse in the next decade, as well as upgrading other facilities. So, they have a keen interest in developing a comprehensive picture of long-term capital financing needs.

“I am concerned that we can’t have just board members sit down in a work session, without staff,” he added. School Board members wanted to have Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence and other MCS staff participate in the meeting; the Commissioners wanted only elected officials at the table.

“It is in everyone’s best interest . . . to have a good working relationship,” Commissioner Randy Saunders said, noting that, as the Commissioner designated to inter-

face with MCS, he had regular conversations with Kathy Farren, the School Board member designated as liaison to the County.

“We are going to work to have a meeting where we can talk through those things,” Saunders said. “We have to keep an open line of communication. The only way for us to have success in the schools is to work together.”

“If they don’t want to sit down and talk with us, how do they ever expect to resolve anything?” Commissioner Otis Ritter asked.

Resolution on state budget deemed “political”

Picerno was also unhappy with a resolution the Board of Education passed during their Monday, August 12 regular meeting “Opposing The Treatment of North Carolina Children and Professional Educators in the 2013-2015 State Education Budget.”

Picerno called the resolution “a political statement . . . aimed at the new Republican majority” in Raleigh. He noted that the state’s contribution to MCS was cut by \$7 million

(See “Commissioners,” p. 29)

Westsider Stromberg to head emergency panel

The Board of Commissioners appointed Seven Lakes West resident Erik Stromberg to the Emergency Services Advisory Committee [ESAC] during their Tuesday, September 3 meeting.

And, on the recommendation of Commissioner Ritter, they also named him ESAC Chairman.

Stromberg previously served on the committee as assistant chief of West End Fire and Rescue.

He currently serves as a volunteer firefighter with Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire

and Rescue. He has been a firefighter for more than 26 years.

Ritter, who was ESAC Chairman before being named Commissioner, told *The Times* that Stromberg, though a representative of a fire department, was very evenhanded and fair when dealing with budgets and other issues, showing no favoritism to either fire, EMS, or rescue squads.

Ed Christian of Jackson Springs was also appointed to the ESAC Board as an at-large member.



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4-H'ers are in their element in the barns

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

In the spanking clean barn, away from the noise, the flashing lights, and the smell of everything fried, the floor is covered in clean wood shavings. The animals are content. The late afternoon sun shines through the narrow high windows creating rectangles of gold on the walls. The beautiful, deep russet red, prize-winning heifer snorts.

County fairs are an American tradition, where kids take pride showing off their fattened, groomed, and well-loved animals. In denim shorts and square-toed cow-girl boots, pretty Jessica Howie introduces her very smart pot belly pig Sophie, an entrant in the 2013 Moore County Agricultural Fair.

Sophie is not humble, and she demands love. She walks up to you, turns around, backs up against your legs, and demands to be scratched. As potbellied pigs go, Sophie is diminutive, her belly not quite skimming the ground.

Sophie smells like maple syrup, Jessica says. and, in fact, she does smell like maple syrup.

Sophie sits on command for treats, and her favorite sport is one of her own creation, chicken bowling. When the chickens flock together in the scratch yard, Sophie runs pell-mell into the brood, scattering them to the far corners of the yard.

Scratching a pig is therapeutic for both owner and

pig. Sophie falls over and lets Jessica scratch her belly. Jessica says potbelly pigs are good company. They are very smart. Sophie does funny random stuff, and she's been known to curl up with Jessica on cold nights.

In the next stall over, Gracie is having none of it. She demands equal attention. A hip-high brown and white

goat, Gracie is another one of Jessica's animals. Gracie playfully butts against the fence and takes a treat from Jessica.

Jessica is a culinary arts baking and pastry student at Sandhills Community College. She is also a 4-H'er. The 4-H Club is one of America's largest youth organiza-

(Continued on page 9)



Jessica Howie gives her pot-bellied pig Sophie a treat, while Gracie the goat waits her turn.



Ashley Diesfeld wrangles one of her enormous prize-winning turkeys at the Moore County Agricultural Fair.



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of the Moore County Agricultural Fair

(Continued from page 8)

tions, established in Ohio in 1902. The Moore County 4-H Club is under the guidance of the County's Cooperative Extension office.

Kaitlyn Cranford is one of Moore County's extension agents and a recent graduate of North Carolina State University, with a degree in agriculture and environmental technology with a minor in animal science.

Kaitlyn, 24, grew up on a farm in Randolph County.

"My family farmed on a small scale," she says. "We had thirty-five head of cattle, goats, horses, and pigs. We raised bulls and replacement heifers to sell."

Seventeen-year old Ashley Diesfeld, a senior at Union Pines High School walks in. Ashley is quiet, but her turkeys are not, as she climbs in to wrangle one of her large, award-winning turkeys and walk it out to be photographed. She poses pretty next to the bird, which has an attitude. Jessica and Ashley are neighbors and good friends.

Ashley is sad that Jessica will be aging out of 4-H program next year. For Jessica,

it is a natural transition.

"After January, I can become a volunteer leader," she explains. "It is sad, but I can still come to the meetings and see everybody."

It is that community spirit that 4-H'ers share. Sherry Howie is Jessica's mother and 4-H leader.

"I think it is more family oriented," she says. "The kids and parents work together. Parents are just as involved as kids. Everybody knows each other and gets along. The Moore County 4-H is made up of eleven girls and eight boys."

Sherry grew up helping on her grandparent's chicken, tobacco, and cattle farm. Her own family has accumulated an assorted herd of eight goats, one pig (Sophie), two ducks, two rescued horses, eleven chickens, four rescued dogs, and one cat on their twenty-two acres.

Amy, Jessica's sister and a former 4-H'er, works locally as a veterinarian's technician for small animals. Sherry hopes she will go for her full vet's license.

In the children's classic, *Charlotte's Web*, Fern told her mother: "My best friends

are in the barn cellar. It is a very sociable place."

These young, talented women couldn't agree more

and are happy in the muck, cleaning the barn twice a day, and caring for their animals.

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Leslie Covington's baked goods won five blue ribbons

A new courthouse? Yes. Raising taxes to build it? No.

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County's need for facilities and the Board of Commissioners' determination to avoid a tax increase are on a collision course. The magnitude of the challenge was outlined in a Friday, August 23 meeting of the County's Courthouse Advisory Committee.

Moore County needs a new courthouse, something the experts believe will cost \$20-\$25 million, or more. A new jail and public safety complex were just completed, at a cost of \$25.8 million, which must now be repaid.

The County's student population is growing; some schools need to be expanded, and others need to be replaced. Exactly what will be built and what that will cost will be determined in a public planning process this Fall. But, in November 2014, voters will likely find a bond referendum for \$60 million, \$80 million, or even more on the ballot.

Moore County Schools has initiated an ambitious plan to provide digital technology — laptops and tablet computers — to every student in every classroom. That could add an extra \$2 million each year, every year going forward, to the \$26.5 million county taxpayers currently provide to the schools.

There's a lot to be accomplished, a lot of money to be spent, and the Board of Commissioners are determined to avoid any increase in property taxes.

That was the message that County Commissioner Larry Caddell and Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno carried to the August 23 meeting of the County's Courthouse Advisory Committee.

"The schools want \$1 million a year for the next two years — \$2 million a year for life — for technology," Caddell told the Committee.

"They are talking about a \$60 or \$70 million bond issue, which, really, we can't do much about. If they want to put it on the ballot, we certainly can't stop them."

"If it was just this one issue [the Courthouse] that we had to deal with, it would be really pretty easy," he said. "But the five Commissioners, I do not believe, that are in power today, will vote for a tax increase. I don't believe they will do that."

Commissioners not in favor of a tax increase

A study of the County's facilities in 2010 identified the needs of the County Courthouse as "serious and urgent." A 2012 study, by a different firm, listed the construction of a new courthouse as its top long-term recommendation.

The Courthouse Advisory Committee met in April, before Caddell and Picerno joined its ranks, and asked the Commissioners to commit to the construction of a new Judicial Center as a top priority and set a target date for completion of the project. That would allow the Committee to "make meaningful and intelligent recommendations for the expenditures and space utilization of the existing court facility."

The Board of Commission-

ers has taken those recommendations to heart, Picerno told the Committee.

"We understand that it is a need," Picerno said. "Every space study that we have done, that the taxpayers have paid for, has identified that we do have that need . . . I don't think any Commissioner that I am serving with presently is running away from that need."

"But there are two things that override, and that are really heavy on our minds at this time, and that is: In the recent history of Moore County the taxpayers have been hit with a fairly large tax increase. That was done in the '07-'08 revaluation and the '08-'09 three-and-one-half cent increase. And then we have the unknown of the school board and their ongoing discussion of a possible bond referendum to be placed before the voters."

"From my perspective as a commissioner," Picerno continued, "I'm reluctant at any time to raise taxes . . . We still have unemployment of nine percent . . . GDP growth of only two percent . . . and the only reason we are staying afloat is because the Federal Reserve is printing beaucoup of money. Those are the realities. And we are also having to digest

(See "Courthouse," p. 30)



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In memory of . . .

Leon Michael Ring, 80, of Seven Lakes, died August 29, at his home.

He was born in Buffalo, New York son to the late Michael and Gladys Ring.

A memorial service was held Saturday, August 31, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Seven Lakes.

Mr. Ring moved to North Carolina to enjoy his love of

golf year round; was very active and along with golf, enjoyed racquetball and jogging. He was a former President of the Pinnacles. Many knew him over the last 20 years as, "the man walking his German shepherd."

In addition to his parents, Mr. Ring was preceded in death his sister, Lynn Gorenflo; her husband William Sr.

and their son William, Jr. and his surviving wife Judi.

Survivors include his wife, Sandy Ring of Seven Lakes; daughters, Laura Ring Ahearn, Holly Ring Tronolone,

and Melissa Lotenpio, all of Rochester, NY; son, Ron Sweet, Jr. of Rochester, NY; his grandchildren; many sister and brother-in-laws; his nephew, Michael Gorenflo;

and also survived by his beloved dog, Bogey.

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc. in Seven Lakes assisted the family.

SL Chapel offers Paul Saik concert

Recording artist Paul Saik will perform at the Chapel in the Pines in Seven Lakes on Friday, September 20 at 7:00 pm. The Chapel invites everyone to come and enjoy this concert. The concert is free, but a love offering will be received.

Every life has a purpose. From the time Paul Saik was a small child, he has touched the lives of many with his talents and love of music. An accomplished vocalist and pianist, Saik is living his purpose with every breath and every step . . . armed with a passion for sacred music and a sincere desire to reach others with the powerful message of Christ's love.

A versatile singer, Saik has performed with opera companies throughout the United States and around the world. He has appeared with various symphonies and worked with Baz Luhrmann ("Moulin Rouge") in the New York Broadway scene. He has enjoyed tremendous success and opportunity throughout his career, but could not deny the call on his life to share his testimony through music.

"I was happy doing opera, but it did not satisfy my soul," Saik says. "It did not fulfill my passion for music. However, God did use it to prepare me for where I am now. I also realized that a life without God is a life not worth living. It made me realize that as much as music provides happiness for me,

that only God could provide the happiness that I had lost."

His passion is leading people in worship, and his music has touched many people as he has performed in numerous churches throughout



Paul Saik

the country. His concerts are a unique journey through his life as he performs various styles of music. You can hear everything from opera, Broadway, organ, piano and vocal solos. But everything leads to his desire to bring comfort, guidance and the presence of God to each listener, so that they may know that God truly loves them.

To listen to Saik's music, visit his website at www.paul-saik.com For more information, contact Brenda Massimo at 673-3752.

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Mitchells celebrate 65th

Jeanette Sarah Brown and Robert James Mitchell were married at the Firwood Methodist Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA on September 3, 1948.

They have two daughters

and one son; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

They recently celebrated their 65th anniversary at a

family reunion held at their son's home in Westmoreland NH.

The Mitchells are residents of Seven Lakes West.



The Mitchells recently celebrated the 65th anniversary of their wedding day.

2013 MANNA on the links

Area golfers will have the opportunity to play a premier local course and help feed needy Moore County residents on Sunday, September 22 at Foxfire Golf Club, Foxfire. Registration begins at 11:30 am, following a lunch provided by Texas Roadhouse from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, with a 1:00 pm shotgun start.

Cost is \$75 for the Captain's Choice Format event that includes green and cart fees, refreshments, awards, and prizes.

The first player to score a hole-in-one on a Par 3 hole will receive a 2 year pre-paid lease on a Ford Focus from Bill Smith Ford, and a secondly, another Par 3 hole is a \$1,000 bonus prize, a raffle, 50/50 drawing, and Mulligans.

To register for MANNA on the Links golfers may sign up online at www.active.com/event, contact Mike Gonzales at 215-5657, or email mannaonthelinks@yahoo.com.

MANNA of Moore County serves 575 free lunches to needy Moore County residents at eight serving sites each week. Over 175,000 lunches have been served in the last eight years.

Meals are prepared by 25 teams drawn from churches, school and other county-wide groups. MANNA is self-supporting and spends all its money in Moore County. More information about MANNA is available at www.mannafeeds.org



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Kiwanis fund WEE iPad purchases

by Rollin Tomberlin
Seven Lakes Kiwanis

At the school year's end, Seven Lakes Kiwanis President John Clohessy presented West End Elementary [WEE] Principal, Leigh Ann McClendon with a check for \$4,545 to be used for the purchase of iPads for the school.

"This contribution represents our keen interest in supporting the development of children and their ultimate growth into the fast moving world of technology," Clohessy said. "The Kiwanis organization exists for the support of the community and its children. Can you think of a better project that we might dedicate our energies towards?"

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club donates their funds and personal services to more than twenty-five organizations within Moore County. Included in their list are: The Coalition for Human Care, Back-Pack Pals, the Food Bank, Kids in Crisis, Project Linus, Friend-to-Friend, The Empty Stocking Fund, and the Boy and Girl Scouts.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis is always seeking new members — both men and women. They meet every Tuesday at 11:30 am at the Seven Lakes Country Club.



Seven Lakes Kiwanis President John Clohessy presents a donation to West End Elementary Principal Leigh Ann McClendon for the purchase of iPads for classrooms.

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Guest speaker, hummingbird researcher and expert, Susan Campbell will present "How To Attract and Keep Hummingbirds in Your Yard." She will also share fascinating details about these little beauties. Stop by and pick up a free soil analysis kit at this meeting. Door prize, free raffle.

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The League: Taking a stand on voter's rights

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

"League of Women Voters." It's a well-known name — one that appears often in the pages of this and other newspapers. It's a democratic institution, a collaborative group of voters who study issues and take positions.

Consensus and democracy are its core principles. And now the League's democratic principles have brought it into conflict with the State of North Carolina over voter's rights. Why?

Roots in the fight for women's suffrage

To answer that question, you have to return to the origins of the League.

The League's roots go back to the suffrage movement — the campaign to win women the right to vote.

Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1957) was a leader in the suffrage movement and the founder of the League. After the suffrage movement won the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, Catt challenged American citizens: "To the wrongs that need resistance, to the right that needs assistance, to the future in the distance, give yourselves."

There are vanishingly few organizations where a group of people come together to

thoroughly research a topic, listen to one another, come to a general consensus, and present a united front. That informed, democratic process is the foundation of the League of Women Voters (LWV). What is more remarkable is that it is a non-partisan organization that continues to grow.

"We are one of the few community organizations that is actually growing nationwide," said Jo Nicholas, North Carolina LWV President — and a resident of Seven Lakes West. Growth is happening at the local level as well; Moore County LWV now has eighty-two members.

It was through seven years of persistence that the local Moore County LWV Chapter was finally able to see the redistricting of Moore County.

"We worked to get fair representation in the County's precincts. There were two districts that's population was 50% more than the others," Mary Price, Moore County LWV President, said. Price is also a longtime resident of Seven Lakes West.

Challenges to education and voter's rights

Thoughtful research and expediency are often at odds. Recently, the League has worked around the clock to

accomplish both. The two things they value most, education and voters rights, have been hit hard, and the League is not taking it sitting down.

Winning and then protecting the voting rights of women and minorities in the United States was a long struggle.

The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified in 1920. The Voting Rights Act was first approved in 1965 and then extended in 1982, winning the signature of President Ronald Reagan. Another extension of the Act was signed by President George W. Bush in 2006. Since 2011, a flood of voting restrictions have been passed in states across the nation, including North Carolina.

North Carolina House Bill 589, The Voter Verification Act, adopted in July of this year, requires voters to present a NC state issued driver's license, Voter ID card, passport, veteran's ID, or tribal membership card at the polls. All identification must be obtained or updated at least 25 days before the election.

College IDs, public or municipal employee IDs, or any ID from public assistance

agencies are not accepted. The NC General Assembly also terminated the voter-registration program for high school seniors who are within a year of turning eighteen.

The League's position

"What guides us is advocacy for education and voting rights," Nicholas said. Currently, the League has filed two lawsuits. The first was filed against terminating the Voter Registration Program for teenagers. The second suit was filed concerning Voter ID.

"It is against the NC Con-

stitution to add another qualification for voting," Nicholas explained.

How does an organization file a lawsuit?

"We have an excellent attorney, and The Southern Coalition for Social Justice assists non-profits with legal needs," Nicholas said.

"We are nonpartisan, but we are political," Price said. "Our organization has women and men of all affiliations. Voter's rights are always one of the issues that we want to protect. National, state, and local Leagues all fall

(See "League," p. 23)

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Bethesda prepares to celebrate 225 years

by Ellen Marcus
Time Reporter

The foundation of Old Bethesda Church, in Aberdeen, is built on sand. The mammoth stones that support the church stand like a Sandhills Stonehenge, spaced close enough to provide support, but not so close as to block out all light. There is three feet or more of space between the base of the building and ground. Enough light shines under for the occasional weed to grow in the cool white sand.

The interior is flooded with light from the old paned glass windows. The ancient, wavy glass softens the light. The dark polished wood smells of pine and linseed oil. The crisp white walls contrast against the dark brown railing and the amber virgin longleaf pine floorboards and pews.

Tall live oaks shade the surrounding cemetery, where are planted staunch Presbyterian Scots, homesteaders of the Pine Barrens.

One of three original Moore County Presbyterian Churches founded by loyalist Scots, Old Bethesda is rich in architecture and history. Bensalem in Eagle Springs and Culdee in Eastwood are its sisters.

Many churches, one congregation

Old Bethesda was once "New Bethesda," standing near the foundations of the first Bethesda, and the second.

The earliest Bethesda was no building at all. It was under a dense canopy of longleaf pines that the Scottish Highlanders bowed their heads. Standing in the temperate Carolinas, they were far away from the wild barren highlands of home. In 1788, at the head of the Rockfish, the first Presbyterian Church was established in Southern Moore County.

The settlers, bound by their native Gaelic tongue, their mores, and their faith, congregated in the open air for services. The minister William Meares would stand on his porch and preach to the congregation before him. When

weather threatened, a brush arbor would be erected for cover.

There is no X to mark where the first log church stood — where men and women came together to worship, yet entered through opposite entrances, and prayed separated by partitions.

The Old Bethesda that still stands offers grave reminders of the Old South, refusing to recognize the changing tides. On the eve of the Civil War, the church was built with a slave balcony.

A trip through Moore County history

A trip down Old Bethesda



The oil lamp chandelier that graces the sanctuary of Old Bethesda was once stolen — and then recovered years later at the bottom of Aberdeen Lake. It was repaired and returned to its rightful home.

Road is traveling a timeline of Moore County history.

The Weymouth Tract of Virgin Longleaf gives way to Ray's Mill Pond, Alton McDonald's Eighteenth century farm is flanked by fields, and the Malcolm and Flora Blue 1825 farmstead still breathes a little life into history.

A right on Bethesda Avenue takes you past Ms. Belle Blue's turn of the century house, with horses grazing in the paddocks. And on the right stands Faith Presbyterian one of the first free

African American Churches.

It was a small step in acknowledging wrongs when a member of the Bethesda congregation deeded land to the newly freed men and women to build their church on. They started from scratch and christened their church "Faith."

The newest Bethesda, a modern brick building, was constructed on US Highway 1 in the early 1900s. The modern comforts were welcomed, but Old Bethesda would always be home.

(Continued on page 17)

PUBLIC SAFETY & MENTAL HEALTH CRISES: A POLICE CHIEF'S PERSPECTIVE



An Educational Meeting
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Dear Friends,

As you may have heard, I have recently had surgery. I am well known for having had lots of joint surgeries over the years. My left artificial knee had become infected, and this infection had been there for quite some time. Once diagnosed, it required surgery in an urgent fashion.

That initial surgery went well, and I feel better than I did before that operation. Things seem to be going well controlling the infection. As things continue to improve, I will have another knee operation to again replace the joint.

I want to thank the community for the concern that was expressed by many. Thank you for all your prayers, cards, calls, and good wishes. All of this has helped me a lot.

My dental practice is open, and we are seeing patients daily. It had been rumored we had closed. Please call if you have any dental needs.

Again, thank you to everyone.

Dr. Pete McKay

Call 673-0113 to make your appointment.



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WE CATER TO COWARDS!

of Moore County history

(Continued from page 16)

225 Years Later

The last weekend of September, generations of Bethesda Presbyterians families and friends will gather for services and dinner on the grounds, celebrating the church's 225th Anniversary.

Women in Sunday dresses and heels will grace the waist high tables with homemade chicken and dumplings, fried chicken, potato salad, tried and true casseroles, fresh picked tomatoes, and jarred relish, chow chow, and pickles, sweet iced tea by the gal-

lon, twelve-layer cakes and sweet peach cobbles.

The children will kick off their shoes and run barefoot through the fresh mowed grass and play hide and seek in the cemetery. The lonesome wail of the bagpipes will be heard.

It is homecoming to a community whose lineage goes back to the earliest graves and newcomers who have made the community their home.

Recovering history

One member, Kristy Rans-

dell, has worked tirelessly on filling out the history, a part-time sleuth she has searched out remnants of history patch working them together.

"The first homecoming service was held in 1923," Ransdell said. The beautiful, well-maintained building is the location of the annual trek where the congregation leaves its newest sanctuary on US 1 to join with friends, neighbors, and community members to laugh, sing, pray, and celebrate this revered and ancestral ground in Aberdeen. Now the church can celebrate two hundred and twenty five years of serving the citizens of southern Moore County."

A historical exhibit will be open to view at New Bethesda, and it is just part of the weekend long dedication. And in the true Bethesda spirit, no one is a stranger and everyone is welcomed.



The leaning headstones of the Old Bethesda cemetery offer young folks close encounters with history.

Bethesda 225th Anniversary

Bethesda Presbyterian Church invites the entire to community to help celebrate their 225th birthday with a weekend of events that take place at all three past and present locations.

FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 27

(Bethesda Presbyterian Church-U.S. Hwy 1 in Aberdeen)
6:00 pm Ceilidh- Celebration with singing, dancing and the drama "Chasing Bethesda!"

SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 28

2:00-4:00 pm Simultaneous Tours at all 3 Churches
Old Bethesda - (Bethesda Road down from Malcolm Blue Farm)

1:00 pm: Bethesda Harmony: Hymns from the New World presented by Dr. Larry Arnold 2pm: Graveyard tour given at 2pm, 3pm, 4pm with DVD of Old Bethesda History

Middle Bethesda- (corner of High & Pine St. in Aberdeen)

2:00 pm: Interior of Church Building tour, with Fellowship Hall & Log Cabin; includes photos and memory wall. Add or record your memories.

New Bethesda- (U.S. Hwy 1 in Aberdeen)

2:00 pm: historical exhibit, historical articles, photographs and timeline on display, dating from 1788 to present. New DVD for viewing

5:00 pm Brunswick Stew at Old Bethesda. Hang out and share stories by the kettle.

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 29

11:15 am: Homecoming Service at Old Bethesda with picnic on the grounds.

2:00-4:00 pm: New Bethesda: Church open to view historical exhibit, all articles, photographs and timeline on display, dating from 1788 to present new DVD for viewing.

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 6TH

11:00 am - Rededication Of Current Church Building

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Lions honor Livingston

by Rick Rizzo

Seven Lakes Lions Club

The Seven Lakes Lions Club meeting at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines on Thursday, July 18, was held to honor the late Rufus Allen Livingston for his dedication of 61 years to the Lion's Club.

Mr. Livingston was honored in recognition for his lifetime of outstanding volunteer service with his induction into the North Carolina Lion's Hall of Fame. Attending the induction were Past Inter-

national President Sid Scruggs, Past Council Chair Charles Smith, Past Council Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer Ron Kelly and Present District 31F Governor Vince Schimmoller.

Rufus Livingston was a member of the Carthage Lions Club and resided in the Seven Lakes Community. The meeting was held to present his wife, Shirley Livingston with two awards for her late husband.

Mrs. Livingston was presented with the NC Lions

Hall of Fame Award, given by the present Carthage Lions Club President Ron Kelly.

She was also presented with the Resolution Document of Remembrance by the state council of governor's by District Governor Vince Schimmoller.

The Lions Clubs will miss Mr. Livingston, who was a loving, dedicated and a religious Lion member and exemplified everything the Lion's stand for, that is "To Serve."



Shirley Livingston accepts a Resolution of Remembrance from Lions District Governor Vince Schimmoller

Freedom for all exhibit

During the 150th anniversary of the 1863 signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, a traveling exhibit of illustrated, informational panels that outline the struggle for freedom by the enslaved people in North Carolina and the nation, this exhibit will be on display at the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex beginning August 27 through September 21.

"Freedom for All conveys how securing freedom was more of a process than a single act or proclamation, and the exhibit highlights North Carolina's unique role in that process," said Earl James, Curator of African American History at the NC Museum of History.

Freedom for All focuses on the status of North Carolina before the Civil War, events leading up to Lincoln's issuance of the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, and outcomes and results of the document in the state and nation.

The exhibit also explains some of the differences between the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, the final Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment.

The Freedom for All traveling exhibit and the Freedom Coming, Freedom for All exhibition at the North Carolina Museum of History are joint projects of the N.C. Museum

of History and the N.C. Freedom Monument Project.

For more information about the exhibit, contact David Reid at 910-486-1330.

The Museum of the Cape

Fear, located on the corner of Bradford and Arsenal Avenues, Fayetteville, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm.



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Ruth Pauley Lecture Series speakers announced

From the hallowed ground of New York's Twin Towers to the search for Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele, the Ruth Pauley Lecture Series celebrates its 27th season with five exciting presentations. All lectures will be in Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst at 7:30 PM. Admission is free and open to the public with no tickets required.

"Lessons Learned from a Date with Destiny: A Historical and Inspirational View of 9/11" will be the title of Joe Dittmar's Wednesday, September 11 lecture. Dittmar will give everyone an eyewitness account of the sights, sounds, and scenes for inside and outside the World Trade Center on 9/11/01. He will present an intriguing and gripping perspective on what happened before, during, and after the terrorist attack.

"Churches in Crisis: The Future of Christianity in America" will be addressed by Dr. Christopher Evans on October 8. Professor of History of Christianity and Methodist Studies at the Boston University School of Theology, Evans is the award-winning author of *Liberalism without Illusions* and *The Faith of Fifty Million: Baseball, Religion, and America*

Culture. His talk will give compelling insights into the growing crisis facing mainstream religion in the 21st Century.

"National Implications of Military Leadership" will be discussed by Brig. General Rhonda Cornum, Ph.D., MD on October 30. During the Persian Gulf War, Cornum's Blackhawk helicopter was shot down; she was captured, and later repatriated. She commanded Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, caring for over 26,000 Iraq and Afghanistan war heroes. Cornum will discuss the quickly changing role of the military in the post-Afghanistan Era. This will be the Carl Munro Memorial Lecture.

"Silent Too Long: What Southern Foods Would Tell Us If They Could Talk" will be the topic of Sandhills Community College's Ray Linville on January 14, 2014. Linville will discuss the influences of history and culture on the nutrition of the South and how they affect the region's public health. He will explore how historical, political, socioeconomic, and other cultural factors of this region shape the eating habits and food choices of those who live in the South. This lecture will be presented in memory of Mrs. Agnes Buckley.

"The Search for Josef Mengele" will be documented by Dr. David Marwell on March 5, 2014. Before becoming the Director of the Museum of Jewish History in New York, Marwell served as the chief investigator in

the hunt for Nazi war criminals Klaus Barbie and Josef Mengele.

The Ruth Pauley Lecture Series is sponsored by Sandhills Community College, the Moore County Schools, the Moore County League of

Women Voters, and the Sandhills Branch of the American Association of University Women.

For additional information, call 910-245-3132

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118 Baker Circle Seven Lakes West

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169 Lancashire Seven Lakes South

Large home on the golf course. Three car garage with tiled floor! Two fireplaces. Beautiful woodwork. Master suite with whirlpool tub. The attention to detail in this house is evident. A must see! \$260,000

16 South Shamrock Foxfire

All brick home with large rooms, three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, fireplace, two-car garage and a full unfinished basement. Being sold "as is." Golf course view. Only \$169,000

258 Longleaf Dr. Seven Lakes West

Golf front home. Three bedrooms, two and one half baths, bonus room and screened porch overlooking the BRCC course. Beautiful home, beautiful location! \$292,500

106 Winsford Cr Seven Lakes South

12th fairway is the backyard of this bright, open home! Split 3/2 with screened porch & 2-car garage. Large living room with fireplace, family area off of the kitchen, new heat pump. Only \$199,000



106 Cambridge Seven Lakes South

Only \$159,900 for this charming home. 2 BR, 2, BA, office-study, formal dining & living room with fireplace. Enjoy the screened porch after you have used the workshop/hobby room on the lower level!

144 Shenandoah E Seven Lakes North

Unique cottage style home. 2BD w/additional loft, Carolina room, 1.5 BA, large corner lot located just across from playground, pool, park and mail house. Pristine home, well landscaped yard. \$119,000

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3 lots in Seven Lakes Business Village on MacDougall Dr. \$25,500 each

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- **Nine & Dine Golf Tournament** – 2:15 shotgun start, Waltz format at SLCC. Cost: members, cart fee, \$3 prizes, + \$15.76 dinner (inclusive); guests, \$17 cart fee, \$3 prizes, \$15.76 dinner (inclusive). Hosts Dottie & Ken Sparke, 673-1092.
- **First Friday at the Sunrise** – Summer concert series presented by Sunrise Theater. *Musical Guest: The Revivalist*, 5 to 8:30 pm. Sunrise Theater Green Space. Free Admission.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

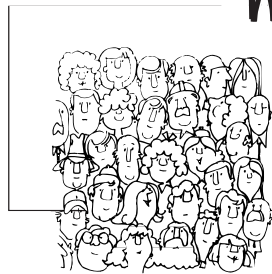
- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, *free* class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, in the Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Pinewild Garden & Home Tour** – 10 am to 4 pm, featuring nine unique Pinewild Golf and Country Club properties: golf front, lake front, perennial and woodland. Same day ticket \$20, available at Pinewild clubhouse.
- **Open Water Swim** – 2:30 to 7:00 pm, Sandhills Sandsharks hosting their 2nd Annual Carolina Cup Open Water Swim at Lake Echo, Seven Lakes North. Races begin at 3:30 pm, include 2K, 3K races, and a collegiate Team Pursuit Relay.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- **Grandparent's Day**
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Revival at West End United Methodist Church** – at the 8:30 am and 11 am worship services. Revival continues tonight with dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm followed by service in the Sanctuary at 7 pm. Guest speaker: Rev. Dr. William Simpson. Fellowship, worship and music. West End United Methodist Church, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.
- **Seven Lakes Baptist Church** – will celebrate their Special 25th Anniversary service at 10:30 am and lunch. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive 673-4656.
- **"Miniature Marvels"** – 3

pm, From insects to mushrooms, there are so many small things in nature we overlook. Start in the auditorium with a short slide show. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, 692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov

- **S'Mores Party at Sequoia Point** – 6 pm -



What's When Calendar

8 pm, **Seven Lakes Residents**, come and enjoy an evening of traditional summertime fun. All the ingredients to make s'mores provided. Lifeguards will be on duty to help keep swimmers safe. Fun for all, and all ages are welcome. Sponsored by SLLA Recreation Committee.

- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: *Laurelyn Dossett Band, Frank Solivan and Dirty Kitchen*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org
- **National Assisted Living Week**® – through September 14. Fox Hollow Senior Living will be holding events throughout this week to showcase residents and team. Community is invited to be part of the celebrations. Contact Kim Boyette, for details. 910-695-0011 or KBoyette@5sqc.com

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse Game Room.
- **Moore Republican Women Luncheon** – registration begins at 11:30 am, Luncheon at noon, held at Pinehurst Members Club. Reservations email or call Joan Ward, paward@embarqmail.com or 295-6544. Cost \$17 inclusive, checks payable at the luncheon.
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary

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

- **Moore Moral Monday** – 5 pm to 8 pm. Downtown Park on Broad Street, Southern Pines. Featuring: Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, President of the NC NAACP. Moore Moral Monday is a free event.

- **Revival at West End United Methodist Church** – dinner in the Fellowship Hall 6 pm followed, service in the

Sanctuary 7 pm. Guest speaker: Rev. Dr. William Simpson. WEUMC, 4015 NC Highway 73.

- **Jackson Springs Community Club meeting** – 7 pm in the Community Center, 447 Mill Road, Jackson Springs. Guests and new members welcome. Dr. William McDuffie will present a slide show of the Evaluation of Robbins, and the Bear Creek Boat Races. Call Susan Miller 673-3361 or cell 910-639-5267.
- **Sandhills Photography Club** – monthly meeting 7 pm, Hannah Theater Center, The O'Neal School campus. Gene Furr, an award winning photojournalist for Raleigh News & Observer,

will be the speaker: "Street Photography" Guests welcome. www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- **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.
- **Revival at West End United Methodist Church** – dinner in the Fellowship Hall 6 pm, service in Sanctuary 7 pm. Guest speaker: Rev. Dr. William Simpson. West End United Methodist Church, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End, 673-1371.
- **Zumba Class** – 7 pm to 8 pm, *free* class Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Foxfire Village Council** – 7 pm, meeting at Foxfire Village Hall.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- **Patriot Day**
- **Rabies Clinic** – 3 pm – 5 pm. Tina's Country Store, 2697 Spies Road, Robbins (910-464-3757). \$5 one year vaccinations given by Moore County Animal Control. Protect your pet, your family, your community.
- **English Speaking Union** – cocktails at 6 pm, dinner 7 pm, program with Seagrove potter, Frank Neef. Neef who specializes in crystalline glazes and pierced porcelains. Country Club of North Carolina. Membership open to the public. Hope Price at (910) 692-7727 or Hopewp@AOL.com
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Ruth Pauley Lecture Series** – 7:30 pm, Joe Dittmar's lecture, "Lessons

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Learned from a Date with Destiny: A Historical and Inspirational View of 9/11." Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst. Free.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship, devotion and a meal provided at \$5.
- **Seven Lakes Garden Club Meeting** – 2 pm, at Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive. Special guest speaker, hummingbird researcher and expert, Susan Campbell presents, "How To Attract And Keep Hummingbirds In Your Yard." She will also share fascinating details about these little beauties. Novice to experts welcome.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – Dinner served from 5:30-7:00 pm. Everyone welcome for a Lasagna dinner and fun and games, 673-1100.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, free class, Seven

Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.

- **Rabies Clinic** – 11 am – 2 pm. Hosted by the Moore County Kennel Club at the annual All-Breed Dog Show at The Harness Track, Pinehurst. Look for signs to the barn, \$5 one year vaccinations given by Moore County Animal Control. 910-947-2858.
- **Celebration of 50 years in the Sandhills** – Annual Homecoming: Sandhills Community College invites the entire community to a Block Party, downtown Southern Pines. Party will be held on the green beside the Sunrise Theatre. Free ice cream. Festivities at 5:30 pm. Free food, activities for the children and entertainment by the Randy Hughes Band. 7:30 pm, Baxter Clement and friends will perform.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Flu Shot Clinic at West End UMC** – 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Stay Healthy. Get Your Flu Shot. Quality Care Pharmacy will be administering flu shots for people 14 years old and older. Cost \$25. Most insurance plans, including Medicare

and BCBS, cover vaccination. WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

- **"Motoring Along the Double Road"** – 2 pm, a Powertpoint presentation of historic photographs. Program based on the extensive research of Jean Walker. Southern Pines Civic Club, Free, reservation. (910) 692-2051 info@moorehistory.com.
- **"Tree Trek"** – 3 pm, Learn to identify some of the trees commonly encountered in the Sandhills. Hike 1 mile. Bring water and bug spray. Meet at visitor center. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **McDonalds Chapel Music Circle** – 4 to 6 pm. The Acoustic Music Circle meet in the church's fellowship hall. Traditional acoustic musicians of all levels, including beginners come and play a variety of traditional folk music including old time and Celtic in a friendly and supportive setting. Listeners are welcome. McDonalds Chapel, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen. Jill McCloy (910) 692-5094.

- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: Jack Grace. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.
- **Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames** – 7 pm, Seven Lakes Baptist Church and Reality Ministries presents a high-impact, and compelling presentation. Free. Nursery & childcare provided through age 9. (910) 673-4656 www.slbcnc.com Seven Lakes Baptist Church. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames** – 7 pm, Seven Lakes Baptist Church.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- **Senior Enrichment Center** – 9 am to 2 pm. Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe is hosting a Flu shot clinic at the Senior Enrichment Center. Come by the center and receive your flu shot before the season begins. Prescription Shoppe will

bill Medicare for you. Bring your card. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, West End.

- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – 11:30 am, guest speaker Dr. Aaron Spence, Superintendent of Moore County Schools. Table on the Green, Midland County Club. Cost \$12. Public welcome, call 944-9611 for reservation.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6 pm, at the Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames** – 7 pm, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, a high-impact and compelling presentation. Admission free. Nursery & childcare provided through age 9. 673-4656 www.slbcnc.com Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Rosary at Chapel in the Pines – 7 pm, held at Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150.

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Troop 1944 launches "Keep Moore County Warm"

Girl Scout Troop 1944 is working on their first service project, Operation "Keep Moore County Warm."

To prepare for upcoming Winter season, the Girl Scouts age 5-9 years old will be collecting blankets from now until November 15, at various locations throughout Moore County including: NC Self Storage & Penske Truck Rental, Southern Pines; Little Hall at Sandhills Community

College, Pinehurst; and Mac's Breakfast Anytime, Aberdeen.

The Troop is asking for donations of new or gently used blankets to be donated to the Sandhills Coalition. In addition, the troop is collecting blankets and towels for animals that will be given to the Moore County Humane Society.

Troop 1944 needs the help and support of the community in making this a suc-

cessful service project for all the girls. The troop's goal is to collect at least 100 blankets to be given to residents in Moore County and 75 for the

animals.

On Friday, September 13 and Saturday, September 14, Troop 1944 will be collecting at the NC Self Storage

Expo, 209 Trimble Plant Rd., Southern Pines (off Yadkin Road). For more information, please contact Ashley Baker at (910) 691-2810.

Clinical trial for chronic heart failure

A FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital clinical trial is investigating whether the electrical treatment provided by a special type of pacemaker can keep a patient in heart failure from getting worse.

The Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy (CRT) pacemaker being studied in this clinical trial has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for patients with moderate to severe heart failure whose heart pumps blood inefficiently. The study will determine if blood can be pumped to the body more efficiently when the lower heart chambers (i.e. ventricles) are electrically paced

to beat together by the CRT pacemaker.

Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT) can help restore a normal coordinated heart rhythm by delivering pacing treatment to both sides of the heart.

Participants in the trial will be men and women 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic heart failure. Pregnant women are not eligible.

Mark Landers, M.D., a cardiologist with FirstHealth Cardiology Services, is the principal investigator.

To refer a patient for this trial or for more information on patient eligibility, contact the FirstHealth Clinical Trials office at (910) 715-2200.



Girl Scout Troop 1944

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Building codes are constantly changed and updated. Houses in total compliance just a few years ago may no longer meet your community's current building code requirements. In fact, homes built more than ten years ago, (maybe even as new as five or six years old) may not comply with today's laws and ordinances.

Any lack of compliance, although unintentional, could be personally costly following a major loss to your home. Standard, unendorsed homeowners' policies provide only a limited amount of coverage to pay for any additional cost caused by the building inspector's insistence that your entire home be brought into full compliance with local building codes following a loss.

Your homeowners' policy Section A provides a set dollar amount on your home; an additional ten percent is available to cover the add-on expense necessary to comply with local building code.

That ten percent is all that is available to pay for the cost to tear down the undamaged portion of the house (so the entire

house can be rebuilt to code); and the cost to rebuild the entire house to current building code (the damaged and undamaged parts).

By itself, the ten percent may not give you enough coverage to accomplish these requirements. Any amount above the ten percent will have to be paid by you.

You do have the option to increase your protection and save yourself from this out-of-pocket expense. Several levels of protection are available to meet your needs.

We feel you need to be aware of your policy's current limits and coverage limitations. Although we encourage our policyholders to read their insurance contracts, often times this essential task is overlooked, so we try to publish information to keep families abreast of important issues.

You need to know that there is a way to fill the gap and protect yourself from a potentially devastating out-of-pocket expense.

Please call me today and let's explore your options. If you're not an existing client of mine, maybe it's time you were!



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League of Women Voters

(Continued from page 22)

under one umbrella when it comes to issues."

Taking action comes through careful direction. "We don't just jump and do something," Nicholas explained. "Our annual emphasis has already been set at the national level. I have to get everything approved first through national and they guide us through it. We are not in it alone. The local level can also institute suggestions for programs. Then it goes to state, and the state takes it to national."

"There are one hundred counties in North Carolina, but we only have fifteen Leagues," Nicholas said. "Throughout our state, we have a lot of areas that don't have Leagues. We reach out to them to help establish Leagues and answer questions for those throughout the state."

Being NC League President is a full time job. "I am online thirty to forty hours a week," Nicholas said. "Answering emails and phone calls and stuff like that."

Then there are the trips back and forth to Raleigh and across the state. "I have a very amenable husband, Paul, who is supportive in everything I have done. He keeps saying: go ahead use the car, use the gas."

A passion for education

Nicholas is a Carolina native originally from Raeford, and is a retired elementary

school teacher and principal. Her starting annual pay in 1968 was \$5,500. When Price started working as a high school English teacher in 1960 she earned a salary of \$3,600 in Oklahoma. She retired from corporate education working for GE Capital Finance.

They are both very dismayed at the low pay of NC educators. "As a retired teacher, I can tell you North Carolina stinks," Nicholas said. "It is demoralizing for a teacher to give so much of their time and effort, to actually raise children at the same time, to make sure children are succeeding at all diverse levels, with less pay. There is no teacher's union here in North Carolina. They can't do bargaining rights. There is an association. When I worked in Maryland, we had unions that bargained for contracts and working conditions."

Price agreed, "It is just atrocious what our legislature is doing to education. We are forty-sixth in the nation [in teacher pay]. How many really good teachers will come to North Carolina that is forty-sixth in pay if they don't have to? The teachers we get will be here because their spouses work here, or they are dedicated North Carolina natives."

"If a married couple both work as teachers, you can forget it," Nicholas said. The couples' combined salaries would not be enough to support a family.

"North Carolina has excellent higher institutions of education," Nicholas noted. "Those institutions are going to be hurt because teachers will no longer be encouraged to pursue higher education."

We are not ladies who lunch," Price said. "We are people with a purpose and we have excellent speakers. In September, our speaker will be Moore County Schools Superintendent Aaron Spence."

Despite low pay local teachers continue to be dedicated educators.

"The schools here in Moore County are really good," Nicholas said. "If you did a comparison, you would see these schools are excellent."

Referring to recent positions taken by Spence and the Board of Education opposing the state education budget, Nicholas said: "I have to hand it to Dr. Spence; he stood up to the legislature about

what is happening to our teachers. I am proud of our school board for taking a stand on what is happening in Raleigh."

Volunteer with Prancing Horse

Prancing Horse Therapeutic Riding Center will host three volunteer training workshops for new and returning volunteers on September 9, 11, & 12.

To maintain their PATH International premier accreditation status, all volunteers need to attend a workshop every two years.

Participants will learn the

volunteer duties necessary for working with Prancing Horse students and horses. Volunteers need to attend only one workshop.

Prancing Horse welcomes new and returning volunteers.

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Life on the road

(Continued from page 5)

snow," Larry says.

Beverly agrees apple season is one of her favorite runs. When they first met, she and Larry courted on the long haul. Their courtship was a sweet, quiet one. Both gun shy from past relationships, they gingerly waded in.

"I'm quiet, a loner — always drove by myself," Larry says. That is until he was introduced to Beverly by a mutual friend. They sat together, perched high in the cab of Larry's truck, and watched the country breeze by.

Snow in Florida

It is the rarest of occasions when you can deliver a trucker's miracle.

"I had a load of Christmas trees in Pennsylvania going to a Methodist church in Miami," Larry says. "There

was snow on these trees. I called down and let the church know; and they said they would give me an extra \$100 to keep the snow on the trees."

Larry cranked down the thermostat in his refrigerated truck and made good time.

"They were so happy to be buying Christmas trees with honest to God snow on them. It was the quickest I have ever seen anything sell."

No one knows cold better than Beverly; she has learned to dress plenty warm. Larry keeps the cab's thermostat set on near freezing to stay alert. He's has never been one for stops, because you lose time.

"You have to occupy your mind, he explains. "When you got a haul to do, you got to get your head set, keep that left door set, and keep

the wheels turning."

The stress of delivering perishables takes a mindset of steel.

"Winter down in Florida is lush and green, and where you are going is below zero," Larry says. "In a couple of days, you are back down in Florida at 100 degrees. I once delivered a load to Pittsburg and the wind chill factor was 80 below. All I had was del-

icate squash and beans. You have to trust the people who swing the doors open; it is 42 degrees on the trailer and you can quick freeze the stuff in seconds."

Larry hauled High Point furniture out west and brought back California produce on the return trip east. It was the challenge he loved: "The hectic schedule when someone tells you that you

can't do something because it is so far and then you get there early. I was sitting on 300 gallons of fuel, and I didn't stop until I needed to refuel," Larry says, smiling.

Loving life on the road

Larry and Beverly have always had coffee in common. They can map out the best truck stops, percolating (See "Life," p. 25)



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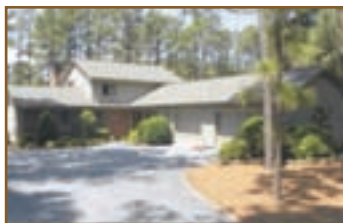
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— We Sell All of Moore County —

Life on the road

(Continued from page 24)

across the country. Every state has its gustatory delights. There's free coffee on the Mississippi state line, Cajun food in Louisiana, and good fried chicken . . . well, just about anywhere.

"We love to cook. When we were dating we almost got fat," Larry says. "We would cook like someone was coming for dinner and sit down to all of it."

Retirement is hard for Larry. Giving up his truck was saying goodbye to a life he loved dearly. His voice breaks as he talks about it.

"I sold out several years ago. I miss it so bad, I can't stand it. It's why we go back

out on the road in the pickup truck. Beverly is real sweet to me, and she likes to ride too."

Larry and Beverly have not exactly retired to the slow lane. Larry had earned the nickname "the Carolina Express." But they have downsized to a pickup truck — Ford of course — and are now driving cross the country taking their time and stopping for the roses. Beverly shows a photo of them visiting the world's biggest known rose bush.

Larry's favorite route, running Interstate 20 to where it runs out at Van Horn, Texas and I-10 picks up.

"I love it when coming in

around Fort Worth and Dallas and I start climbing the incline going west," Larry says. "Out of Fort Worth, all the sudden it is just wide open sky. If I didn't live here, it would somewhere out in the western states."

From banking to trucking

Beverly was working at a bank in Seven Lakes when Larry first met her. "When I quit working, I rode along for almost seven years, Beverly says. I was going to get my own license, but then had second thoughts." Petite, attractive and reserved, she wasn't sure if she was ready to be a woman trucker.

There are always a few that misrepresent the whole. "The last few years I rode with my CB turned off," Larry says. "I didn't like to get into all that cussing and carrying-on." He preferred old country music and many of the legends on the road: Merle Haggard, the Statler Brothers, Johnny Lee, Mickey Gilley, and Barbara Mandrell.

Larry is humble. "I always relied on God to help me," he says. "I would have never been able to have hauled all

those loads without him right there."

Trucking can be dangerous, and the weather, unpredictable. In Florida and California, fog can come out of nowhere. It is made worse in Florida when mixed with smoke from sugar cane fields being burned off. Visibility can drop to nothing driving into blizzards on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. And then

there is outrunning the menacing storm front closing in on you in Oklahoma.

Larry once fought rescue workers to try to get to a fellow trucker in trouble.

"It was the worst accident that I ever come up on," he explains. "It took three to hold me back, and they wouldn't let me get to him and cut him out. He was

(See "Life," p. 28)



Some boots, they say, are made for walking. Larry Cagle's are made for trucking.



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Suicide: overcoming the guilt

Question: I do not live in Seven Lakes, but a friend sends me your column each week. I have missed reading it this Summer and I hope you return soon. Five years ago, my eighteen-year-old daughter committed suicide. The only note she left was addressed to me and my husband. It read: "Now you won't have to be disappointed in me anymore."

When she died, our minister said that he could not conduct her funeral in our church because she had committed the unpardonable sin. We had the funeral at the funeral home, and a minister, who did not know her or us, conducted a very impersonal service. For five years, I have lived with guilt.

What did I do or not do that could have prevented her from taking her own life? Can you help me?

Response: First, let me say how sorry I am for the death of your daughter. I spent much of my ministry as a



Ask the
'Rev'
Rev. Don Welch

college chaplain, and the worst part of my responsibilities was dealing with suicides of young adults.

There are numerous reasons why a person chooses

suicide. Some actually feel like they are doing their surviving family members a favor, by ridding the family of concern or worry for their problems or failures.

Others, perhaps most, are suffering from clinical depression or some other type of brain disease, and they come to the point where the pain is so great that they see no

other way to find relief. By the time a person reaches this stage in their illness, their world has become so small that they have little feeling for how the survivors

of their death may feel.

When I am confronted with a suicide, my first thought is not for the victim, but for the survivors. I understand your continuing guilt. Guilt is the most crippling of all emotions. The role that religion can play in your healing is to help you see that God can and will take away your guilt, but only when you are ready to give it up.

For years, the Roman Catholic Church and many conservative denominations believed that suicide was murder; and, since there was no opportunity for the murderer to repent, the sin was unforgivable.

Over the last fifty years, this belief has changed. Masses can now be said in

Catholic churches for suicide victims, and they are allowed to be buried in consecrated ground. I have never understood by what authority any minister can speak for God and tell whether anyone is going to heaven or hell.

The Bible says little about suicide, but it does tell of a compassionate God who loves us no matter what sin we have committed that may have harmed ourselves or others. I pray that you may find solace for your pain and that you will allow God to take away your feelings of guilt.

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

Speeders – they could probably care less

Dear Editor:

August was not a particularly pleasant month to be driving on Longleaf Drive in Seven Lakes West.

One day in early August, I met a lady driving a tan Cadillac. She had both hands resting on the steering wheel and both thumbs were rapidly typing out her text as she ran me off the road between Woodall Court and Beacon Ridge. In all likelihood, she never saw me and probably could care less.

The very next week as I was returning from the mailhouse, a gentleman driving a white Mustang with a wide orange stripe running from bumper to bumper ignored the stop sign at Smathers Drive, pulled onto Longleaf and forced me completely off the road. When we stopped we were side-by-side; however, he was in the lane where I was supposed to be and my car was resting next to the pine trees on the shoulder of the road. I admit that I

asked him what in the hell he thought he was doing. All he did was shrug his shoulders because he probably could care less.

Last week, my wife was on Longleaf when a driver on Lakeway neither slowed down nor stopped at the stop sign. My alert wife had to make a complete stop in the road to allow the driver to make her

wide entrance onto Longleaf. This driver could have caused a head-on collision, but she could probably care less.

If these near-misses are happening to my wife and me, they're happening to others as well. I am not in favor of constant patrolling in our neighborhood by the Sheriff's Department as we should be responsible enough to police

ourselves; however, I feel that I could use some guidance from Seven Lakes West Security as to the proper way to deal with these self-centered offenders.

One death on Longleaf Drive this year is one death too many!

*Bob Hancock
Seven Lakes West*

We need to fix speed problem

A letter to our community:

I just saw the car accident that occurred this morning on Edgewater in Seven Lakes North. I have to tell you that it looked pretty bad with one car smashed entirely in the front.

The reason that I am writing is because this accident occurred right at the bus stop by the Fitness Center and there was a child standing there looking quite dismayed. Now, I do not know

if this child witnessed the accident or arrived after but I have to ask What if? What if that child was there at the exact spot the two cars collided? What if it was my child? What if it was yours?

That is why we, as parents, no longer feel comfortable allowing our children to walk these roads in the morning—people can't seem to drive slow. It's always a rush to work, a rush to take the dawdling kid to school

because he is running late, or for whatever reason. I say lets keep our neighborhood safe. Ask the sheriff's department to come in and check for speed. Maybe we should install speed bumps?

I live on an outer-lying road and have seen speeds unfathomable in a neighborhood. Please be careful. Please keep our children safe. Lets find a way.

*Marta Khan
Seven Lakes North*

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What happened to values?

I turn on the television to the image of three boys beating another boy on the school bus, while the bus driver does nothing. The next day, I open up my Facebook page to see that it is exploding with posts about Miley Cyrus' raunchy dancing at the VMA awards show.

lie, that we should honor our father and mother, that life is valuable, and other "ridiculous" things like that.

Then, Americans were somehow persuaded to believe the ridiculous proposal that biblical values were wrong and that they have no part in our education system.

So they eradicated the Bible and its values

from our schools. Maybe you think that the Bible is out of date, or out of touch with today's cul-

ture. After all, the Bible is an old book.

Maybe you believe that it is good that we have taken the Ten Commandments out of the court system. What then may I ask is the standard of right and wrong? If there is no standard of right and wrong, then anything is acceptable. The end justifies the means.

By this standard, Judge G. Todd Baugh was justified for reducing the original fifteen year sentence to just thirty days for a fifty-six year-old teacher who raped a fourteen year-old student. The victim eventually killed herself.

Why is that wrong? What is the standard? Western Civilization was founded upon the Judeo Christian standards. It is wrong because the standard (the Bible) says that it is wrong.

If you were wondering if the Bible has anything to say about these events, let me just leave you with a few verses from *Proverbs*. *Proverbs* was the book put

together by Solomon to teach young boys up to the age of thirty how to live.

You decide if they are relevant to our current situation or if they are out of touch with our "civilized society."

Proverbs 11:22: Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman who shows no discretion.

Proverbs 1:10-16: "My son, if sinful men entice you, do not give in to them. If they say, 'Come along with us; let's lie in wait for innocent blood, let's ambush some harmless soul . . . My son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths; for their feet rush into evil, they are swift to shed blood.'"

Leviticus 19:32: "Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the Lord." (Leviticus was the first law).

Chris Hrabosky is pastor at Seven Lakes Baptist Church. You may send him your question or comments at chrabosky@mac.com.



Bound by Grace

Rev. Chris Hrabosky

I get in the car and on the radio, I hear about two sixteen-year-old boys who beat a WWII veteran to death for no apparent reason. The police said, if the old man hadn't struggled, the beating would have probably been less severe.

What has happened to America? Have we fallen asleep and waked up in the Twilight Zone?

Perhaps, we need to take a step back and realize that something has gone seriously wrong in our country. In the 1950s, the most serious offenses in schools were kids chewing bubble gum in class. Today, we have students killing each other, metal detectors at schools, drugs, boys using girls' bathrooms because officials say, "Who are we to tell them what gender they are?" This is total anarchy.

The schools used to teach values that were based on the Bible — you know, those pesky Ten Commandments that said that we shouldn't steal, kill, commit adultery,



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Dr. Pete McKay plans virtual 'ride' to Tanglewood

Dear Friends,

We are moving into one of my favorite times of the year: the approaching Tour to Tanglewood on September 28 and 29.

This event is a bicycle ride to raise money to support the cause of Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Several levels of involvement endear me to this event. Multiple Sclerosis is a progressive disease that works against an individual's nervous system causing challenges to that person's vision,

hearing, speech and ability to move. My wife Mary, has been living with this disease for four years. This is the 20th year of my involvement in the Tour. It is great inspiration for me, helping me continue riding a bicycle, staying in shape, doing one of the things I enjoy most.

There's a bit of problem, though, this year. My left knee has developed a severe infection, requiring removal of the artificial joint and a lengthy time on IV antibiotics.

I had the surgery on July 16 and that is why I am so late in writing this letter. My surgery went exceptionally well and so far there seems to be good control of the infection. I just won't be able to ride my bike in the years Tour to Tanglewood.

That is crummy, but I can still participate as a virtual rider. Not actually being on my bike is bad, but it really does give me a great feeling that I can still help those with Multiple Sclerosis. That

is the real issue.

I am asking for your continued support for this years Tour by sending any donation amount possible by writing a check to: The Multiple Sclerosis Society. Your donation will be used effectively; fifty-seven percent goes to programs and services for those with Multiple Sclerosis; twenty-two percent goes to Multiple Sclerosis research; eighteen percent for administrative and fundraising; and three percent reserve for future

years. Your efforts help support the many programs and services provided by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, as well as fund support research into the cause, treatment and a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.

Help me "ride" for those with Multiple Sclerosis by sending a donation to: Dr. Pete McKay, PO Box 628, West End, NC 27376.

Dr. Pete McKay
Seven Lakes

Life on the road

(Continued from page 25)

hung up in his seat belt. His front tire blew out, and he hit the guard rail, went to left, pulled back and laid it over on the driver's side. It busted out the windshield. He burned up right in front of me."

"I still to this day believe I could have got to him and cut him out. I still get real emotional talking about. It happened twenty-five years ago and it's still like it was yesterday. People wouldn't try to get to him."

Truckers say goodbye to friends a little differently than you and me. No one respects another's deadline like a trucker. They know each other by their trucks, by their lights, and by their horn.

Larry had heard a friend was doing poorly. On a haul, he drove by his friend's house and blew his horn. His friend

blinked a porch light in return. It was a fitting farewell to a trucker friend. They are two men, who would have never met, had they not passed each other on the road.

Cowboy trucker

In Post, Texas, Larry stopped to get his thermos filled up. He was told about a little narrow road that would save him about sixty miles.

"It was a high flat mesa up there," he remembers. "That morning, I looked down off the mesa and saw a real cowboy — chaps and hat on. I held up my thermos to invite him for coffee. He makes his way up on his horse, and I am just thrilled to see a real cowboy. When he rides up he has got on tennis shoes," Larry says.

When Larry questioned his

footwear, the cowboy laughed and said, "If I had on boots, everyone would think I was a truck driver."

It is the West that Larry loves and misses. He sits in his well-made cowboy trucker boots reminiscing: "You see God's beauty in the landscape."

It was God's window that Beverly saw that day in the dark Texas sky. She took a photograph to remember. It was the reassurance that she was going to beat her disease. She is now cancer

free.

Larry and Beverly are about to hit the road again, headed for the Pacific Coast Highway.

To get there, they must first ride into the sunset, wide-eyed and reverent, through God's country.

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 7)

in the 2009-2010 school year, in the wake of the Great Recession; but those cuts, made by a Democratically controlled General Assembly and Governor, resulted in no similar resolution.

"They don't even have the final numbers yet," Picerno said, referring to the fact that the resolution was passed before the full impact of the new state budget on county schools was available.

"We support education, we will defend it, we will do the best we can," Picerno said, "but we have to be accountable for the dollars we spend."

"The members of the school board are all friends of ours," he concluded, on a gentler note. "I think, once they figure out where they are going, I think we will have that meeting. I hope that day will come, and I hope it will be soon."

Animal Control Criticized

Appearing for the second time regarding the same issue, Whispering Pines resident Lynn Stickel objected to Animal Control Officer Frank Ringelberg's shooting of five dogs that had been reported neglected or abused by the Moore Humane Society.

Based on rules for public comment during Commissioners meetings that forbid statements that might embarrass County staff, Chairman Picerno asked that Stickel not use Ringelberg's name

during her remarks, and she complied with that request.

Stickel produced a timeline that traced the events of the May 7 incident, from the initial complaint about the condition of animals at a Jackson Hamlet residence to Ringelberg's return to the Animal Center with five canine carcasses and two live dogs. She argued that the officer could not, within that timeframe, have spent more than forty-five minutes attempting to catch the dogs. That did not constitute the "reasonable means" called for in Moore County's ordinance, she said.

Stickel pointed out that Ringelberg's euthanasia privileges had been suspended by the state in 2012 for a violation of the Animal Welfare Act in connection with a hasty decision to shoot two dogs inside a fenced tennis court at MidSouth Club. She also noted that the County's official Animal Control records show that no animals were field euthanized in May, despite the killing of the five dogs in Jackson Hamlet.

"It is apparent that Sections 4-66 and 4-67 [of the County Animal Control Ordinance] need to be more clearly defined, so as not to be contrary to NC State Laws," Stickel said. "Procedures must be implemented which prevent Animal Control officers from shooting animals as a convenience, and which hold officers accountable for their actions."

Stickel had addressed the same incident during the August 6 Commissioner meeting, asking that the Board tighten Moore County's ordinances in order to prevent such incidents. During the August 20 meeting, Commissioner Jimmy Melton, the Board's point person in Animal Control issues, suggested that the matter be handled at a staff level, and by the Animal Control Advisory Committee.

Later during the September 3 meeting, Commissioner Picerno said of Ringelberg — again, with out mentioning him by name: "I want to go on record as saying that man has given more to Moore County and to Animal Control than anyone I know. If he did make a mistake, he's human. If he has some issues we need to address, then we need to address them. I am really saddened that he would be so taken to task in a public forum."

Commissioner Caddell, recognizing Melton's leadership in Animal Control issues, suggested the Board continue

to follow his advice and deal with the issue at the staff level.

"If he told me to let this go, I am going to do that," Caddell said.

Other business

Aside from comments by the public and the Commissioners, the actual business on the agenda for the Tuesday, September 3 meeting was relatively straightforward and handled with dispatch:

- Health Director Robert Wittmann provided the Board with materials produced by the NC Association of Local Health Departments that highlight the value of the work of those departments.
- Department of Social Services Director John Benton briefed the Board on the kick-off of the United Way campaign among county employees.
- Chief Financial Officer Carrie Neal presented the quarterly financial report for Sandhills Center for Mental Health.
- The Board approved \$1,092

in bad debt write-offs for the Health Department, reflecting amounts unpaid by department clients.

- At the request of Partners in Progress CEO Pat Corso, the Commissioners authorized the expenditure of \$4,400 left over from the previous budget year to close out a study of the feasibility of linking local farmers to institutional kitchens.
- The Board approved the plans for a 100 by 100 foot hangar to be built by Time Saver Aviation, LLC at the Moore County Airport on property leased from the County.
- At the request of Planner Tim Emmert, the Commissioners approved a Cost Allocation Plan that is used to charge staff time and the use of other County resources against community development grants.
- Also at Emmert's request, the Board authorized the Planning Department to use translation applications on their iPads when dealing (See "Commissioners," p. 30)

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Courthouse

(Continued from page 7)

this building that you are sitting in right now [the new Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center].”

Ultimately, Picerno suggested that the Advisory Committee assume that, given both the financial constraints and the time consuming process of designing and building a new courthouse, “we are going to make do for five years. We need to take this court facility that we have now and, for the next five years, determine how we use it best with the least investment.”

Who needs the space?

With the commitment to build a new courthouse and the five-year timeframe in hand, the committee turned to a discussion of how best to use the 7,600 square feet

on the lower level of the courthouse building that has recently been vacated by the Sheriff's Office, which has relocated to the new Public Safety Center.

The 2012 Space Needs Assessment conducted by the consulting firm Chinn Planning recommended moving the District Attorney's office, which is currently in leased space, into that area.

Superior Court Judge James Webb, a member of the Committee and its former chairman, suggested simply following that recommendation.

However, County Manager Wayne Vest explained that Chinn's recommendation that the DA's office be moved was linked to other departmental moves that could ultimately involve considerable cost.

District Attorney Maureen

Kreuger said the square footage of her department's current offices is adequate, though there have been problems with maintenance of the aging building by the landlord.

Chief District Judge Jayrene Maness said she was surprised by Chinn's recommendation, given the current overcrowding in the clerk of court's space and the sub-optimal allocation of space to the District Court.

“Personally, I would want to see the space allocated to those of us that are already there,” she said.

Vest suggested that the District Attorney's office might instead be moved to portions of the Curry Building recently vacated by Public Safety's move to the new Rick Rhyne Center, which would save the County \$50,000 in rent,

annually.

The Committee ultimately appeared to agree with Maness and Vest.

How to design it?

Committee member Howard Warren, a retired architect, suggested the County retain an architectural firm to work with the departments housed in the courthouse to reallocate and redesign the space.

But Vest and Commissioner Caddell argued that the remodeling needed could be handled much more quickly and efficiently using County staff.

Picerno asked Vest to spearhead that effort, consulting with the clerk and the district court staff.

“When you get to the point where you are ready to come back, we will have a second committee meeting,” he said.

“Let's get started,” he added. “Let's not be talking about this three years from now. We are very conservative spenders. In that frame, let's get it started.”

The cost of whatever remodeling is needed will likely be absorbed by the County's capital reserve funds, which currently total approximately

\$7 million. Commissioner Caddell said that smart budgeting had allowed the County to grow its capital reserves by about \$1.5 million per year.

Creed replaces Maness

Judge Maness, noting that she had been appointed to the Courthouse Advisory Committee before assuming the role of Chief Judge for District 19B, asked that the Committee and the Commissioners accept her resignation and appoint District Court Judge Skipper Creed in her place.

The Committee voted unanimously to make that recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

Judge Maness suggested that some members of the Moore County Bar be added to the committee, and Picerno asked Creed to recommend individuals to fill that role.

Commissioners

(Continued from page 29)

with customers who have limited English skills. Previously, the department had utilized a language interpretation service.

- The Commissioners approved a new fire and rescue contract with the Town of Robbins.

Appointments

The Board made a number of appointments, including:

- Ann Robson to the Triangle

J Regional Aging Advisory Council.

- Dianah Bradshaw to the Board of Health.
- Dr. Wendi Carlton and Commissioner Ritter to the Sandhills Center Area Board, and Ritter also to the Center's County Commissioner Advisory Board.
- Dr. James Watson as the County's Animal Cruelty Investigator.
- Bill Herbert to the Social Services Board.

- Judge Skipper Creed to the Courthouse Facilities Advisory Committee.
- Jimmie Ann Lassiter to the Jury Commission.

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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

similar complaints.

"I was doing some research for a past Board meeting and found that, in 1989, speeding was the number one complaint. It is an issue that has been around a long time. Obviously, we have not resolved it. One time, I said

we should put in speed bumps. We would then have this placed packed with people who don't like speed bump."

Sohl advised that residents should report to the office any cars observed driving recklessly. SLLA President Steve Ritter reminded every-

one: "These people that are speeding are our neighbors. We should try to get our people to slow down."

Equipment Upkeep

The Board approved a motion to allow for the overhaul of the transmission of the Association's back hoe.

The expensive \$7,500 repair costs much less than the price to purchase a used back hoe.

The back hoe has been well maintained and has had other recent repairs. Other than the transmission, it is thought to be in good working order. Sohl did not recom-

mend investing in second-hand equipment that had been heavily used without a warranty.

Recycled house causes ARB puzzlement

The Architectural Review Board was recently challenged with an unusual request, Director Bill Hirsch reported. A landowner wanted to relocate an eight-year-old stick frame house from the Pittsboro area to Seven Lakes.

"We felt, because it required a new foundation, a driveway, and plumbing and sewage, that it should be deemed new construction," Hirsch said. "We asked him to comply with [standards for] new construction. Since that time the request has been withdrawn, and the issue is not

(See "SLLA," p. 32)

School Board

(Continued from page 6)

ning, noting that "a major part of the Board's responsibility is to periodically develop a strategic plan . . . to involve the community in developing measurable objectives for the school district and related strategies."

Superintendent Spence noted that the current MCS strategic plan expires this year, so an update is due.

The Board agreed to take "develop and adopt a strategic plan" as a third goal.

Spence suggested that the new plan should include more measurable indicators of success than are available in the current plan. He said having metrics enables both superintendent and staff to measure their own progress — as well as giving MCS a way of demonstrating success to the broader community.

That suggestion met with some skepticism from Cunningham and Enola Lineberger.

"Sometimes when you focus on things that can be

measured, you lose sight of the ineffable things that can't be measured," Lineberger said. "Some of it is impossible to measure."

"The dilemma for me is how to know that we are meeting the objectives," Spence said.

The Board asked Spence to provide examples of metrics and measurements used by other districts.

Three big goals is enough

Last year, the Board took on five goals, but the size and complexity of the goals set for 2013-2014 convinced them that three was enough.

"I have a problem with adding more goals," Board Member Lang said. "Our goal on facilities is huge. The strategic plan is going to be huge. I don't want us to water down our goals, so we can concentrate on the ones that are huge."

Board members agreed that some of the unfinished action steps left over from last year's goals could find a place under

the three new goals for 2013-2014.

Lineberger said she wanted to be sure the public understood that the Board was not abandoning the goals they set last year. Many of the action steps have been accomplished, she said, others have become part of the Board's standard operating process, and others will be

rolled over into the new goals.

Available Online

The School Board's 2012-2013 Goals, as well as those from the previous year, are available on the MCS website. Also available is a video of the Thursday, August 29 Work Session, as well as past School Board meetings.

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Foxfire

(Continued from front page)

the County, the Council concluded it would not be prudent to move forward so quickly.

Keeping citizens informed

During the Council's August 29 work session, Councilman Steve Durham said he thought it would be helpful and appropriate to send out a statement explaining "where we are with the water issue. Some residents have expressed confusion to where we are with all of this."

Mayor George Erickson gave his own understanding, "We were put under such a strict deadline, and we couldn't meet that deadline. They [the state revolving loan fund] have offered zero percent financing every year, and it is not a one time thing. I don't think we have put it away; we have just put it on hold."

Durham agreed, "I think we have a general grasp of that, but I don't know if the Village of Foxfire residents do. Where we left this and what our issues are in terms of this initiative."

"Our water system is good, solid, and working well," Durham continued. "I haven't changed my position on that. As long as we don't have significant weather issues, droughts, or prolonged power outages, then we are okay. But if we want to continue to grow and sustain our viability, then we need to plan for our future water needs."

Keeping the momentum

As a result of the recent negotiations with the County, the topic of water is fresh on the minds of residents, and Councilwoman Leslie Frusco wants to keep up the momentum.

"I personally don't want to

see this thing put on hold and gather dust," Frusco said. "I think we just need to do some further study and preparation. There were a number of questions that were asked by people, and I think we should devote time to address some of those questions."

"We need to get a consensus among us," Frusco said. "We need to get more information about our own water production."

During public hearings on the proposed sale to Moore County, many residents expressed their confidence in the current water system.

"The inference was: we have plenty of water why are we worrying about this?" Frusco said. "We need to quantify whether or not we are coming close to needing to either drill another well or go another way. From a dollars and sense standpoint, if we are

going to consider attaching to Moore County in the next two to five years, it seems ridiculous to spend money on drilling another well — if, in five years, the likelihood is we would abandon that well."

"It would be irresponsible not to investigate other sources," Councilman Mick McCue said. "Even if we knew for sure that the current water system could meet our needs through 2017, the Council should still be actively searching alternative sources of water. Moore County is looking to have water for twenty to thirty years in the future. We need to do the same thing. We are planning to grow, and growth requires adequate infrastructure."

Durham agreed with McCue that now was the time to be proactive, while the current water system is operating smoothly and meeting demand.

Erickson said, in the future, more detailed negotiation would be in order.

"We need to take our time," he said. "There was no way I would support us going into debt for a million dollars. I couldn't do that, ever."

Growth costs money

If the Village continues to grow, at some point, residents will have to ante up.

"Mr. Mayor, you said you were not going to put the village in debt for that. Can anyone can show me where any village or municipality got a free hookup to another entity?" McCue asked.

"We had starry eyes when we thought Stonehill Pines was going to bring down the water line. We are going to have to pay at some point. There is no way around that. The Village as an entity wasn't taking on any debt. We were going to pay the same rates

(See "Foxfire," p. 33)

SLLA meeting

(Continued from page 31)

on table any longer."

The ARB is considering amending rules to include relocating houses in the future.

"We need to have it understandable and clear, so that we can provide equitable treatment for all submissions," Hirsch said.

It takes a Village to put on a party

Recreation Director Darr announced that a S'mores party will be held on Sunday, September 8 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Sequoia Point.

"We have got a serious sit-

uation going on as it relates to parties," Darr reported. "We are not getting any participation in doing these parties. We try to get people to sign up for Holiday parties. If we do not get people from the community to help out, then we will be in the situation that we will not have parties."

Referring to Bob Racine, who was head of the Recreation Committee in the previous year, Darr said, "My good friend Bob here, when he was over recreation, he did all the work himself for the parties. I am not. We need people from the com-

munity to come forward."

Racine agreed with Darr, "I would like to add, Bob is correct with that. This has gone on over and over year after year. We get the same people every year. Some are getting older. We do need fresh blood."



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Horses

(Continued from front page)

collect and monitor data after the purchase of the horses, Temple noted.

If the data does not support the demand, the purchase can be easily reversed with the sale of the horses.

Horses in the current herd are being overworked and are showing signs of exhaustion with the increased number of rides.

Point by point

Director Leach thanked Temple for the time and effort he put into his report and for helping to move the process forward. Leach said he had spent several days reviewing Temple's report and reading numerous emails from Board Members regarding the stables.

Taking up each one of Temple's five points, Leach questioned the budget: "Let me

remind the board that [Stable Manager] Kate [Pennington] has already said there would be a need to erect shelters. This expense alone will deplete the budget. The 2010 reserve study also called for the repair of the stables."

Leach also worried that increasing demand for rides during the Fall and Winter by adding additional programs was speculative. "Is this board prepared to base

its decision on assumption or on history?" Leach asked.

As for purchasing the horses, collecting the data, and selling horses if demand is less than anticipated, "this thought process is sounding more and more like DC," Leach said.

"You have to pass the laws before you read them. Now it is you have to buy the horses before you ride them? Wouldn't it be wiser to have more detailed data to make these decisions before purchasing the horses?"

Leach's main concern was overworking the horses. "This

is the most important consideration," Leach said. He then proposed that the Fall and Winter fall off in ridership would allow more time for research, while sparing the current herd exhaustion.

Leach then proposed: "Let us as a board, unlike Washington, amend the motion to purchase one horse now, continue to model the numbers on a monthly basis, when and if the numbers allow it, we can then purchase an additional horse."

(See "Horses," p. 34)

Foxfire

(Continued from page 32)

we pay now for the next twenty years. It was a better option than saying residents will have to pay \$1200 when it is time to lay that line."

The end decision might not be determined by the Council, but rather by the property owners.

"Regardless how we look at it, we need to do a semi-referendum of the property owners," Frusco said. "I believe this Village is too small for five people to make a decision to divide it."

As an example, Frusco said, "If we were going to put in sewer lines, then the majority would have to agree with the assessment."

choosing, McCue recommended: "I would make it a more comprehensive review of the entire zoning ordinance. I have a lot of notes about inconsistencies; and that's what we need to do, divide it up start working on. We need much more user friendly ordinances. All those changes will take time to draft up."

Recognizing the need to address the ordinances as a whole, Gilroy said she thought it would be wise to prioritize specific high-use ordinances first. Frusco suggested prioritizing set back requirements in the Village's business district.

Volunteers needed

The Council is actively searching for residents who are willing to serve on the Board of Adjustment in September.

"We are having a public hearing, and we need to do it fairly quickly and get a

board seated," Erickson said.

It is a quasi-judicial board that has not been required to act on a request in the last eight years.

A landowner is seeking a variance from setback requirements, which requires action from the Board of Adjustment.

Many of the committee members who have served in the past have showed no interest in continuing.



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Creating Order in the Ordinances

Mary Gilroy attended the work session on behalf of the planning and zoning committee for guidance on what ordinances to prioritize.

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Horses

(Continued from page 33)

Natural attrition

"Last year at this time we were discussing raising fees for stable rides and possibly down-sizing our herd," President Steve Ritter said. "I believe at that time we were around ten horses."

"We were thinking ten were too many. As we sat here, our herd was downsized through natural attrition, horses getting old, just like all of us. We had to retire three, and one passed away, and our herd got downsized to six. When we discussed it a year ago we didn't know if ten was right number or if six was. We ended up taking no action."

Ritter then did the math. Increasing the number of horses by two would still be a twenty percent decrease from the size of the herd a year ago.

"I don't know much about riding horses," Director Rich Faraci said. "It seems like Kate has been doing heck of job up there. A very smart man once said, 'let's not micromanage. We got a manager; let her do her job. If she says we need horses, then let her purchase the horses.'"

The Times published a story on the stables after the last work session. "I read The Times and didn't agree with all of it," Director Racine said. "Then I was invited on a trail ride. It was fun. As I rode along that trail I wondered, 'How many times can you ride this trail, at this pace, and not become bored.' I understand when kids talk about wanting an advanced program."

At the end of his trail ride, Racine reported, "they took the saddle off. The horses were hot and sweaty. They were hosing them down with water. I thought there was no way these horses were ready to go out on another trail ride. If we don't have the horses to meet the demand, then we should schedule less rides. There should be at least one hour rest between trail rides for each horse. If you can't ride the day you want, then go

some other day."

"I came home and had three calls against the purchase of the horses," Racine said. "It is not what I think. I am here to represent the people who voted me in. I don't know what the answer is. I am in quandary. I am confused. I want more facts to take away my confusion."

Back to the numbers

Despite the smaller herd, the number of rides has increased significantly.

Director Darr reported, "Two years ago, we gave 31 trail rides, and we had 9 horses. This year, we did 140 rides with 6 horses. Here's my problem. September is going to be as big as it was in August. August was as big as it was back in May. Right now we do not have the capability of providing the amenity. We need to listen to the vet and cut that back to three rides per horse [per day]."

"What I am trying to say is: I don't know horses," Darr continued. "I listen a great deal to our manager. If we get the horses, we can't literally take them out and do trail rides tomorrow. The staff has to work them in. Even if we get them tomorrow, they will not be available right away. It could take a week to ten days. My problem, Chuck [Leach], is we need them now. We need them for this month. I believe we need them for next month. If we add one horse and find out we need a second, then we will have to come back here and have to go through the same situation all over again to add another horse."

"This is kind of the classic planning problem," Treasurer Conrad Meyer said. "How do you manage through peaks of demand and manage your cost when it is not there? People wrestle with this all over the place."

"Usually, you try to look at alternative ways to handle the peaks. One of the ways to handle peaks is the possibility of leasing a few horses for a short period of time — to get us through the peak season and not require us to make long-term commitment. It will also allow us time to collect data. If we end up utilizing those horses, we can make decision to make them permanent or extend the leases. I don't have the answer; I am just throwing that question out."

"I would never lease out a horse for someone to work the tar out of for a short period of time," Stable Manager Kate Pendleton said. "If I am going to own a horse, I would ride in the Summer and lease it over Winter, so I don't have to feed it. Also, most leases are long term — not just a few months." Pendleton then reported that leasing a horse could cost as much as \$200 per month.

Residents weigh in

Resident John Paulson had gathered his own numbers and presented them during public comment. He concluded that the stable's numbers were inflated and recommended not purchasing the horses. He also encouraged the board to consider leasing additional horses.

"When you come through the gate you see the stables,"

Resident Christy Runnels said. "When you buy property out here, you know you are buying the stables. It is no surprise."

Runnels grew up in Seven Lakes. In 1996, she moved her family back to Seven Lakes because of the horses. "You can get tennis, pools, lakes and golf anywhere," she said

Les Sommers said, "I have been listening to everything you have said. I think we should buy two horses and put them in service. It is not that much money."

Another resident concluded: "We don't count how many people go swimming, how many games of pinochle is played, and we don't count how many dribbles at the tennis court. If we need the horses, let's buy these horses. The community has to pitch in for every aspect. I have heard people say: 'I don't have children, why should I have to pay for school taxes?'

I have never been robbed, but I am still paying for police protection. We all have to pitch in."

The Board voted on Leach's amended motion to buy only one horse. The motion failed.

The board then voted to purchase two additional horses with the cost not to exceed \$2,000. The motion passed with Darr, Faraci, Hirsch and Meyer in favor, Leach opposed, and Racine abstaining.

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Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

The Board voted early in the year to reduce the number of Directors from nine to seven. Duties of both the

Recreation Director and the Safety and Security Director will be turned over to CAS staff. Workman will oversee the reorganization of events

planning and work with CAS Manager Jeannette Mendence in defining responsibilities for community events and amenities.

Dealing with delinquents

In a continuing effort to address the issue of property owners who are delinquent in paying Association dues

and fees, the Board and management have taken action to inconvenience the delinquent property owners.

(See "Westside," p. 36)

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Westside meeting

(Continued from page 35)

"We have disabled their barcode at the gate," Treasurer Dale Erickson reported. "They have to get a hang tag each day."

Nine of thirty-seven delinquent property owners that were turned over to the association's attorney have brought their payments up to date.

"It is still a problem area and is affecting our cash flow," Erickson said.

In an attempt to avoid late payments, the Association will do away with monthly payments.

"We are going back to paying a lump sum. Erickson said. "It will also save us \$3,600 a year in coupon booklets."

Youth Triathlon approved for Johnson's Point

The ACS Lakers Youth Triathlon Club will hold a competition at Johnson's Point in Seven Lakes West. The SLWLA Board voted unanimously to host the event, scheduled for Saturday, September 28 event from 8:00 am to Noon.

"I think it's an absolutely fantastic idea, and seems likes something we should do," Director Jim Pierman said.

Director Bruce Keyser agreed: "It is an extremely well laid out plan. I would like to thank them for what

they are doing for the youth in the surrounding area."

During the public comment portion of the meeting Tri Club Trainer and Westside resident Dennis McLaughlin thanked the board.

"I would like to thank everyone for giving us this opportunity," he said. "It is a fantastic event, and I would like to encourage everybody to come out and watch. It is really wonderful watching these kids compete."

New Appointees to Beacon Ridge Committee

In July, the Board voted to create an ad-hoc committee for the purpose of facilitating the ongoing viability of Beacon Ridge Golf and Country Club. During that meeting President Stevens read a long list of residents who had agreed to serve.

At the August meeting, the Board voted to add to the committee Roger Smith, John Hoffmann, and Larry Sizemore. The panel was scheduled to have its organizational meeting on Wednesday, September 4.

Remodeling the Front Entrance

A design contract for the remodeling of the front entrance to Seven Lakes West should be in place by early September, Director Jim Pierman reported. Once the contract is signed the work on

the final design will begin.

The Front Entrance Construction Committee Chairman and overall Project Manager will be will be former SLWLA President Mick Herdrich. Also serving on the committee are Jim Pierman, John Hoffman, John Goodman, Ed Cockman, and Don Freiert, all either current or former SLWLA Directors.

Director Erickson praised "Ron Shepard and the front entrance."

"I think we would all agree we have the prettiest entrance in Moore County," Erickson said. "The new front gate design when finished will blow everybody's mind and enhance property value."

Ask before you Dig

The Architectural Review Committee [ARC] recommended requiring advance approval for significant changes to landscaping after a property is occupied.

"The ARC would like to include landscaping changes after occupancy, which includes significant changes like retaining walls," Director Dan Blue said. "Retaining walls would require prior approval of ARC."

The ARC would refer to a topographic map to determine if gradient would interfere with drainage.

Landscaping that produces a screen wall or fence that interferes with the view of

the lake or golf course would also not be allowed. The board voted unanimously to require prior approval of the ARC.

The ARC also asked for a new regulation that would require that tracing wire would be included on any future installation of any kind of underground utilities, sewage, or water lines.

"Anything that we would do would have tracing wires on it," Director Jim Peirman said. "The line we just put in has tracing wires on top of it. Having tracing wires put on anything underground would be very important."

The Communications Committee is working with ARC to streamline the approval process for landowners by creating a user-friendly online form.

"We are working to make the ARC a kinder, gentler committee and make it easier for members to get what they need to get done," Blue said.

Trailers on the Block

Apparently, selling an abandoned trailer is not that easy in North Carolina. The SLWLA had planned to auction off trailers abandoned in the boat and trailer storage lot. But the Division of Motor Vehicles required that the trailers must be registered before they are sold.

"It put a hold on the auction," Director Keyser said.

"It will move forward as soon as the paper work is done."

County Wide Endeavor

President Stevens reported on the recent meeting of the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council with the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

"During the meeting the Commissioners invited us as a community to get actively involved on an ongoing basis instead of complaining," Stevens said. "The more we do that, the better off things will be for us. We need to be proactive, and I underscore the importance of it."

"I would like to give a special thanks to Ed Silberhorn and Ron Shepard, who have had a long-standing effort to convince or motivate Aberdeen Carolina and Western to clean up railroad ties on the right way. The Board of Commissioners staff and Chamber members helped make some progress there," Stevens said.

Last Summer Concert

In the last Summer Concert of the season, the McKenzie Brothers will perform Friday, September 6, 7:00-9:00 pm at Johnson's Point.

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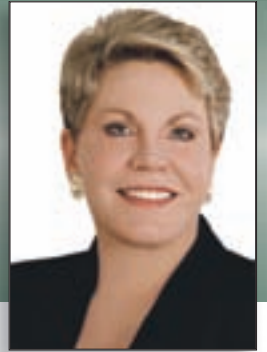
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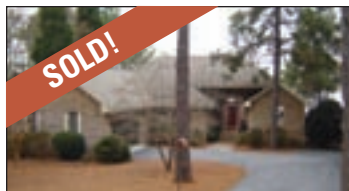
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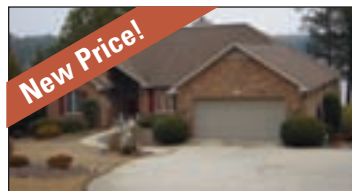
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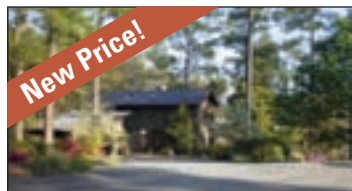
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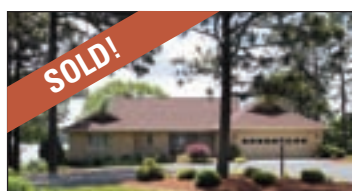
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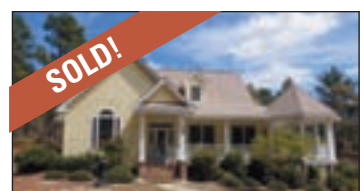
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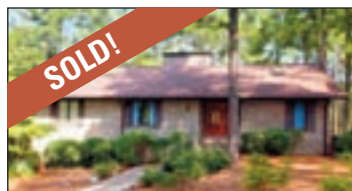
Seven Lakes West \$315,000
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www.128OwensCircle.com



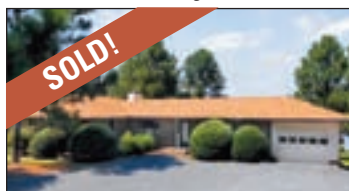
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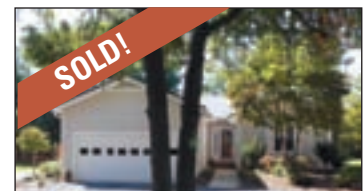
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