

County puts Harnett water deal in motion

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



In a series of unanimously approved motions, Moore County's Board of Commissioners pieced together, during their Tuesday, September 17 meeting, the elements of an application for an \$11 million zero-interest loan that would pay for a long-awaited expansion of the County's water supply.

The goal is to buy into an upgrade of Harnett County's water treatment plant, guaranteeing Moore County up to 3 million gallons of water each day for the next 99 years — a million more gallons than the current water purchase contract permits — while lowering the cost of that water by 20 percent.

A 16-inch water main will move the water from Harnett County to a new water tank near the intersection of NC Highway 73 and Gretchen Road in West End, allowing Moore County to supply Seven Lakes' water needs primarily from Harnett County, rather than from Pinehurst.

During Tuesday night's meeting, the Commissioners:

- Approved the \$5.45 million, 99-year agreement with Harnett County that buys Moore County access to 3.0 million gallons per day at a price of \$1.92 per gallon.

- Authorized County Manager Wayne Vest to submit an application to the state for an \$11 million zero-interest loan.

- Approved the \$10.84 million project ordinance, which includes the \$5.45 million payment to Harnett County, and another \$5.39 million to design the project, lay the pipe, acquire land, and install a booster station and water tank.

- Approved the purchase of a 0.114 acre booster pump site from the Eastwood Fire Department for \$1,322 and the purchase of an 0.568 acre water tower site from McDonald Family Farms for \$6,200.

With those approvals and authorizations, Public Works Director Randy Gould and his staff, working with the consulting engineer McGill (See "Commissioners," p. 25)

Mermaids on Lake Echo



The Open Water Swim Camp held on Lake Echo September 6 – 8 brought out swimmers and competitors of all ages, including these young mermaids, who stopped to pose for a photo, but disappeared into the lake before The Times could catch their names.

Board ready to move ahead on bocce court

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



After a two-year wait, Seven Lakes bocce players will soon have a temporary court in Seven Lakes North.

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors authorized various repairs and upgrades to the Northside tennis courts — including the installation of bocce and pickle ball courts — during the Wednesday, August 28 Open Meeting.

But the project was put on hold to give Board members time to arrange a meeting

with Representatives of Seven Lakes Country Club to see whether the Association and Club could craft an arrangement that would give landowners some form of access to the Club's underutilized clay tennis courts near the Fitness Center.

During the Board's Monday, September 9 Work Session, Recreation Director Bob Darr said that working out any arrangement with the Club could take some time, and he urged the Board not to delay installing a bocce court.

Darr advocated creating a temporary court that would use artificial turf laid over

the existing tennis court tiles, along with pressure-treated railroad ties to define the boundaries of the court.

He said that solution was expected to cost \$1,700, compared to \$16,000 for a more permanent court that would use concrete curbing. Installing a less expensive, temporary court would also allow the Association to gauge the level of interest in bocce, he added.

Director Bill Hirsch noted that the Board had discussed two different options for rehabbing the tennis courts, both of which envisioned a bocce court in a portion of (See "SLLA," p. 28)

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DMV glitch could send your taxes to Robbins

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

When you receive your next vehicle registration renewal notice from the NC Department of Motor Vehicles [DMV], look it over carefully, or you could wind up paying taxes you don't owe, to a town you don't live in.

And that goes double if you live in Seven Lakes.

For decades, North Carolinians have paid taxes on their cars and trucks directly to their county tax office.

But, beginning with this fiscal year, those taxes are being collected by DMV during the registration renewal process. The renewal form you receive in the mail lists not only the DMV fee, but also the county and municipal taxes you owe on your car or truck.

If you live in Seven Lakes, only county taxes should be listed. That's why Southsider Melinda Scott was surprised to find taxes for both Moore County and the Town of Robbins listed on her renewal form.

"When I received my car registration renewal, I noticed the tax amount had nearly doubled," Southsider Melinda Scott emailed *The Times*. "When I paid the tax on line, the tax details indicated I was paying taxes to Moore County as well as Robbins."

Moore County's Interim Tax Administrator Johnnie Edmondson told *The Times* that Scott isn't the only Seven

Laker who's has found that error on her DMV renewal form.

He explained that the state's new Vehicle Tax System [VST] matches up addresses to tax districts. When it has trouble making that match for a Moore County address, it tends to default to Robbins.

Edmondson told *The Times* that only one or two percent of registrations have been affected by the glitch, but a good percentage of those have been in Seven Lakes.

Fortunately, it's an easy fix that can be handled by the County Tax Office. But it's best to fix the error before your registration renewal is processed.

"If they find an error on their registration," Edmondson said, "before they go down to the DMV office, they should come by the County tax office so that we can correct the error and tell them

the correct amount of tax that they owe."

He explained that the County has access to some parts of the state VST system and can correct district assignments.

Citizens can also contact the county tax office by phone to have the error corrected.

Edmondson stressed that it's important to get the database corrected before processing your renewal, whether you do that on person at the DMV office or online.

If you have already completed your renewal, you can still work with the tax office to secure a refund, but the process takes a little longer than correcting the error in advance.

You can contact the Moore County Tax Office at 910-947-2255 or via email at tax-admin@moorecountync.gov. The office is located in the Historic Courthouse in the center of the traffic circle in Carthage.

Candor Lions Club Tourney at BRCC

The Candor Lions Club is hosting their 29th Annual Charlie Lewis Invitational at Beacon Ridge Country Club, Seven Lakes on September 29. The 4-person teams, Captain's Choice Tournament will start at 1:00 pm rain or shine. Contact 910-673-2950 if interested in entering a team.

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be e-mailed to mail@sevenlakestimes.net, dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 1107 Seven Lakes Drive, mailed to P.O. Box 468, West End, NC 27376, or faxed to 888-806-2572.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

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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

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Foxfire reconstitutes Board of Adjustment

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



The Foxfire Village Council opened their Tuesday, September 10 Regular Meet-

ing with a Public Hearing to discuss reducing the number of members required to serve on the Foxfire Village's Board of Adjustment.

Under the guidance of the Village's Attorney, Michael Brough, the recommendation

was to reduce the panel from ten to five members.

Citizens in attendance voiced no opinion concerning the matter. The Council voted to make the necessary changes to the Planning and Zoning ordinances that would

support the change.

Turning from configuring the Board of Adjustment to staffing it, the Council appointed Dennis Micallef, William Kirk, Brian Manley, and John Walburgh with Helen Forsyth Kirk serving

as alternate.

A member from the extra territorial jurisdiction [ETJ] will need to be appointed by the Moore County Board of Commissioners to complete the roster.

ESU hosts coastal expert

by Lois Holt

The 301 mile stretch of North Carolina's sandy coastline is one of the state's greatest tourist attractions. So, it isn't any wonder that buying or building anywhere along its angular outline is a tempting proposition. But, like all things beautiful, it demands constant attention to perfecting a balancing act

that preserves and protects that same beauty. In short, it's a risky business.

Dr. Stanley R. Riggs, recently retired Distinguished Professor of Geology at East Carolina University (ECU,) is a coastal and marine geologist who has been doing research on modern coastal systems since 1964, three years before joining the faculty of ECU.

His focus at the English-Speaking Union's Wednesday, October 9 dinner will be on the fragile balance between human wants and the unstoppable forces of nature, resulting in what he calls "The Battle for North Carolina's Coast: Past, Present and Future."

For information, contact Hope Price at (910) 692-7727 or at Hopewp@AOL.com

Clarification

Westside Treasurer Dale Erickson informs *The Times* that we made an error in our reporting on the Tuesday, August 27 meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association.

We reported that the Association would be discontinuing the monthly payment option for dues. Erickson tells us this is wrong on two counts: first, because no decision has been made, and, second, because he is recommending not the discontinuation of the monthly payment option, but only the discontinuation of the coupon books currently used to make monthly payments. Monthly payments would still be accepted — if the Board adopts Erickson's recommendations — but they would be handled through a direct debit of the landowner's bank account. Any decision on changing the payment structure would not be effective until the next fiscal year, which begins on May 1, 2014.

The Times regrets the error.



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Garzas take veterinary service on the road

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The road that led Dave and Shayna Garza to Seven Lakes is a long and winding one.

The Garzas own PineHills Veterinary, a new mobile vet service that focuses on horses, but also treats dogs, cats, and other animals. Dr. Dave Garza is the veterinarian; Shayna Garza the Practice Manager and Vet Tech.

Like many great American journeys, theirs began in Texas. Dr. Dave Garza hails from the Austin area and received his degrees from Texas A&M. Shayna grew up in the West Texas desert, north of El Paso up by the New Mexico border, and was trained at New Mexico State.

Austin was home to their first veterinary practice, which they ran for twenty years before selling it.

"After we sold that practice, we were sitting around thinking: What next?" Dave said. "Then we saw this ad for a job in New Zealand."

Dave had worked in New Zealand right out of vet school. "I spent two years there, and I loved it," he said. So it was off to New Zealand the Garzas went.

But New Zealand is a long way from home, and the expensive roundtrip airfare is enough to make the trip a very rare occurrence.

Subsequent moves took them to Lexington, KY, where Dave worked with thoroughbreds; back to Texas; again to New Zealand to a practice specialized in racehorses; and, finally, to Seven Lakes West.

"We moved here from New Zealand," Dave said. "We had friends here, and had visited here. We took a trip to the Outer Banks. We just thought it was beautiful up here."

"We wanted to settle down, so we moved here in April," Shayna said. "The people are lovely — so friendly, so helpful."

The Garzas settled into Seven Lakes West and enrolled their two children in West Pine Middle and Episcopal Day School.

"We are horse people and outdoor people," Shayna said. "We like to camp, fish, hunt. We like being in the lake."

A tremendous background

Through all their travels, Dr. Dave Garza has built "a tremendous background in treating horses," he told *The Times*. Given his work with thoroughbred racehorses, he has particular expertise in equine reproduction, as well

as lameness and other aspects of sports medicine.

"I bring a lot of experience to the job, and a lot of expertise," he said. "I have worked for some of the best clinics in the country — and for

some of the best in other countries. I've worked for some surgical clinics, and some pure reproduction practices."

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(See "Vet," p. 27)



Shayna and Dr. Dave Garza of PineHills Veterinary carry a fully-outfitted veterinary clinic in the back of their SUV

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Down on the (Malcolm Blue) Farm

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

Next weekend, from September 26 to 29, the Malcolm Blue Historical Society celebrates its fortieth anniversary and its 44th Farmskills Festival. Over the years, the festival has played a vital role in teaching local history to area youth — and to quite a few adults, be they natives or migrants.

Deep in the hushed haze of the longleaf pines, Highlanders Duncan and Margaret Blue staked their claim in the virgin forest of the Sandhills. The trees were their livelihood, tapped for viscous amber sap to be made into turpentine, the

wood reduces to tar and pitch.

Their ambitious grandson, Malcolm Blue, acquired nearly 7,000 acres of turpentine orchard. Malcolm built a home and married Isabella Patterson, but his new wife died within a year.

Several years later, Malcolm headed down the sandy road, passing Paint Hill and the McDonald's Farm on his way to Ray's Mill, where he would ask for Flora Ray's hand in marriage.

Steeped in the Presbyterian faith, the Blues and their neighbors attended Bethesda Church. In the early days, they worshiped under a

(See "Blue Farm," p. 18)



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In memory of . . .

Dorris Frances Williams, 84 of Brick, NJ and formerly of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, September 11, at home with her family by her side. She was born and raised in the Oranges living there for 63 years. She raised her family in West Orange. Mrs. Williams and her husband, Henry retired to West End and lived there for 17 years before returning to New Jersey in 2009. She and her husband had lived in Seven Lakes Golf Community, where she was very active as well as a volunteer for her church, Lady of the Americas in Biscoe. She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years Henry Williams. Survivors include her son Thomas Williams and his wife Denise of Lakeland, FL; daughters, Jude Williams and her life partner Maggie Piluso of Hilton Head, SC; Carol Terreri and her husband Ralph of Succasunna, NJ; and Dorri Ridolfo and her husband

Robert of Brick, NJ; and six grandchildren survive. Arrangements are under the direction of Orender Family Home for Funerals 2643 Old Bridge Road, Manasquan. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday, September 17, at Epiphany Church, Brick. Interment followed at Brig Gen William C Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Wrightstown, NJ. Memorial donations may be made to www.feedingamerica.com **William H. Eisel, Jr.**, of Penick Village, Southern Pines, formerly of Easton, PA, died Saturday, September 7, at FirstHealth Hospice House. He was born in Easton, PA, son to the late Florence and William Eisel, Sr. He was married to the late, Lena P. Long Eisel. They were married 62 years. Mr. Eisel graduated from Easton Area High School in 1937. He served in the U.S. Navy as a seaman second

class during World War II. His entire working years were with the Mack Printing Company of Easton, PA. He was a typesetter for over 40 years until his retirement. His summers were spent at Saylor's Lake, Saylorsburg, PA. He was president of both the fishing club and the lake homeowner's association. He also coached the Little League Baseball team, the Saylor's Lake Indians. He is survived by his son, William H. Eisel, III and his wife, Lois Ann, of Seven Lakes; two grandchildren: Matthew Eisel of Mechanicsburg, PA and Jennifer Henning of Danville, PA; two great-grandchildren: Elizabeth and Elijah Henning of Danville. Funeral services were held at Ashton Funeral Home, 14th and Northampton Sts., Easton, PA with burial in the Northampton Memorial Shrine, Palmer Township, PA. A memorial service will be held at a later date at

Penick Village, Southern Pines. Memorials may be made to Penick Village Residents' Council Fund, 500 E. Rhode Island Ave., Southern Pines, NC 28387 or to FirstHealth Hospice Foundation, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374. Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family. **James Curtis Thompson**, 82, of West End, died Wednesday, September 4, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Mr. Thompson was born in Wilson County son of the late Ray and Janie (Byrd) Thompson. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 7, at Priest Hill Presbyterian Church, Carthage. The Rev. Archie Stevens officiated. Burial followed in Doubs Chapel Church Cemetery. Mr. Thompson retired from

security after 26 years from the Pinehurst Hotel and Resort. He was an avid farmer who enjoyed working with his tractor and gardening after retirement. He served as a retired member of the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Mary McKenzie Thompson; sons, James Mark Thompson of Thomasville; and Jeremy Kenneth Thompson of Pittsboro; sister Eula Gray Ingram of High Point; his grandson, Kevin Thompson; granddaughter, Charlotte Nolen, and two great grandchildren, Joshua and Dylan Padilla. He was preceded in death his sons, Michael Thompson and Kenny Thompson. Memorial donations can be made in memory of James Curtis Thompson to the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department, 980 NC Hwy 73, West End, NC 27376.

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7 Corn Chowder Mexican Cassarole Dinner	8 Black Bean Soup Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	9 Tomato Basil Soup Smothered Pork Chops Dinner	10 Beef Vegetable Soup Shrimp Creole Dinner ♥	11 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥ Beef Stroganoff Dinner
14 Split Pea with Barley Soup ♥ Italian Meatloaf Dinner	15 White Bean Chicken Chili ♥ Chicken Paprikash Dinner	16 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Pot Roast Dinner	17 Vegetable Soup ♥ Tilapia Florentine Dinner ♥	18 New England Clam Chowder Peachy Pork Dinner ♥
21 Minestrone Soup ♥ Baked Spaghetti Dinner	22 Curried Chicken Soup Chicken Marsala Dinner	23 Mushroom Bisque Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	24 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Spice Crusted Tilapia Dinner ♥	25 Broccoli Cheddar Soup Swiss Steak Dinner
28 Lentil Soup ♥ Turkey Meatloaf Dinner ♥	29 Chicken & Dumpling Soup Broccoli Manicotti Dinner ♥	30 Broccoli Spinach Soup ♥ Beef Enchiladas Dinner ♥	31 Roasted Root Vegetable Soup ♥ Bourbon Salmon Dinner	ENTREES \$8.25 Single \$15.50 Double

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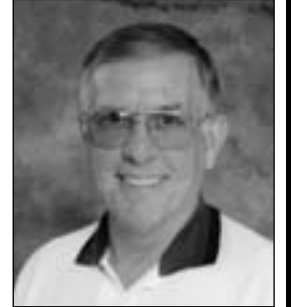
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Swimmers take over Lake Echo for Carolina

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

Just days after long distance swimmer Diana Nyad celebrated her successful 103-mile swim from Cuba to the Florida Keys, the lean, bronzed silhouettes of a new

generation of swimmers raced into placid Lake Echo. The young athletes participated in a three-day swim camp hosted by the Sandhills Sandsharks.

The Carolina Cup Open Water Swim — including 1K,

2K, and 3K races — was the highlight of the event, held Friday - Sunday, September 6-8.

The afternoon sun sparkled off the spray of splashing water as the racers for a brief second found their rhythm schooled together. By the first buoy, the strongest swimmers took the lead. As each swimmer set his/her own pace the challenge became one of endurance.

The buoys on Lake Echo marked a circumference of 1,000 meters or 1 kilometer (a little over half a mile).

Three hundred students from North and South Carolina attended the camp. The students were required to be registered with USA Swimming Inc.

Open Water 10K Champ and Olympian Alex Meyer was a clinic instructor. Twenty five year old Meyer hopes to compete in the 2016 Olympics.

"I am taking a year at a time," he said. "Training is a full time job."

Meyer captured the 2013 National 10K champion, 10th place in the 10K 2012

Olympic games, and the gold in the 2010 25K Open Water World Championships. His fuel of choice is Krispy Kreme Donuts.

Olympic hopeful and 2011 Duke Graduate Ashley Twichell also provided hands-on in water training. Meyer and Twichell swam alongside students, giving instruction

and encouragement. Twichell won gold in the Open Water 10k at the 2013 World University Games. At twenty four years old, she has competed all over the world.

The referees skim the water in kayaks alongside the swimmers. They do double duty to ensure all swimmers are

(Continued on page 9)



Getting in to the water kicks up some spray



Part of the fun is hanging out with fellow swimmers and team members

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(Continued from page 8)

safe and accounted for. In the late afternoon, the 2K competitors are completing their second lap. The first swimmers near the shore find their land legs and race up the boat ramp under the arch at the finish line.

Experience, strength and age reflect the order of the swimmers. Some are as young as ten. They rise up breathless, unsteady, and blurry-eyed in goggles.

For a second, they are fish out of water. They remove their goggles, blink hard and smile as the crowd of coaches, family and fellow swimmers cheering them on. No matter their time, they have just swum over a mile, and have earned their moment in the sun.



Twice around Lake Echo takes a lot of strokes — but they go by really fast

Sometimes, it's a veritable tornado of spray



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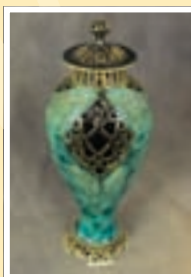


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New state budget cuts teacher assistants

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Cuts in the North Carolina budget for education will cost Moore

County Schools [MCS] \$600,000 this school year, Chief Financial Officer Mike Griffin told the Moore County Board of Education during their Monday, September 9 regular meeting.

That's a bit less than one percent of the \$64.2 million MCS expects to receive from the state.

The largest cut is to the budget for teacher assistants, Griffin told the Board. Last year, the state provided \$4.4 million for assistants; this year, the number is \$3.7 million, a \$700,000 reduction. That's equivalent to twenty-eight teacher assistant positions, Griffin said. Twenty unfilled positions have been eliminated; eight others will be paid for via federal Title I funds, in order to avoid layoffs. Title I funds are directed to schools with a large number of students from low-income families.

The state doesn't simply send MCS \$64 million a year to do with what they will. Instead, state funding comes in more than 30 different streams aimed at specific needs, from Central Office

Administration to At-Risk Student Services. Some of these, like funds directed to educating exceptional children, will increase this year; most are seeing cuts.

Loss of flexibility costs MCS \$1.4 million

The state will also stick with a rule change that cost Moore County \$1.4 million in state funding last year. Unlike most of the revenue streams MCS receives from the state, the largest, which provides nearly \$32 million for classroom teachers, comes denominated not in dollars, but in teachers.

Based on the number of students enrolled in Moore County Schools, the state allocates a certain number of teachers to the County. Last year it was 535. The NC Department of Public Instruction multiplies that number by the average cost of a teacher in the state, roughly \$57,000 per year. That number includes salary, payroll taxes, and benefits.

But Moore County teachers are, on average, younger than the state average, and thus don't cost as much to employ. From FY2010 to FY2012, MCS was able to use that difference, which amounted to \$1.4 million systemwide, for other programs and to increase its fund balance.

Beginning last year, that flexibility was taken away, and the \$1.4 million went back to the state. The same thing will happen this year, Griffin said.

Exactly how many MCS classroom teachers the state will pay for this year is not yet certain, since that depends on enrollment measured on the twentieth day of the school year.

County Funding Increases

Total County funding, at \$29.8 million, is up this year compared to last, because the Board of Commissioners placed \$750,000 in a new Digital Technology fund, managed by the County, that will help buy laptops and tablet computers for students.

Half of that \$750,000 is new funding, and half was subtracted from the County's \$25.5 million contribution to MCS operating costs.

Another source of local funding — from fines and forfeitures in criminal cases — has been steadily declining. In 2008, fines and forfeitures contributed nearly \$850,000 to the MCS budget. Last year, it was \$566,000,

and no increase is expected this year.

Based on currently approved federal funding, Griffin's FY 2014 budget showed \$7.4 million in federal funding. But that number will rise, he said, once the new federal fiscal year begins on October 1.

Federal funding for services for exceptional children is one area that is seeing cuts, dropping from \$2.9 million last year to \$2.3 million this year. Griffin said that cut comes despite a significant increase in demand for such services. Perhaps anticipating those cuts, state funding for exceptional children will increase by \$270,000.

Federal funding under Title 1, aimed at schools with a

large number of students from low-income families, will increase by nearly \$470,000.

Fund balance will drop by \$4 million

Griffin is projecting \$29.8 million in locally funded expenditure against \$25.8 million in local revenues, leaving a \$4 million shortfall that will have to be subtracted from MCS' \$10 million savings account, referred to in government accounting as the "fund balance."

That will leave MCS with \$6 million in the bank. Griffin said that amounts to 6.3 percent of the total of state and local funding. A rule of thumb in that government identities

(See "School Board," p. 27)

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Etty: One woman's experience of the Holocaust

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

An eye witness to her own fate, Etty Hillesum chose relocation to Camp Westerbork during the Nazi Occupation of the Netherlands, rather than going into hiding. Requesting a position with the Department of Social Welfare for People in Transit, Etty sought to provide support, strength, clothing, and subsistence for her fellow Jews, who were just a train ride away from Auschwitz, Poland.

Each Tuesday, Etty watched from her window and questioned the God that allowed the Nazis to send yet another weekly quota of one thousand souls to their deaths.

"I know and share the many sorrows a human being can experience, but I do not cling to them; they pass through me, like life itself, as a broad eternal stream . . . and life continues," Etty wrote in her diary.

A life found and presented

Susan Stein bought a copy of Etty's dairies in 1994 at a garage sale. After reading them, she was compelled to share Etty's life with the world.

Stein brings Etty's words to life on Sunday, September 29 at 3:00 pm at Temple Beth Shalom in Foxfire Village in the one woman play *Etty*, based on the diaries and letters of Esther 'Etty' Hillesum.

The production is directed by Austin Pendleton.

In her honest raw observations Etty chronicled the harsh, cold realities of imprisoned mothers and children, the old, the infirm, and the strong young men and women beaten into submission.

Stein studied acting at New York University NYU Graduate School and the State University of New York at Purchase.

For the last two years, she has traveled throughout the US and Europe performing *Etty*. In 2011, she gave up her faculty position at Princeton Day School to commit herself to *Etty* fulltime. No venue is considered too humble or

small. Stein has performed in women's prisons, middle schools, and Ivy League universities.

It is not your typical play, and requires work from the audience. Stein opens the conversation with Etty's writings and invites everyone put themselves in Etty's shoes, and in her head.

"A performance I gave at a women's prison in Seattle, Washington was really powerful," Stein said. "These women opened their hearts to Etty's words. As prisoners facing their own confinement and mortality they had a deep level of understanding."

Etty must come to terms with her own guilt. The very job that gives her refuge

requires her to helplessly watch other Jews go to their deaths.

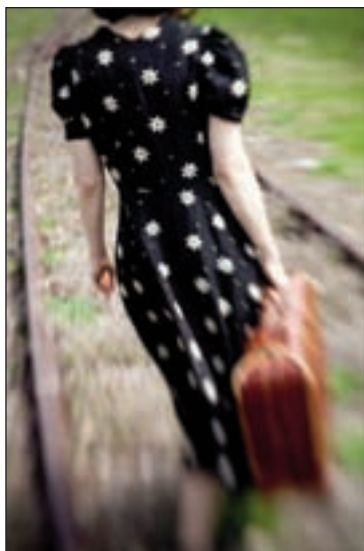
Stein tells about a middle school girl who asked: Do you think her relationship

with God was helpful or a hindrance to her? "It surprised me that middle-school students would understand the moral and ethical dilemmas," Stein said.

Facing evil

Etty recorded her anguish after she makes the decision to substitute other Jew's names on the deportation

(See "Etty," p. 26)



Ricardo Barros Photo

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Want to go?

The Sandhills Jewish Congregation will host a performance of *Etty* by Susan Stein on Sunday, September 29 at 3:00 pm at Temple Beth Shalom, 131 Jackson

Springs Road in Foxfire Village.

The performance is free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted.

It takes a Village to create great Business

Dear Seven Lakes:

As President of the Seven Lakes Business Guild, I often get thanked for the events and concerts we host throughout the year. I am always humbled that a participant might think I was the reason an event went off without a hitch. In truth, the volunteers who work behind the scenes are the reason the Guild can pull off events like the recent McKenzies Mill concert.

Early this year, the Guild brainstormed an event schedule that could raise some significant money to donate toward the overall betterment of the Village. Both the landscaping maintenance that takes place along the NC Highway 211 Village frontage and the constant battle to keep the roads from falling apart was determined to be beyond what we could hope to raise through membership dues. That is when the idea was born to host a Summer concert series.

Danny Bowers, owner of Lake House Bar and Grill and current Guild Vice President, suggested that concerts and events held open air over

the Summer might give us a chance to build a reserve to donate back to the community. Bowers volunteered to book the talent and seven-term volunteer Treasurer, Vann Joyce of Quality Care Pharmacy, began work on insurance and other financial considerations. Secretary Cheryl Darwell of Cruise Planners began an email marketing campaign to keep the volunteers, the media, and the community aware of upcoming events.

Business volunteers worked on the events throughout the Summer, maintaining the Village Central lot; setting up and taking down the stage, dance floor, tents, and tables; ordering and stocking refreshments; and corralling

volunteers to man the events and clean up afterwards — all during the busy Summer

vacation season.

And all that hard work paid off.

The last concert, featuring McKenzies Mill, was the
(Continued on page 13)



McKenzies Mill fired up the crowd at a free concert sponsored by Seven Lakes Business Guild on Friday, August 30. (Photo courtesy of Alan Van Vliet Photography)



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Coming Up: Sand Band & Chili Cook Off

The Seven Lakes Business Guild's last free concert of the season will be held next Friday, September 27 from 6:30 to 9:30 pm at Village Central on Grant Street.

Come enjoy the music while helping to support The Business Guild.

The Guild's Annual Chili Cook Off is set for Saturday, October 26, from 2:00 - 5:00 pm.

The Guild is calling on all vendors and chili chefs to help make this a huge success.

Contact Cheryl Darwell at SevenLakesBusiness-Guild@gmail.com, CDarwell@CruisePlanners.com or 910-673-7245.

Guild events like McKenzies Mill concert

(Continued from page 12)

biggest fundraiser to date with a net profit of \$4069.95, which is being donated in its entirety to the Community Development Fund for street patching and paving. Profits from the other concerts are used for continuing beautification efforts along the Village frontage.

The reason the Guild is able to make these concerts profitable are simple. Local businesses pay for the enter-

tainment and donate the beverages and popcorn to be sold at the concerts. *The Seven Lakes Times* designs our event posters and includes ads in email newsletters and the newspaper. Ricky Harris and the team at Harris Printing volunteer to print posters. The time and money that local businesses contribute to these events are not always evident to the larger community — so Thank You to them for all

they quietly contribute.

We also have Friends of the Guild volunteers, who are hidden gems in our little town. Community volunteers, so much a staple in Seven Lakes, help the Guild in numerous ways. Volunteering for beverage or popcorn stations, clean up, security, raffle tickets sales, and much more — this group deserves a BIG thank you, too.

As I wind down my second year as Guild President, I really have one other person to thank, my husband, Ken.

He is the guy who has stood beside me through my many volunteer endeavors' since our move to Seven Lakes in 2006. He hauls drinks, tents, and tables; rakes grass; helps set stages; cleans; takes time off work; feeds the kids . . . you get the idea. He volunteers for the same reason all of our Guild and our residents do: we love calling Seven Lakes home.

With the Holiday season fast approaching, I again count my blessings to be part of this amazing Guild officer

team, Danny Bowers, Vann Joyce, and Cheryl Darwell. The work ethic of these volunteers and their commitment to this community is inspiring. Local business is the backbone of any small town in America; and I, for one, am so proud to be a part of Seven Lakes Business Guild and all they bring to our Small Town.

*Here's to Shopping Local,
Karen Simmons-Milligan
2012-2013 Seven Lakes
Guild President*



Ryan & Justin Harris of McKenzies Mill (Photo courtesy of Alan Van Vliet Photography)



McKenzies Mill packed Village Central (Photo courtesy of Alan Van Vliet Photography)

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Concert features Chinese, American musicians

In a rare exchange of east and west culture, the Arts Council of Moore County will present the China National Orchestra and the NC International Orchestra in concert "Trans-Pacific Melodies: An East Meets West Concert." The concert will be presented on Tuesday, October 1, at 7 pm at Robert E. Lee Auditorium at Pinecrest High School.

Tickets are \$15 in advance for adults (\$20 at the door) and \$5 for children. You may purchase your tickets at the Arts Council offices, Campbell House, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines.

Fifteen soloists from the China National Orchestra, along with the NC International Orchestra (50+ of North Carolina's best orchestra musicians) will display a rare exchange of culture and a celebration of the bond between Moore County and Guidong County in China's Hunan Province.

The orchestras have prepared a wonderful selection of music to demonstrate the many colors of an orchestra that utilizes the best of traditional Chinese and classical western instruments.

Gracefully orchestrated with CNO soloists performing on such Chinese instruments as the Dizi, Erhu, Suona, Pipa, and Zheng, the program will be a musical feast.

For tickets to this concert, please contact the Arts Council of Moore County at 910-692-ARTS (2787) or click onto www.MooreArt.org

Currie grandson makes Eagle Scout

Kyle Lauchlin Parker, of Troop 91 in Asheville, has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America.

His Court of Honor was held on September 1, at the Haywood Street Congregation in Asheville.

For his Eagle project, Parker built several picnic tables for the church to use in their ministry of providing meals

for the community. He is the recipient of the Arrow of Light and the God and Life awards, earned 25 merit badges, and has held several leadership positions in his Troop. He has had exceptional leaders in scouting, from his time as a Cub Scout with Pack 24 in Asheville, his first year in Boy Scouts with Troop 98 in West End, and his current Troop 91 in Asheville.

Parker is a Senior at Asheville High School, where he plays trombone in the Marching Band and runs on their Cross Country team. He is active in his church, Central United Methodist in Asheville, and in the ministries of the Haywood Street Congregation. He also serves as youth liaison for Disability Partners; is on the board of the North Carolina Youth Leadership Forum; and the National Board of the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living.

Parker is the son of Craig

and Amy (Currie) Parker, and the grandson of Joe and Nancy Currie of Seven Lakes and George and Hilda Parker of Asheville.



Kyle Lauchlin Parker



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West End Pres picnic is Sunday

West End Presbyterian Church will hold its annual church picnic this Sunday, September 22, beginning at 12:30 pm on the shores of scenic Lake Longleaf in Seven Lakes North.

The annual picnic features grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, covered dishes and a myriad of wonderful desserts. The setting is by the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse and swimming pool grounds as well as the lakeshore.

A variety of games and activities will be offered along with good food and fellowship. The church's deacons are hosts for this seventh annual picnic.

Quality Care Pharmacy will

be offering flu shots during the church's annual Soup & Salad Luncheon hosted by the Presbyterian Women after worship on Sunday, October 6. The pharmacy will be donating \$10 from each flu shot given to the church's mission programs.

The church's adult choir program has resumed rehearsals under the direction of Jennifer Danis. All new voices are always welcome. Rehearsals begin at 7:30 pm each Wednesday.

West End Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the PC (USA). The church is located on Knox Lane, one block west of Highway 211 in West End.

WEPC kicks off youth programs



Barbara Sickenberger decorates the cheek of a young West End Presbyterian parishoner.

On September 8, West End Presbyterian Church held a kickoff event for its youth and children's programming, with food, fellowship and activities and nearly 100 people in attendance.

The West End Presbyterian Church offers a wide range of programming for children and youth of all ages, including retreats, summer trips, weekly meetings, and an after-school program each Wednesday.

Sunday School has resumed at WEPC, with a number of adult, youth and children's classes all meeting at 10 am each Sunday morning. The worship service has switched back to an 11 am start time.

Kitchens & Moore Tour

The annual Kitchens and Moore Tour will be Thursday, October 3, from 10 am to 4 pm. There will be six beautiful and unique homes in this year's tour.

A home in McClendon Hills will have food samples from Sandhills Farm2 Table; a house in Pinewild, will have Elliott's on Linden hosting; a townhouse on Pinehurst Lake will have White Rabbit Catering; a Home in National Golf Club will have Fresh Market; and two homes will be featured in Forest Creek — one hosted by Bonefish Grill and the other by Midland Bistro.

Advance tickets are available now for \$25 at Seven Lakes Winery in Seven Lakes and the Cooperative Extension Office in the Moore County Agriculture Building in Carthage.

For more information, call Cooperative Extension at 910-947-3188.

Proceeds from this year's tour will support youth programs and scholarships in the Culinary Program at Sandhills Community College.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- **Chapel in the Pines hosts Paul Saik** – 7 pm, Recording artist Paul Saik will perform. The Chapel invites everyone to come and enjoy this special musical concert. Concert is free, but a love offering will be received. Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. 910-673-2156.
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm. *Girl Most Likely*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- **"Birding for Beginners"** – 8 am, Interested in birding, but don't know where to start? Join in for a mile and a half walk to open up your ears and eyes to a new hobby. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, 910-692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, *free* class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, in the Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Dr. 673-4656.
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm. *Girl Most Likely*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

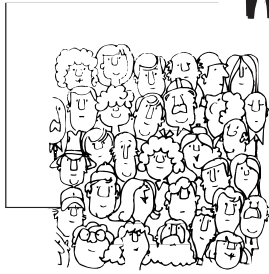
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- **Autumn Begins**
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr. 673-3838.
- **MANNA on the Links** – play Foxfire course and help feed the needy. Registration 11:30 am, followed

by lunch, 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, 1 pm shotgun start. Cost \$75, Captain's Choice Format. Register at www.active.com/event, contact Mike Gonzales 215-5657

- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm. *Girl Most Likely*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

What's When Calendar



- **"Cool Caterpillars"** – 3 pm, Most of people are familiar with butterflies and moths yet they seldom encounter or know a lot about their lives as caterpillars. Join the ranger to discover this fascinating part of their life cycle. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight is: *Finnders and Youngberg, Henhouse Prowlers*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Sandhills Natural History Society** – meeting 7 pm,

at Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines. "Can Restoration Actions Lead to Stable Populations of St. Francis Satyr?" Speaker Erik Aschehoug. Visitors Welcome. 910-692-2167 www.sandhillsnature.org

- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm. *Girl Most Likely*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- **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.
- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association** – 7 pm, work session. West Side Community Center.
- **Zumba Class** – 7 pm to 8 pm, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- **SL Chapel Lunch Bunch** – 12 pm. All single seniors are invited to attend the luncheon at The Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Fellowship Hall. No cost for

the meal. Transportation provided if needed. Susan Rush will provide musical entertainment. Community is welcome to come at 12:30 for the entertainment. For lunch or if transportation is needed, call the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines at 673-2156.

- **Rabies Clinic** – north Moore County, 3 pm – 5 pm. The Robin's Nest, 130 N Middleton St, Robbins (910-948-2682) \$5 one year vaccinations given by Moore County Animal Control. Protect your pet, your family, your community.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Mayberry Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church will begin a Mayberry Bible Study. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead the group. Bible Study meets in the WEUMC Fellowship Hall.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7:30 pm, General meeting. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship, devotion, and meal \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Cool Jazz At The Blue**

Farm – Paul and Anna Murphy, Family and Friends, gate opens at 5:30 pm, concert begins at 7 pm, an evening of Cool Jazz at the Malcolm Blue Farm, 1177 Bethesda Road, Aberdeen. Admission is \$20 at the gate, \$15 in advance by calling 910-603-2739 or (910) 944-7685.

- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **"Geocaching Adventure"** – 6 pm, September 24th-30th is National Take a Child Outside Week! Get involved by doing an outdoor scavenger hunt – with a GPS. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *The Spectacular Now*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- **WEE Fall Festival** – 5 to 8 pm. New bouncy houses, fun games, food and tickets can be purchased that night. Held at West End Elementary. Everyone will have fun.
- **Sand Band Concert** – 6:30 - 9:30 pm, The Seven Lakes Business Guild's last fund raising concert of the Summer at Village Central on Grant Street.

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- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *The Spectacular Now*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- **AC Sandhills** – 9 am, hosting a Youth Triathlon at Johnson's Point Marina, Seven Lakes West for ages 4-13+. Cost is \$30, info at www.acsandhills.com or contact Jill McLaughlin at mclaughlindj@nc.rr.com
- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656.
- **Malcolm Blue Historical Crafts and Farmskills Festival** – 10 am to 6 pm. Open to the public. Cost \$5 per adult and \$3 per child under 12 years of age. Learn what daily life and work was like in the 19th century. Crafts and skills demonstrated: pottery, basket making, wood-working, blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, soap and candle making and fringe tying. Folk and country musicians and dancers will entertain. Civil War reenactment troops will be encamped, steam engines

demonstrated. Malcolm Blue Historical Farm, 1177 Bethesda Road, Aberdeen, 910-944-7558.

- **Come meet the P3-The Pet Placement Project's** – furry and adoptable bachelors and bachelorettes, from 11 am - 3 pm at PetSmart, Aberdeen. Foster pets are from the County Shelter – the Animal Center of Moore County. Want to learn more about P3? 910-315-0333, email petplacementproject@gmail.com or visit our website at www.mcprc.org/p3
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *The Spectacular Now*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-3838.
- **Candor Lions Club** – 29th Annual Charlie Lewis Invitational at Beacon Ridge Country Club. 4-person teams, Captain's Choice Tournament will start at 1:00 pm rain or shine. Contact 910-673-2950 if interested in entering a team.
- **Malcolm Blue Historical**

Crafts and Farmskills Festival – 11 am to 5 pm. Open to the public. Cost \$5 per adult and \$3 per child under 12 years of age. Learn what daily life and work was like in the 19th century. Crafts and skills demonstrated. Malcolm Blue Historical Farm, 1177 Bethesda Road, Aberdeen, 910-944-7558.

- **Come meet the P3-The Pet Placement Project's** – furry and adoptable bachelors and bachelorettes, from 11 am - 3 pm at PetSmart, Aberdeen. Foster pets are from the County Shelter – the Animal Center of Moore County. Want to learn more about P3? 910-315-0333, email petplacementproject@gmail.com or visit our website at www.mcprc.org/p3
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *The Spectacular Now*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.
- **Sandhills Jewish Congregation** – 3 pm, will be sponsoring *Etty*, a one-person play based on the diaries of Etty Hillesum, a 29 year-old Jewish woman living in Amsterdam during the Nazi occupation. Performed

by Susan Stein. Temple Beth Shalom, 131 Jackson Springs Road, Foxfire.

- **"Autumn Wildflowers"** – 3 pm, September means lots of Blazing Star, Blue Chaffseeds, Asters, Goldenrods, and many other fall flowers in bloom. Join the ranger at the Visitor Center for a hike. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight is: *Shawn Camp*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

- **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.

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 5 pm, at the Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Zumba Class** – 7 pm to 8 pm, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Dr, 673-4656.
- **Pet Placement Project (P3) Foster Parents** – 7 to 8 pm, at the Wine Cellar, 241 NE Broad St, Southern Pines. Come meet, greet, become a Pet Foster Parent. 910-315-0333, petplacementproject@gmail.com or visit www.mcprc.org/p3 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Mayberry Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead, focusing on Biblical Truth, in the WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am - 1 pm.

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Blue Farm

(Continued from page 5)

brush arbor, followed by two different log structures, before building the white framed structure with wavy glass paned windows that is now known as Old Bethesda.

Nearly 150 years later, in 1970, A.P. Johnson began developing Blue farm land for residential communities. He made the old Blue House his on-site office. The house was almost forgotten, hidden in privet hedge. A developer with a conscience, Johnson put a hold on tearing down the old homestead.

The heart of a museum

Martha Clayton, a native of Aberdeen, recognized the historical value in the relic and had shared her concern for the buildings with Clifton Blue at the Sandhills Citizen newspaper. She had always wanted to build a museum, she was well researched, and she was determined. Blue introduced Clayton to Johnson. Teaming up with friends who shared her interests and her dream, Calyton founded the Malcolm Blue Historical Society (MBHS).

Johnson generously deeded the Malcolm Blue House to the Society, relieved that it would be preserved. When local school teachers approached Clayton and expressed their frustration in finding a small working farm for school children to visit, Clayton found the society's mission: education.

"After all," she said, "every child deserves a farm."

Ms. Martha (as the children call her) was the den mother of the junior historians. She instilled in the group of local students a strong work ethic, encouraging them to chop down the privet hedge, clear the land, and clean the buildings. Their reward was getting to camp out in one of the old barns.

MBHS was ingenious in its fundraising methods. They poured the cement foundation for the museum, and then hosted square dances on the surface to raise money to build the museum. With hard work, they bought the surrounding lots and

increased the size of the farm to seven acres.

Busload after busload of school children arrive each year. They tour the restored 1825 Farm House and the Clayton Blair Museum, watch Donald Thomas's border colles herd sheep, interrogate Civil War reenactors in their camp, taste homemade cornbread, watch corn be ground into meal, make pinch pots from North Carolina clay, an learn from demonstrations in carving, wood turning, ploughing, blacksmithing, basket making, book binding, tatting, paper quilling, weaving, and quilting. They live

history.

"Every child still deserves a farm," Martha Clayton, now 82 years of age and still working tirelessly to keep the old farm going. She continues to research and update the museum and just completed the Glen Rounds exhibit. Few know that Rounds lived on the farm for one year while he wrote and illustrated his book *The Snake Tree*.

This year, the MBHS board is taking on a new challenge. Working with the community, they are transforming the Blue Farm's two-story pack house into The Stone Soup Children's Museum. The new

museum will mesh with the NC schools curriculum to provide educationally sound and culturally and historically accurate exhibits that integrate social studies, math, science, literature, and art. The main permanent exhibit will detail the life of a 19th century African American child in the Sandhills.

Proceeds from this year's festival will help pay for the new museum and exhibits.

Fun for young and old

The 44th Annual Farmskills Festival will host children from local schools on Thursday and Friday, September 26 and 27, and be open to the the public on Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29.

Ashten's Restaurant will be preparing Brunswick Stew

for the festival this year. Mrs. Mashburn will be at the front gate with her autumn mums and pumpkins. Giff Fisher of White Rabbit Catering will be smoking old-school Carolina BBQ.

The farm is welcoming back local musicians, artisans and demonstrators, even some that have not been in a while. Bethesda Presbyterian Church will be celebrating is 225th Anniversary and Homecoming the same weekend in September.

It is a reunion of old souls and new spirits intermingling under the same Carolina Blue Sky. It's an event as unique as the Sandhills, a down-home good time set to folk music, bluegrass, and bagpipes.

Don't you want to go?

Want to go?

The 44th Malcolm Blue Historical Crafts & Farmskills Festival will be open to the public on Saturday, September 28, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm and Sunday, September 29, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Music and entertainment are scheduled throughout the day for guests. Admission is \$5.00

for adults, children age 13 and under are \$3.00 and pre-schoolers are free. Active Duty Military Personnel with I.D. will be the guests of the Society with no admittance fee. The 1825 historic Malcolm Blue Farmstead is located at 1177 Bethesda Road (Hwy 5 South) in Aberdeen.



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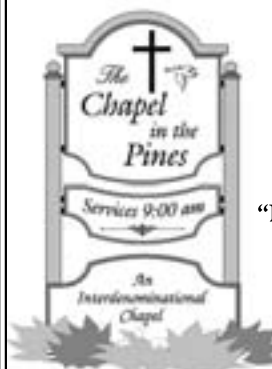
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Susan Rush to Perform at Lunch Bunch

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines "Lunch Bunch" will resume monthly luncheons on Wednesday, September 25 at noon. Single seniors are invited to attend the luncheon in the Jorale-

mon Fellowship Hall. The meal is free and transportation can be arranged.

Following lunch, Susan Rush of Pinehurst will provide musical entertainment. Rush is an accomplished

pianist and vocal artist who has performed on and off Broadway. She has also performed at regional theatre and stock-dinner theatre, taught acting, directing and musical theatre for 16 years.

Any member of the community is welcome to come at 12:30 for the entertainment.

To make a reservation for lunch or transportation call 673-2156, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Monday through Friday.

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3 BD + 2 BONUS RMS – \$240,000

101 HAMPTON CT • 7LS



3 BD + 2.5 BA BRICK – \$210,000

108 SMATHERS • 7LW



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Auman Sports Club hosts kids fishing clinic

By Don Smith
& Nelda Cockman
Lake Auman Sports Club

Twenty-six area youngsters participated in the Kids Fishing Clinic and Contest sponsored by the Lake Auman Sports Club on Saturday, August 31 at Johnson Point.

Sports Club members offered tips in a How-to Clinic before the casting began. Charlie Flinchum shared insights about fishing on Lake Auman; Denny Penrod explained different types of fishing rods; Ed Cockman demonstrated the use of crickets as bait and was lucky enough to catch a fish in his demonstration. Larry Strong, Dave Lamon and Ed Cockman acted as contest officials measuring and recording all the fish caught.

Parents, grandparents and other well-wishers were encouraged to help with bait and to advise but were asked not to help reel in the catch. Prizes were awarded in each age group for the most fish caught and for the largest fish caught.

For the younger group with ten participants, Eric Lovett

(age 6) won for his three fish; Colton Clos (age 6) won for his 9 3/4 inch fish. In the older group of sixteen participants, Jason Lovett (age 8) took top prize with four fish; Reagan Scepurk (age 8) won for the largest fish that measured 7 7/8 inches.

The event demonstrated the mission statement of Lake Auman Sports Club to "Enhance the value of Lake Auman to the residents by providing programs that improve fishing, promote more enjoyment from fishing and by sponsoring other sports programs based on the surveyed interest of the community." Event organizer Don Smith expressed pleasure at the number and enthusiasm of the young anglers. The Sports Club also expressed appreciation to the participants, parents and grandparents for exhibiting true sportsmanship and good humor through the event.



Sports Club members Denny Penrod, Ed Cockman, Don Smith, Dave Lamon, and Larry Strong with winners Jason Lovett, Eric Lovett, Colton Clos, and Reagan Scepurek

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Scouting for all ages at West End Methodist

For more than fifty years, West End United Methodist Church has been a strong supporter of youth scouting programs in the community and continues that commitment today by sponsoring Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, American Heritage Girls, and five Girl Scout troops that together represent every level of the nation's premiere girls' leadership development program — from Kindergarten through high school.

A newly forming Girl Scout Daisy troop will serve girls in Kindergarten and 1st grade while a new Girl Scout Brownie troop will provide programming for girls in 2nd and 3rd grade. These troops

are joining with three already established troops at West End United Methodist Church that serve older scouts in the Junior, Cadette, and a Senior and Ambassador troop levels.

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. It is never too late to join! Come for the fun and be the role model she'll always remember. If you would like more information about volunteering or troop opportunities, please contact Laura Douglass at the Girl Scouts of Moore County office at 910-692-6156, or go online www.nccoastalpines.org



Girl Scout Junior Troop 893, one of five troops sponsored by West End United Methodist Church, recently stuffed over 100 'blessing bags' as a service project in partnership with Brenda Burt and her God Sent Angels Mission. The bags of toiletries and other personal items will be distributed to homeless veterans.

Sharyne Rogers joins Cruise Planners

Cheryl Darwell of Cruise Planners is pleased to



Sharyne Rogers

announce that Sharyne Rogers of Whispering Pines, is joining the company as a cruise and land specialist.

Rogers offers customers exclusive pricing on a wide range of cruise packages, a choice of thousands of group departures, private cruise sales, as well as cabin upgrades and special amenities such as shore excursions, discounted fares, travel gifts and more. As a Cruise Planners/American Express specialist, she also provides specialized land and tour packages to destinations around the world.

"More and more people are

taking cruises every year," said Rogers. She and her husband, Rick, have traveled extensively throughout the world on cruises and land tours.

"As a Cruise Planners

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For more information, contact Rogers at 910-690-0999

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OPINION

Look up! It's amazing up there.

People, maybe even a pastor or a preacher, are forever telling us "take time to smell the roses."

Well, guess what — sometimes there are no roses to be found, unless you frequent a florist shop.

So here is another one, from this pastor or preacher: "Take time to look at the sky."

The sky can inspire you. At least it does me. Morning time, afternoon time, dusk time, night time, the sky is forever changing. I can look at the sky most anytime, and one glance basically tells me, again and again, there are two things going on:

One, there is a God; and two, that God is not me. I need to hear both things fairly regularly. I don't think I am alone in that department.

In the Sandhills, I think we do "sky" pretty darn well. I have lived in New York, Virginia, several regions of North

Carolina, and even in the picturesque "Holy City" of Charleston, SC, and I am not sure I remember better skies than right here in pine



From the Lyon's Den

Larry Lyon

land.

For one thing, I am not a scientist, but I am an observer, and I think we definitely get more clear blue sky days here than in many parts of North Carolina.

I suspect there is less air pollution. I always read that bad air comes from power plants around the country and gets trapped over the North Carolina mountains and elsewhere in western NC. I don't know if that is

true or not. But my simple eye test tells me this: our skies are bluer, and they are bluer more often.

When I take Simba, the proud little Havanese dog, on his sprint up the street in the morning, and a clear sky is beginning to dawn, I am thinking,

yes, good day. Or, as the psalmist is good to remind us, "this is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

When Simba and Sophie, the ever curious Springer Spaniel dog, take me on my evening walk, they sometimes allow me to look at the evening sky, with the setting sun setting off an explosion of color. This is really good. If everybody — everybody — was required to spend two

minutes outside quietly looking at the evening, setting sun, sky, I think there would be less war, more peace, and less debate over whether to send bombs screeching over Syria.

Finally, there is the night sky, which could be the best of all. I find the sky outside my front door at night to be remarkably dark, especially when the moon isn't around. There is a cascade of twinkling stars up there. One look up there, and how in the world can we take our lives so seriously, so earth shattering, so stress-filled?

The other evening I saw Venus, right beside the moon. I kept looking at Venus, which is a planet, a planet with no stock markets, no traffic, no highways under construction, no highways under construction turned into convenient speed traps, and no baseball teams who lose more than you think they should lose.

I looked at Venus for a while, then walked back inside, and had myself another miniature dark chocolate.

My conclusion from that brief walk in the dark: life is good. Life is mighty good. Keep it in the perspective of Venus, with the daily reminder that these oh so important lives of ours, are, in fact, mere specks.

It is enough to remind me of a hymn, because, hey, after all, I am a pastor, and a preacher.

"For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise." Indeed.

Larry Lyon is pastor of West End Presbyterian Church, where the sunny skies bring smiles, and the gray skies bring the blessing of rain.

Wasting money on expanding stables herd

Dear Editor:

I see the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] board has voted to expand the herd at the stables.

It was nice to have a mild Summer, that gives way to more rides. But that's not the norm. Also, buying horses for the Winter seems to be a waste of money. The kids

are in school and not available to ride.

We were going to spend over \$80,000 for the stables, and with the increase in the herd, that will push us over \$90,000 a year. How many residents actually ride?

Not the number of rides recorded, but the number of landowners who use this amenity. Do you think we have one half of one per cent of our population riding?

The Community Manager indicates the horses are getting too expensive for the landowners to support.

A dues increase was voted in last year, and it appears the money is going to be depleted on non-essential items. Next year, I'd bet the board is going to come with their hands out wanting another increase so they can

waste it.

Seven Lakes or D.C.?

Also, how many Board Members have non-residents and renters on their committees?

These people are helping to make decisions that effect landowners, yet they have no investment in Seven Lakes. They don't pay dues to the Association, yet they are involved in landowner

business.

Shouldn't it be landowners only on committees making decisions for landowners? Should you have non residents and renters telling you what to do?

Tell the board what you think and voice your opinion.

*Steve Hudson
Seven Lakes North*

Thanks for excellent friends

Dear Friends:

I want to thank all of you for your phone calls, cards, acts of kindness, and, most of all, your prayers during

my recovery from my broken hip.

Thank you.

*Ellie Kilpatrick
Seven Lakes South*

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Evangelical, fundamentalist, what's that about?

Question: What is the difference between a Christian Fundamentalist and a Christian Evangelical?

Response: Many people use the two terms synonymously, but there are significant differences. I consider myself to me an evangelical Christian, but I am not a fundamentalist.

The Fundamentalist movement began in the late 19th and early 20th century as an objection to "modernism."

The "modernism," that some Protestant leaders objected to included critical Biblical scholarship and to Darwin's theory of evolution, which they believed was contrary to the Biblical story of creation.

Evangelical Christians can be quite liberal in their interpretation of the Bible but still believe that the life and teachings of Jesus and the truths throughout the Bible are worthy of sharing with others. Some evangelicals are fundamentalists but the vast majority of 21st century Protestants are not.

Fundamentalists hold five fundamental beliefs. They are:

1. Divine inspiration of every word in the Bible and the inerrancy of all scripture;
2. The virgin birth of Jesus;

3. The bodily resurrection of Jesus;
4. The belief that Jesus' death was the atonement for the sins of humankind; and
5. The historical reality of all of the miracles related in the sixty-six books of the Bible.

In essence, the last four beliefs are dependent on the

lical stories. In no way do these studies destroy the eternal and valuable truths contained in the scriptures. Indeed, scholarship from the time of the Enlightenment has made these truths more believable to most rational human beings.

I reject the certainty of the five fundamental beliefs, but I recognize the sincerity of those who hold them.

Over my sixty years of preaching and teaching the

Bible, I have watched hundreds, perhaps thousands, of men and women become sincere Christians when they were freed from the bonds of fundamentalism.

I consider myself and the churches and colleges I have served to be evangelical. We share the good news of the Gospel and the redemptive love of God without taking away the minds of believers and without instilling fear in the hearts of those who turn

away.

My only regret is that even though I respect the sincerity and beliefs of my fundamentalist brothers and sisters, they do not respect mine. This makes rational conversation between us impossible.

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



Ask the 'Rev'
Rev. Don Welch

first one, Biblical inerrancy. The authority of the Bible is the key to Christian fundamentalism; and, if one does not hold fast to this belief, there is a imminent danger that one's soul suffer for eternity in a literal hell. The attraction of fundamentalism is it's certainty, which makes any ambiguity unnecessary. A popular bumper sticker for fundamentalists is: "God said it! I believe it! That settles it!"

Over the past two hundred years, reliable Biblical scholars have learned a great deal about how the Bible came into being. The advancement in the study of the sciences, including the theory of evolution, has cast a shadow on the historical and scientific accuracy of numerous Bib-

Six Homicides

Dear Editor:

"Suspect Sought In Slaying," the headline reads. "Latest Homicide is Sixth Since Mid-June."

"Southern Pines Police have issued an arrest warrant for a Souther Pines man wanted in connection with the Thursday night shooting death of another man."

Six homicides.

To all those that wish to incorporate and have our gates removed, I recommend the remainder of this article

on the front page of the Sunday, September 15 edition of the Southern Pines Pilot newspaper.

I do hope this finds it's way to the individual who in the many articles he wrote in *The Times* for incorporation, stating that Southern Pines was a very safe town, even though they do not have gates.

Enough said on that subject.

*Bob Kieling
Seven Lakes West*

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Remembering a great teacher

As I write this I am sitting in a Barnes and Noble in Lynchburg, Virginia waiting to attend the funeral service of the professor who taught me more than any other professor.

Dr. Paul Fink taught hermeneutics and homiletics, as well as Greek and many other classes, in his tenure at Liberty University and Grace Theological Seminary. As I reflect on all of the lessons that he taught me, I think that the most profound lessons were not taught in his class but were observed in his everyday living.

The first day of class, as students filed into hermeneutics, he would warn everyone that this would be the hardest class that you will ever take. He wasn't lying!

In that class, we had to write a commentary on the

Third Epistle of John. It doesn't sound like much, considering that it is only one chapter. But, as we dissected the book, word by word, verse by verse, it became clear how big this task would be.

He taught us how to check the tenses and meaning of each word. We learned how to examine all of the char-

— but it went way beyond that.

Dr. Fink always treated us with dignity and respect. He would tell us that, as students, we were customers of the school. He valued the students and made sure that they knew that he valued them. In a university world full of academic snobs, Dr. Fink was anything but that.

He challenged us to not only question everything but to think for ourselves and to be able to defend what

began to dwindle.

He served in the community. Dr. Fink started The Amherst Bible Institute and taught it every Tuesday and Thursday evening. He never made a dime through it. He recognized that there were many African American churches with pastors that were not formally educated, so he put together a three-year program to train them — as well as anyone else that wanted to learn more. He would only charge what it cost for materials. A student could go through the program for \$100 per semester.

Each semester, he would have professors from seminaries around the country come speak to his class, as

a favor to him. He was like a proud parent watching his children grow.

I suppose that the most important lesson I learned from Dr. Fink was that the value in life was to give it away. He gave his knowledge to anyone who wanted to learn. He gave his love to everyone that was around him. He cared for everyone and was loved by all. He was the hardest teacher that I had ever had, but he taught me more than most. I will always remember Dr. Paul Fink.

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

acters listed, as well as the historical background of the book. He taught so much about how to study the Bible using proper hermeneutics

we believe.

After serving as youth pastor for eight years in Seven Lakes, I was offered the job as Senior Pastor at the church where Dr. Fink attended. In my years there, I learned so much more about the man. He had two biological children, but he also adopted three children. He loved all of his children equally; and I could see how much they loved him, as they took care of him when his health

OWLS meet October 8

The OWLS (older, wiser, loving, seniors) group from Seven Lakes Baptist Church invite all adults over age 50 to their Tuesday, October 8 meeting at 10:00 am.

The guest speaker will be Robert Ivy, coordinator with Billy Graham associates for North Carolina. He will speak on the project, "My Hope for America," featuring Billy Graham, which will

be held on Rev. Graham's 95th birthday November 7.

It is a huge evangelistic outreach, with folks bringing the salvation message to their neighbors in small groups. Bring your favorite luncheon dish to share during lunch after the presentation.

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Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

& Associates, will assemble a loan application and submit it to the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources [NCDENR]. The application deadline is September 30.

Once the motions were all made and approved, both Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno and Commissioner Larry Caddell said, "This is a great day for Moore County."

If Moore County were to purchase the full three million gallons per day the agreement allows, Picerno said, the twenty-percent reduction in the cost of water purchased would allow the project to pay for itself in eleven years.

Noting that the Board of Commissioners has been working towards securing an additional water supply for the County for six years, Caddell thanked the staff, singling out Gould and County Attorney Misty Leland in particular.

Asked after the meeting whether the County faces stiff competition in securing the \$11 million zero-interest loan it seeks, Gould told *The Times*, "DENR tells me they have never turned down an application from a shovel-ready project." However, he added, NCDENR is also expecting an unusually large number of applications this year.

Gould would not be nailed down on exactly when pipe

will be laid and the water tower constructed. That, he said depends not only on winning approval for the loan, but also on when the NC General Assembly decides to fully fund the loan program.

Edgewood Terrace waits on the railroad

During the Tuesday, September 17 meeting, the Board authorized Chairman Picerno to sign legal documents still in the works that will allow the County to work in the right of way of the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway in order to complete a project designed to bring county water to residents of Edgewood Terrace and Stanly Street in West End.

Gould explained that a very short section of the water line that will serve the small community lies within the railroad right of way. Gould told *The Times* that "everyone is in agreement," but attorneys and insurance companies are still working on the precise legal language needed to assure both entities are protected.

Aside from roughly twenty feet of water line, Gould said, the Edgewood Terrace project is nearly complete.

In other Public Works-related business, the Board:

- Approved a cross-connection ordinance that gives Public Works the authority and mechanism to require and inspect backflow preventers in cases where a cus-

tomers connection to other water sources risks contamination of Moore County's Public Water Supply.

- Authorized a change order lengthening the term of an engineering agreement with Hydrostructures, PA for the repair of a sewer interceptor near the Pinehurst traffic circle.

- Gave County Manager Vest the authority to approve change orders valued at up to \$16,600 for the Lift Station 3-4 Replacement Project.

Solid Waste Disposal agreement approved

At the request of Solid Waste & Recycling Manager Chad Beane, the Commissioners approved a new contract with Republic Services of NC, which operates the landfill in Montgomery County.

Beane explained that the three-year deal lowers the County's cost per ton from \$44.80 to \$43.50, which is expected to save \$98,893 over three years. In addition, the new agreement relieves the County of responsibility for \$150,000 in capital improvements to the transfer site.

Noting the potential to save \$250,000, Chairman Picerno told Beane, "Bring us those kinds of deals anytime you want."

Also at Beane's request, the Commissioners proclaimed Saturday, October 5 as "Moore County Big Sweep 2103 Day," linking the County to a global clean-up day and encouraging volunteers to remove trash from waterways and landscapes.

Mandate on health records leaves raises hackles

The Commissioners were far less enthused about a new federal mandate that will require the County to spend several hundred thousand dollars to implement an electronic health record system for the health depart-

ment.

Health Director Robert Wittmann and members of his staff explained that a 2009 federal law requires that health providers move from paper patient records to a standardized electronic record that can be shared among providers nationwide, when necessary.

Large hospitals and medical practices were required to move first in implementing the law; public health agencies must be ready to do so by January 2014.

The advantages of the system, Health Department staffer Bengie Hair explained, are that it helps automate and streamline the flow of patient information among health care providers, elim-

(See "Commissioners," p. 26)



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Commissioners

(Continued from page 25)

inating the chain of faxed records moving from one office to another.

It will also greatly simplify the implementation of new Medicaid and Medicare billing codes, automating the process when codes are changed. That, in turn, means a better success rate in obtaining reimbursement and a more automated process of resubmitting claims that are denied — currently about twenty-five percent of all claims.

Implementing electronic health records will make the County eligible for \$63,750

in Medicaid incentives over six years. Not implementing them could reduce County reimbursements from Medicaid in the future, and subject the County to penalties.

However, the computer-based system required to implement the system is expected to cost between \$90,000 and \$242,000 this year, and \$30,000 to \$42,000 in maintenance fees going forward.

That expense is what stuck in the craw of Chairman Picerno.

"I said this when it happened to us on VIPER," he said, referring to a federal

regulation that required the County to replace its entire emergency communications system. "This is another case of federal bureaucracy in Washington telling us what we have to do and shifting the cost onto our taxpayers . . . The federal and state government want us to do these things, and they don't want to pay for it."

Referring to the presentation, Commissioner Randy Saunders said, "We hope that this software is going to make us more efficient. I hope, if this is coming our way, and we have no choice, maybe, when budget comes next

year, or the next, you will find some costs to cut because the software is going to save us money somewhere."

A second frustration for the Commissioners is the recommendation that the County acquire another expensive computer and software system from an outside vendor, when its recent purchase of an Enterprise Resource Planning system designed to tie together all county departments has created more work, not less, for County employees.

"The technology program that we implemented a few years ago has been an unmitigated disaster," Picerno told Wittmann. "I'm not going to vote for another unmitigated disaster until you can look me in the eye and say that

this is going to save us money. I'm going to be looking for replacing positions with technology."

Wittmann assured the Commissioners that he had no plans to recommend an unmitigated disaster, adding that his wide-ranging contacts with other NC Health Directors offers him the opportunity to see a variety of electronic health record systems in operation, and interview staff members who interact with those system.

"The action we will take tonight simply gives them the go-ahead to look at the vendors and come up with a proposal, price, and contract that will then come back to the Commissioners," Picerno said. The Board approved that process in a 5-0 vote.

Etty

(Continued from page 11)

list in place of her own family members.

"Like crowding onto a small piece of wood adrift on an endless ocean after a shipwreck and then saving oneself by pushing others into the water and watching them drown," she wrote. "It is all so ugly . . . I would rather join those who prefer to float on their backs for a while, drifting on the ocean with their eyes turned toward heaven, and who then go down with a prayer."

Traveling and performing has put Stein in good company. In a conversation with the Archbishop of Canterbury, she said, "We agreed.

Etty sets her life up with, 'Will I pass the test?' I don't know if she felt she passed it or not. I certainly think she did."

"Her position provided Etty the privilege to write her letters," Stein said. "Two of her letters from Westerbork, one written in December 1942 and the other in August 1943, three weeks before she was deported to Auschwitz, are some of her greatest writing. They became part of the Dutch resistance, although she was unaware of that."

Etty drew in her last breath of home as she pushed a postcard through the cracks of the over-crowded train

bound for Poland — her final words floating face up on the wind, her prayer taking flight.

"Opening the Bible at random I find this: 'The Lord is my high tower.' I am sitting on my rucksack in the middle of a full freight car. Father, Mother, and Mischa are a few cars away. In the end, the departure came without warning . . . We left the camp singing . . ."

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School Board

(Continued from page 10)

should have enough cash in the bank to cover one month's expenses — that is, a fund balance of eight percent. Four percent would be considered a bare minimum, Griffin said.

The loss that MCS is taking to its fund balance will support a variety of initiatives. Griffin's presentation highlighted the addition of three Digital Integration Facilitators,

one teaching position aimed at Academically Gifted students, one Advanced Placement Position, two teaching positions aimed at Careers and Entrepreneurship, five instructional coaching positions for Title 1 schools, two instructional intervention coaches, and the new Spanish Immersion kindergarten program at West End Elementary.

After Griffin concluded his presentation, the Board voted unanimously to approved what is known as "the original budget" for FY 2014, a nod to the fact that it will change many times in the coming months.

Other Business

In other business during the Board of Education's Monday, September 9 meeting:

- Growing to Greatness Awards were given to Shawna Fink, a third grade teacher at Aberdeen Elementary; Anne Smith, Bookkeeper at Pinehurst Elementary School; and John Nevin Moulton, a senior at Union Pines High School.

- Viewed a presentation highlighting the work MCS' STEM Team, a group of teachers working to enhance education in science, technology, engineering, and math, utilizing a three-year \$2 million STEM Infusion Grant from the Mebane Foundation. The team has established a website at www.mcsstem.org that provides STEM lesson plans that can be used by MCS teachers, as well as teachers from across the US.
- Viewed a presentation assembled by Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence that highlighted to beginning of school for students on the traditional calendar.
- Recognized New Century Middle School Principal Robin Calcutt, recipient of the Superintendent's Salute to Greatness award.
- Approved on first reading eleven changes to MCS policy that Policy Committee Chair Bruce Cunningham said were largely aimed at bringing MCS policies in line with new legislation passed by the NC General Assembly.

Vet

(Continued from page 4)

"office" is located in a large SUV, fully equipped with state-of-the-art equipment.

"We have the highest quality equipment available," Dave said, including digital radiography, endoscopy, and ultrasound. It's a completely mobile practice."

Seven Lakes, Pinehurst, and Southern Pines, are the "hub" of the practice, Shayna explained, though PineHills does have clients as far away as Raeford and Sanford.

Horses are the focus of the practice, but not the extent of it.

"When we had our first mobile practice," Dave explains, "we found that our clients wanted us to take care of their small animals, too. So we added that, and we'd like to do the same thing here."

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LONG OR SHORT TERM RENTALS!

SLLA meeting

(Continued from front page)

the space covered by the current center court. If that's a part of both scenarios, he asked, why not install a more permanent structure now?

"We have people talking about bocce, but we don't know how much interest there really is in the community," President Steve Ritter replied.

"I would spend less money and see whether it is going to be used," resident Les Sommers, a bocce supporter, added, "than to have spent a lot of money and no one uses it."

"We have promised those folks bocce ball for months," Darr said. "We need to find out what the usage is going to be. I hate to see us delay, and delay, and delay, because we don't have the answers. I think we are talking about a relatively cheap solution to get the answers we need."

After more discussion, the Board authorized Community Manager Ray Sohl to move forward with the installation of a temporary bocce court at a cost not to exceed \$1700.

The Board then briefly discussed whether it might be possible to take a similar temporary approach to establishing a pickle ball court in the space, in order to gauge the level of interest in that relatively new recreational alternative. Noting that there are the remnants of a shuffleboard court near the pool, Director Chuck Leach suggested that it might be rehabilitated and put into use, also on a temporary basis, to assess community interest in shuffleboard.

Vote pending on major pool repairs

The Northside pool needs major repairs, and, during the Work Session, the Board authorized Manager Sohl to solicit bids on the project that could be presented at the September 25 Open Meeting.

Sohl explained that the situation had been assessed by the contractor who handled pool repairs last Spring, but the work required was too extensive to be done at that time without delaying the start of the swim season.

Water has leaked through the expansion joints in the concrete pool deck, Sohl

explained, creating voids under the deck and also under the pan of the pool itself.

Those voids were discovered when the contractor was repairing the interior of the pool and actually broke through the pan at one spot.

Sohl and Director Hirsch explained that the objective of the repairs will be to fill the voids under the pan with a concrete slurry, so that it is supported, and to coat the deck with epoxy, so that it no longer channels water underneath the pool.

"The objective will be to prolong the useful life of the pool," Sohl said.

The Board needs to move

quickly to find a contractor to do the work, he said, because it must be done while nighttime temperatures remain above fifty degrees, so that the materials used cure properly.

Noting the expected cost of \$30,000 to \$40,000, Director Racine asked whether the project could be delayed for a year.

"We have a car that needs new tires and new brakes," Director Hirsch said. "We can't say: We haven't hit a tree yet, so we can wait until next year."

Director Darr noted that the estimated cost of replacing the pool is roughly \$800,000.

The Board authorized Sohl to obtain bids on the work, and to arrange visits by the bidding contractors, so that they can meet with Board members. If all goes according

to plan, a vote is expected at the September Open Meeting.

Message board policy proves thorny

The Directors took up a policy, drafted by Manager Sohl, governing the sorts of notices that can be posted on the SLLA website, included in Association email notifications and the monthly newsletter, and posted on the message boards at the North and South gates and in the glass-enclosed messages boards in the mail houses.

But they quickly ran aground on the rocky shoals of which church notices should be included.

Notices of some activities of the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines are sometimes included in SLLA media, and

(See "SLLA," p. 29)

Tai Chi in the SCC Gardens

Tai Chi and the Sandhills Community College Horticultural Gardens are perfect together. Join the class on Monday, September 30 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Spend the morning with Tai Chi Master instructor Lee Holbrook learning some simple movements that benefit the mind and body, then stroll into the gardens to partic-

ipate in an interactive class.

Join the group at the Ball Visitors Center of the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens at Sandhills Community College. Cost to Horticultural Society members is \$5 and non-members pay \$10.

Space is limited, so contact Tricia Mabe to register at 910 695-3882.



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SLLA meeting

(Continued from page 28)

Director Racine said he had received an email from a landowner asking whether notices from other churches should be included as well.

"We have had requests," Sohl said, "and I don't want to be in the position of picking and choosing."

"All of these churches are in the community," one resident noted, suggesting that the Chapel should not be given preferential treatment, "and all of the people in the community go to all of those functions."

"We have space limitations," Sohl replied. "And, if you don't have a policy, then you eventually have a problem."

Director Faraci noted that *The Seven Lakes Times* publishes an events calendar in each printed edition and weekly on *The Times'* website.

President Ritter asked for more time to consider the proposed policy, so the Board tabled consideration to a future Work Session.

Vote pending on new collections attorney

At the request of Manager Sohl, the Board agreed to hold an electronic vote after the work session to appoint a new law firm to handle collections.

Sohl recommended the firm Bagwell Holt Smith PA, which works with other CAS-managed communities. Sohl said the firm has direct access to CAS databases, which allows them to more efficiently pursue delinquent accounts without consuming staff time.

"Right now, we don't have a collections attorney, so the accounts are in limbo," Sohl said. "In collections, being timely is very important for your success rate."

"It appears we will be getting better service for less money," Treasurer Meyer said, "and also save CAS some time."

Other business

In other business during the Monday, September 9 Work Session of the SLLA Board of Directors:

- The Board's agenda includ-

ed a discussion of the Ramapo Dam Spillway Project, but that item was moved to a closed executive session at the request of Director Chuck Leach, who said contractual issues needed to be discussed.

- At the recommendation of Manager Sohl, the Directors voted to write off bad debts from two delinquent accounts in the amounts of \$1,457 and \$2,249. Sohl explained that both properties had already been foreclosed on by the banks that held the mortgages and were determined to be uncollectible by CAS.
- Noting that the Board has held two special meetings on the revised bylaws, Sohl said he would send the Board's suggested revisions to the attorney hired to handle the rewrite on September 16. Once the attorney has produced a final draft, that will be published and meetings scheduled to gather input from the landowners.
- The Board approved the combination of lots 2543 and 2536.
- Director Leach presented a spreadsheet detailing

recent repairs and upgrades to infrastructure, which he recommended the Association adopt and maintain, so that future Boards and managers would have a clear and concise record. His fellow directors agreed that it was a useful tool for the maintenance, finance, and long range planning committees, as well as for the manager. The Board reached consensus to adopt it as part of standard Association procedures.

- The Directors agreed to move to the Open Meeting for a vote the Architectural Review Board's [ARB] recommendation that the refundable new home construction deposit be increased from \$3000 to \$5000. Hirsch explained that the amount of the deposit needs to be large enough that a contractor would address a problem rather than simply walking away and forfeiting a deposit.
- Also at Hirsch's suggestion, the Board moved to the Open Meeting a rules change that would prohibit moving fully constructed

houses onto Seven Lakes lots. A landowner recently made application to ARB to do just that, which Hirsch said raised a number of concerns about the practicality of moving an entire house within Seven Lakes, as well as the potential damage to infrastructure. The home in question was a fully stick-built home. SLLA rules already prohibit mobile homes and modular homes, Hirsch said.

- A \$15,000 proposal to replace thirteen windows and two doors in the landowner's office building came back to the Board after the contractor who submitted the winning bid for the project failed to

commence work — and failed to return phone calls. The Board authorized Sohl to pursue other bids and moved a vote on the project, with a new not-to-exceed cost of \$17,000, to the September Open Meeting.

- The Board briefly discussed a proposed policy on the use of the North Clubhouse, but ultimately asked Sohl to continue polishing the draft he submitted. Director Leach said his original intention in suggesting a new policy was to move the activities of some smaller groups from the a North Clubhouse to the Game Room, in order to cut maintenance expenses.

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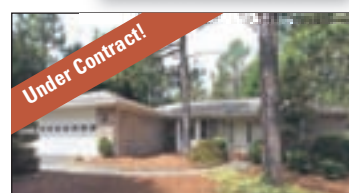
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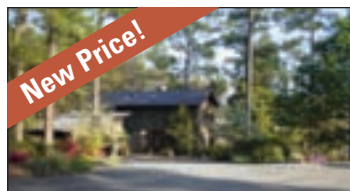
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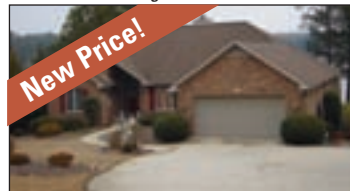
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