

Boards meet on funding for school facilities plan

by Greg Hankins
 Times Editor

No high-stepping marching band or cheering crowd of onlookers celebrated the event, but it would not be an exaggeration to call the Tuesday, October 14 joint meeting of the Moore County Board of Education and Moore County Commissioners “historic.”

It was little more than a decade ago that the two boards found themselves in a funding dispute so acrimonious that the school board sued the commissioners. It has taken many years for that chill to thaw.

What brought the two boards together on October 14 was the need to build and expand school facilities — to relieve overcrowding in high schools and elementary



schools, to replace aging buildings, and to develop a new magnet high school that would offer students job training or a head start on their college career.

The standard playbook for building new schools has the school board developing a

master facilities plan encompassing ten years and \$50 \$75, or \$100 million in projects; voters approving the sale of school bonds; and commissioners figuring out how to pay back the principal and interest on all that borrowed money.

“We had always just pretty much been told that a bond was our only option,” school board member Laura Lang said during the joint meeting. “No one had ever said that we can borrow cheaper than we can do a bond Nobody had ever said that before.”

(See “Schools,” p. 25)

Longleaf Drive repaving project about to begin

by Greg Hankins
 Times Editor



Watch out, Westsiders! A monster is about to devour Longleaf Drive, all the way from Lakeway to Smathers.

Sometime between now and Halloween, a large, high-

tech, mechanical beast will begin slowly crawling up Longleaf Drive, eating the asphalt in front of it and, after a bit of digestion, excreting a new road base from its nether regions.

The process, called Full Depth Reclamation [FDR], recycles old asphalt and road base into a brand new surface ready for paving.

Gene Opdyke, who has volunteered to oversee the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association’s six year road repaving project, told *The Times* that the FDR machine will remove the existing roadway down to a depth of about twelve inches.

It pulverizes that mix of asphalt, gravel, and sand to a fine consistency and adds in a healthy portion of Portland cement. That new amalgamation is then deposited back on the roadway. The whole process is completed by a single machine, in a continuous process.

Once the new road base mixture is laid down, it is sprayed with water and compacted by rolling machines. That compacted aggregate serves as the base for a new coat of asphalt, which will be applied a day or so later.

(See “Paving,” p. 26)

Young entrepreneurs



Brothers Gavin and Gabe Lenz show some entrepreneurial spark manning their drink stand during the annual Cameron Fall Antiques Street Fair. More than 250 vendors participated in this year’s event.

Early voting starts Thursday, October 23

by Greg Hankins
 Times Editor



Election Day is just around the corner, and Moore County voters have plenty of reasons to turn out at the polls on November 4. The ballot includes contested races for the US Senate, US House, NC Senate, County Board of Commissioners, and the School Board, along with a variety of judicial races — and even a constitutional amendment.

Voters will find a number of changes in the way elec-

tions are conducted this year. Here’s a rundown.

Early Voting

One stop absentee voting begins on October 23. Voters may cast their ballots at the Moore County Agricultural Center at 707 Pinehurst Avenue in Carthage Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 6:30 pm. The last day of early voting is Saturday, November 1, when the Ag Center site will be open from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm.

The Old West End Gym will serve as a second One-Stop Voting site, opening (See “Voting,” p. 23)

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In the Sandhills region, rabies is a concern because of the occurrence of the virus in wild animals.

Moore County Animal Operations will offer one year rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats for \$5 each and Microchips for \$15 each.

The Rabies Clinics will be held:

- **Thursday, October 23**
Boogie's Barn, Middleton Road, Robbins, from 3 pm - 5 pm.
- **Friday, October 2**
Cranes Creek Fire Department, from 2 pm - 4 pm.
- **Wednesday, October 29**
Aberdeen Lake Park, HWY 1, from noon - 3 pm.
- **Friday, November 14**
Cranes Creek Fire Department, from 2 pm - 4 pm.
- **Friday, December 5**
Cameron Fire Department, from 2 pm - 4 pm.

All dogs and cats must be vaccinated against rabies by 4 months of age. Any pet which comes in contact with a wild animal known to carry rabies must be revaccinated within five days of the exposure. Officers will be available

at the clinics to answer questions about rabies control and prevention in addition to administering vaccinations.

Call Moore County Animal Operations for additional information at (910) 947-2858.

Biz Guild Chili Cook Off

Join Seven Lakes Merchants as they host their annual festival and cook-off at Seven Lakes Central (next to Lake House Restaurant and behind TempControl) on Grant Street, Saturday, October 25, from 2 to 6:00 pm. Sample Chili at each booth.

Some businesses will have Auction Baskets and the public is welcome will go around and bid on the baskets.

A free concert by Dark-

Water Redemption starts at 6:30 pm.

Local Businesses and Vendors can reserve your booth now. There is no cost for a booth if you are a Seven Lakes Guild member, non-member booths cost is \$20 or \$30 to become a member for the remainder of 2014.

Contact Ed Hill at 295-0307, or edward.hill@edwardjones.com or Gayle Mace at 673-0093 to reserve your booth.

Snakes of the Sandhills

Why they are important in our natural world?

On Thursday, October 30, at 7 pm at the Southern Pines Civic Club (corner of Ashe Street and Pennsylvania Avenue), Save Our Sandhills will host Jeff Beane, Herpetology Collections Manager for the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh.

He will provide information and answer questions

to aid in understanding snakes common to the Sandhills. Beane's interests include natural history and conservation, especially the natural history, distribution, and conservation of amphibians and reptiles in the southeast, as well as the longleaf pine ecosystem ecology and all its natural relationships. Admission is free. All are welcome. Refreshments served.

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Upgrade for pasture fence sparks debate

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Good fences make safe horses. The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA]

Board of Directors discussed the poor condition of existing pasture fences during their Monday, October 13 Work Session.

Proposed new electrical fencing — which would be placed on the pasture side of the existing split rail fence — would cost \$7,500.

Recently, a fence rail fell, and a horse escaped. Another recent incident involved several children crawling under the fence to feed the horses.

Several directors expressed concern about the aesthetics of the proposed fence — as well as whether the project had been properly vetted.

Director Chuck Leach asked why the proposed fence project had not been reviewed by the Architectural Review Board [ARB] Committee or the Facilities and Maintenance Committee.

“We fine people in this community that put up fences without ARB approval,” Leach said. “We are talking about 11,000 linear feet of fence that hasn’t gone through ARB or Facilities. I think we got the cart way before the horse.”

“And let’s talk about aesthetics,” Leach continued. “We have a split rail fence then another fence behind it with posts three foot higher than the existing fence with a wire going down Seven Lakes Drive. It is going to be ugly.”

President Bob Racine asked Leach if Facilities had reviewed the proposal.

“We talked very briefly about it, and we haven’t discussed it at length,” Leach replied.

Community Manager Ray Sohl said the condition of the fence requires prompt action.

“The reason it is being pushed is that we have had horses out twice this year alone,” Sohl said. “One horse in the road could cause a fatality or injury.”

“This proposal was made by the Recreation Committee,” Sohl said, “and both stable manager Amanda Duggan and assistant stable manager Samantha Baker highly recommended it. There is not a lot of visibility. The

posts are four to five inches in diameter and would be placed twelve feet apart. The remaining split level will remain in place.”

Leach recommended repairing the current split rail fence and the existing electric fence that it supports.

“Repair the present one, rather than buy a new one,” Leach said.

The split rail fence is a poor choice, Sohl argued. “The split rail fence is not appropriate for a county roadway.

When the rails fall they take out the electrical wire, causing failure. I don’t think the design is appropriate for a highway.”

Stable Manager Duggan agreed with Sohl and explained the need for better fencing.

“The existing split rail is too low,” she said. “If a horse leans hard enough, the rail goes. The horses need the fence to be safe for them and safe for the community. If

(See “Fence,” p. 27)

Clara McLean House Fundraiser

The Carthage Women’s Club and Lisa’s Boutique of Carthage will be holding a Fashion Show on Thursday, October 23, at 6:30 pm with a Dessert Buffet. Cost is \$20 per person.

The evening will feature “Day to Dinner” fashions.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Clara McLean House the Cancer CARE Fund. For tickets and information call Denyse Williams 910-690-9663.

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Council approves new open burning rules

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



It's Autumn, and the leaves that are now turning red, yellow, and gold will soon be raked into piles and set on fire, filling neighborhoods with one of the characteristic smells of the season.

But not in Foxfire Village.

During its Tuesday, October 14 regular meeting, the Foxfire Village Council unanimously approved an amended fire prevention and protection ordinance.

The ordinance prohibits the "burning of any materials, including leaves, pinestraw, grass, brush, or other waste material" on lots smaller than five acres.

Owners of tracts that are five acres or larger can burn, but must first complete a set of required steps, including complying with all applicable NC Fire Codes and NC Division of Air Quality standards; filing a complete NC Forest Service burning permit with the Village Clerk; and obtaining written approval from the Village Clerk.

Burning can be denied for good cause, based on the location, fuel type, environmental conditions, or when the burning may interfere with other scheduled events.

If a landowner is burning larger debris, such as logs and stumps, they may be required to burn items in a pit and use an air curtain burner, a machine that reduces smoke and particulates by blowing a curtain of air over the top of the burn pit.

Under the revised ordinance, smaller lot homeowners can use an outdoor fire pit or fireplace but can burn only natural fire wood or manufactured logs, being sure to keep the fire at least twenty-five feet from any structure or combustible material.

The Council approved the amended ordinance after making a minor grammatical correction and renumbering the ordinance.

Use of Village Hall

Village Resident Mary Ann Lauer spoke during public comment regarding the use of the Village Hall for clubs and private meetings. Mayor Steve Durham reassured Lauer that the bridge club and other clubs could continue meeting in the space.

"There are some logistical problems. This being the police department, it should have a lot more security and privacy," Durham explained. The offices used by the Foxfire Village Police Department are located in the Village Hall.

"We haven't had a lot of

issues, but it could be problematic," Durham said. "However, that being said, we decided that we are going to continue on with the practice that we have. However, we will hold groups more accountable as we go forward. Any new groups coming in will be asked to meet at the golf course [clubhouse]."

Test wells insufficient

The Village Water Department recently drilled two test wells on the McKean property, a large parcel that was donated to the Village in lieu of paying a large assessment for the Woodland Circle

Extension project. The one well that produced water yielded only twelve gallons per minute.

"According to the well driller, he doesn't see much point in drilling in other places," Councilman Jon Sedlak reported. "Twelve gallons a minute is too low to be worth our while to pursue."

"Our best alternative for a new well would be along the Hoffman corridor," Sedlak said. "We had one test well that looked good, but we had

a problem purchasing the property. They wanted us to buy eleven acres."

Sedlak also reported an increase in water production and usage.

"We are tracking production against the rainfall," he said. "Things are not lining up real clear since May, and we don't know why that is yet. The water usage is up twenty-four percent. That seems steep. I question whether it was it in fact usage, or is it

(See "Foxfire," p. 19)

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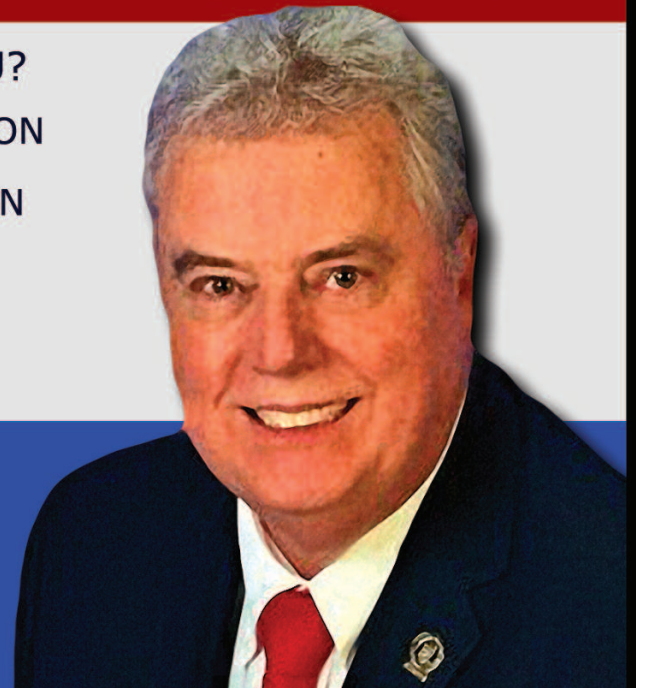
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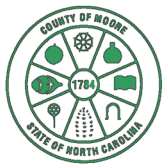
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Board updated on economic development

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



A regional sports complex.

A regional industrial park.

A new training facility for advanced manufacturing.

Attracting entrepreneurs to Moore County.

Turning local high school students into entrepreneurs.

Helping local farmers sell produce to institutions.

In his first quarterly report to the Moore County Board of Commissioners under a new funding agreement, Partners in Progress CEO Pat Corso highlighted a wide range of projects and initiatives that his organization is working on, in addition to regularly fielding requests from site selection consultants looking for attractive locations for specific businesses.

Among the highlights of Corso's presentation during the Tuesday, October 7 Commissioners Meeting was the idea of building a regional sports complex on NC Highway 15-501 across from Legacy Lakes near Aberdeen. Both Partners and the Convention and Visitors Bureau are promoting a study of the potential for the facility.

Corso said the park would draw amateur sports tournaments from across the

Southeast, bringing an influx of tourism dollars. Those drawn to the events to compete — or watch their kids compete — would have an opportunity to learn more about Moore County as a possible home — and business location.

He's said the complex could be "a significant draw for talent and economic development."

"I congratulate you on moving forward — you and CVB — on moving forward on the sports complex," Commissioner Nick Picerno said, noting that Richmond County is seeking a quarter cent sales tax increase to fund the creation of such a complex. "It's a market that really fits Moore County . . . We could conceivably attract the sports enthusiasts just as we now attract golfers."

Public Safety Memorial

The Commissioners received an update on a Public Safety Memorial planned for a site on the Sandhills Community College campus. Jerry McDonald reported that a variety of fundraising efforts had generated \$30,688 of the \$35,000 required to build the memorial.

"I am pretty sure I can make that happen, without going to the taxpayers," Commissioner Picerno said. "I think we can get you over the top."

McDonald said that much of the labor and materials for the memorial will be donated.

iPad system for DSS

The Commissioners approved the purchase of a \$321,000 hardware and software system that will allow Moore County social workers to use iPads to both gather and access information in the field, rather than relying on paper files and frequent trips back to the office to access files or complete paperwork.

Social Services Director John Benton told the Board that acquiring the system will allow the elimination of one social worker position within the department, saving the county \$338,000 over a ten year period.

Federal reimbursement should cover approximately \$120,000 of the total price, Benton said. Most other Department of Social Serv-

ices functions have already been converted to paperless systems. Beton said the department had shredded more than 37,000 pounds of paper in the past two weeks.

Other Business

In other business during the October 7 meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Declared October Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Moore County.
- Proclaimed October 5-11

as Fire Prevention Week in the county.

- Held a public hearing on the Schedule of Values — the criteria that will be used to assess the value of real property for tax purposes. No one spoke during the hearing and Interim Tax Administrator John Edmondson said his office had received no comments on the document since it was made public in mid-September.

- Called Tuesday, October 21 public hearings on the

(See "Commissioners," p. 26)

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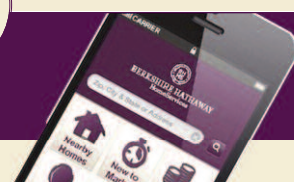
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Putting the 'concept' in new concept high school

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



The "concept" high school on Moore County Schools' [MCS] Master Facilities Plan has caught the imagination of the local business community.

"If we can pull this off, we open up a new day for our kids, in terms of their competence and competitiveness — and our ability to attract companies because we have the talent here," Partners in Progress CEO Pat Corso told the Moore County Board of Commissioner in a recent meeting.

But the concept high school is also the least well-defined project on the Board of Education's ten-year facilities wish list.

Increasing capacity at a high school, or building a new elementary school, are ideas easy to grasp. But what's a "concept high school?"

During the school board's, Monday, October 6 work session, MCS administrators began to flesh out the "concept."

Associate Superintendents Dr. Kathy Kennedy and Dr. Eric Porter, along with Career and Technical Educational

Specialist Amy Garner, presented the rough draft of a proposal for the school that would divide it into four separate, career-focused academies: life and health sciences; agriculture; design and production; and hospitality and culinary arts.

Introducing the presentation, Superintendent Robert Grimesey told the Board that it was "a fluid design that is still a work in progress."

The design aims to give students the training they need to graduate from high school with marketable skills — or credits that can be transferred to a community college or four-year university. A close partnership with Sandhills Community College — and community colleges in surrounding counties — is an integral part of the plan.

Providing high school graduates with marketable skills was a key objective that surfaced in conversations with local business leaders, as well as conversations with parents led by former superintendent, Dr. Aaron Spence, Kennedy said.

Though no location has been chosen for the new school, the idea of placing it on the SCC campus has been much talked about in public discussions of the idea.

The academies

Each of the four academies involve multiple pathways, many leading to specific certifications that would qualify the graduate to enter the work force immediately.

The pathways associated with the Life & Health Sciences Academy include Emergency Medical Technician, Public Safety, and Life and Health Sciences.

Career-ready certifications associated with those fields include a Certified Nursing Assistant or Emergency Medical Technician. Other associated careers that may

require additional training after high school are pharmacist, physical therapist, nurse, or police officer. In each case, during the presentation, Garner provided examples of the national average salaries for those positions.

Because the concept high school will function as a magnet high school, rather than one with its own district, it will be necessary to recruit students to attend. Talking about possible careers and average salaries will likely be a key part of the recruiting message.

Within the Academy of Agriculture, pathways include Animal Science, where students could earn a veterinary technician certification, and Horticulture, which might include golf course management and turf grass management.

The Academy of Hospitality and Culinary Arts includes the career pathways of Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts, with associated certifications.

The broadest of all the proposed academies is the Academy of Design and Production. (See "Concept," p. 20)

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Kiwanis elects new officers, board members

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis recently celebrated the installation of their new officers for the 2014-15 year.

The celebration also recognized the great success of

President Ken Jenkins and officers over the past year.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club has had excellent growth over the past year with eleven new members

joining the club. This accomplishment was recognized as one of the highest new growth of any club in the state.

President Ken Jenkins also recognized Frank Hayes – Program Chairman as the Kiwanian of the Year.

Michael Cotton, Kiwanis Lieutenant Governor was present to preside of the installation ceremony. Lieutenant Governor Cotton installed Mark (Bud) Sales

as the New President.

The Kiwanis new officers for 2014-15 are: President – Mark (Bud) Sales; President Elect John Strohmer; Secretary & Past President Ken Jenkins; Treasurer Ronald (Bud) Darragh; and Assistant Treasurer John Clohessy.

New Board Members are:
Christine Armstrong, Don
Gerhardt, and Jim Haggard.

They will serve with continuing Board Members: Ron

McGaughey, Jim Boyd, Bob Racine, Bud Darragh, Charlie Flinchum and John Shaugnessy.

For more information on how to become involved in the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club, call Bud Sales – 910-673-8385 or visit a club meeting at the Seven Lakes Country Club every Tuesday at 11:30 am.



Incoming Seven Lakes Kiwanis President Bud Sales, Michael Cotton, Kiwanis Lieutenant Governor, and outgoing President Ken Jenkins



Seven Lakes Kiwanis Board Members



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FREE EVENT!
Bring your family, friends, and neighbors.
Lawn chairs recommended.

Paid for by the Thom Tillis Committee

Thanks to the Prescription Shoppe!

About the second week in July we were given the news our beloved dog Cookie was diagnosed with lymphoma cancer. Saddened by the news and not wanting to let her go at the time we wanted to have a little more time with our sweetheart Cookie. Dr. Loftin informed me that I could give her steroids and a chemo drug called Chlorambucil, so I began the search for the meds and no one had it in stock and it was very expensive in pill form. I called the **Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe** and later that day they called to let me know that they could do a compound which would be much more affordable. We were thrilled and after that they made it up and asked which flavor she would like and her favorite was chicken and they were able to do the chicken pot pie flavor.

She did well with it, we kept her about eleven or twelve weeks longer, to have her around a little longer was wonderful to all of us. We made the decision to let her go September 5, 2014. I would like to thank everyone at the Prescription Shoppe in Seven Lakes for doing such a wonderful job to help us in our time of need. Everyone was very friendly, concerned, and thoughtful.

— RW

Mr. D. has had a wound that has not healed in over a year and since he has begun using this gel it has healed tremendously!

Rob Barrett, Pharmacist at Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe has developed a life changing compound. We have been using it for several months now and it is an answer to prayer! This compound comes in a unique, easy to use dispenser!

We both have used this topical product for arthritic pain for back, shoulders, hips, fingers and it works almost instantly! Goodbye to Percocet and other high-powered drugs! They are not needed! If you are a victim to arthritic pain, we strongly ask you to give this compound a try! You will not be sorry.

Thank you Rob for your devotion to your patients and bringing us the very best for our individual needs!!

— D.S. & C.S.

I was diagnosed with Shingles on May 10th, 2014 and started with the standard meds. My case of Shingles was pretty severe and turned into postherpetic neuralgia, damage to the nerves. I was treated with everything that might reduce the pain and itching including "over the counter" lotion. The **Prescription Shoppe at Seven Lakes** has started making compounds and my doctor gave me a script for their Shingles compound.

I have been using their compound for four weeks now. While I understand this condition of postherpetic neuralgia can last from months to years, and is miserable, the Shingles compound has improved my situation. I am more comfortable now and am grateful we have The Prescription Shoppe with their talented and caring people available to us.

— J.S.

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Tom Leen: finding efficiencies, funding education

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



The elements of county commissioner candidate Tom Leen's agenda for Moore County fit together like the pieces of a puzzle.

He proposes:

- Requiring that pets be licensed and strengthening laws to encourage the spaying and neutering of dogs and cats will vastly reduce the number of animals that pass through the doors of the Moore County Animal Center, saving taxpayers as much as \$500,000 each year.

- Developing a strong program to increase the volume of recycling at the county's convenience centers could win the county more revenue from selling the recycled materials adding another \$1,000,000 to the budget.

- That's an additional \$1.5 million that could be invested in education: higher salaries to keep teachers from giving up the profession or moving to other states that pay better.

- Because a strong, competitive school system is the key to attracting new business — particularly high-tech West Coast companies like Tesla or Google or alternative energy companies.

- And making Moore County a hub for alternative energy development and manufacturing will reduce the appeal

of fracking for natural gas, which threatens the very environment that makes the Sandhills such an attractive place to live and work.

- Attracting companies that can offer high-paying jobs is the key to keeping young people in Moore County and increasing the tax base, giving the county the resources it needs to fund better public transportation and address problems like the lack of affordable housing, homelessness, and poverty.

Looking for efficiencies

Leen, 62, moved to the Raleigh area in 1992, but his accent, like that of many Moore Countians, has more than a hint of his native New Jersey.

Leen told *The Times* that he started his working career literally loading trucks. Though, as a Teamster, he was well-paid, the work wasn't dependable. When his first child was born, he realized he needed to return to school.

Better education led to an electrical apprenticeship with Kodak in Rochester, NY, where he rose through the ranks to become a design engineer. He was transferred to North Carolina in the field service division, servicing hospital equipment that he had designed.

He discovered Moore County when traveling to a basketball tournament as a coach on his daughter's team.

He started his own company in 2005, focused on instrumentation that is used in pharmaceutical research.

Leen, running as a Democrat, told *The Times* that he was recruited by party officials when he contacted them seeking information about getting involved in the Moral Monday protests in Raleigh.

Leen is a Democrat, "but I'm not a tax and spend liberal," he told *The Times*, noting that many of his ideas for freeing up money to fund education and other initiatives are based on saving money in existing county operations rather than on raising taxes.

He said he's encountered

a number of voters in heavily Republican Moore County who, while initially not interested in talking with a Democrat, once they've heard his views, said "You sound like a Republican."

"That's part of the problem," he said. "How do you know you don't agree with me if you haven't heard my views?"

"We raised five children. My wife was a nurse; I was an engineer. I tell people that we didn't get power windows in our car until about five years ago. I could afford a minivan, but I bought the base model."

"It's about living within your budget, finding ways to be more efficient."

"I want to see the county install solar on all the county buildings, to save on the electrical bill," Leen said. "What I'm trying to do is find the money that we need to increase what we can put towards education."

Attracting industry

Asked to talk about the top three things he'd hope to accomplish if elected commissioner, Leen quickly replied, "There are more than three."

"Our economy is based on tourism, which is affected by the rest of the economy," Leen said. "I'd like to see high-tech companies come

(See "Leen," p. 21)

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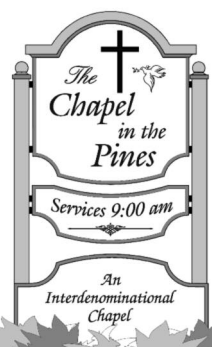
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Jerry Daeke: Education, employment, environment

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County native Jerry Daeke is no stranger to public service.

He served for eight years on the Southern Pines Town Council, two as Mayor Pro Tem, and he's been a longtime member of the county's Board of Equalization and Review.

Eight years ago, he ran for a seat on the Moore County Board Commissioners, losing in the GOP primary to current, retiring Commissioner Jimmy Melton, who is now endorsing Daeke as his replacement on the board.

Asked what he sees as the three biggest challenges facing the county, Daeke said "education, employment, and the environment."

Controlled growth

At age 77, Daeke remembers when Southern Pines was a sleepy Southern town that offered its young people little in the way of opportunity.

"When I graduated from high school, back in 1955,

the Southern Pines area was very small and there were no jobs," Daeke told *The Times*. "People graduated — and they left. I remember thinking at the time: 'That's not good.' Fortunately, the area did start to grow and attract a lot of retirees, who required other jobs to be available because they required goods and services."

Daeke has spent his working life in various segments of the real estate business — from general contracting to real estate appraisals.

Drawing on that experience, he said it's important for the county to grow — but also for that growth to be "good, controlled growth."

"When I was on the Southern Pines Town Council, we had a lady who always attended our meetings," Daeke recalled. "She was a retiree from up north, and one night she stood up and said 'Southern Pines needs to close the gate!'"

"Well, the fact is, we can't close the gate. The gate is going to be open, and we need to recognize that and do the proper job with our

construction and expansions."

Growth inevitably affects the environment, Daeke noted, pointing to the recent concern with the size and impact of the white-tailed deer population in Pinehurst.

"There has been a lot of talk about fracking lately, and what it is going to do," Daeke said. "While it could affect the environment negatively, if we recognize that and look at ways to correct that, then it could be good in certain areas — good for our economy and also for our jobs and education."

Building schools

Daeke said he recognizes the need for new school facilities — and supports the board of commissioners' attempt to fund the needed construction without taking on additional debt from the sale of general obligation bonds.

"A lot of schools do need updating," he said. "We have a lot more students than we were expecting at this time. There are needs there, and we need to address them."

"I agree that bonds today are probably not the way to go," Daeke added. "If doing

it another way is less expensive, then that's the way we need to go. And if that's going to take some time to talk it out, then we need to take the time."

"Working closely with the schools and the school board is critical" to making the process work, he said. "I have no problem setting money aside for the schools — assuming, of course, that we have the revenue there."

Daeke told *The Times* that he is opposed to seeing the county take on debt, but recognizes that the county must

(See "Daeke," p. 24)

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Digital Mammography is the most effective method for the detection, diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. FirstHealth of the Carolinas encourages you to take advantage of this lifesaving measure.

You will be given a **FREE insulated water bottle with infuser** if you have a mammogram during the month of October at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Schedule your digital mammogram as a self-requesting patient* or with a referral from your provider by calling toll-free at **(866) 415-2778**.

* Moore Regional offers evening & Saturday appointments and does not require a physician referral for routine screening mammograms.

If you are a Moore County resident at least 40 years of age and if it has been at least 12 months since your last screening mammogram, and if you are uninsured and need assistance to get a screening mammogram, call FirstHealth of the Carolinas at (888) 534-5333 (choose Option 2) to learn more about the Komen Screening Program.

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Halloween at Museum of the Cape Fear

Revels Night Tours

Mark your calendars for Hallowe'en Revels Night Tours of the 1897 Poe House on October 17-18 & 24-25 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm.

The Museum of the Cape Fear has partnered with the Gilbert Theater to bring this fantastic Victorian home to life after dark. Actors will portray members of the Poe household and their friends as they prepare for a night of Hallowe'en fun.

The night tours cost \$3 per person for ages 7 and up, children 6 and under are free. Tickets are purchased at the door.

Tours will run every 20 minutes beginning at 6:00 pm with the last tour at 9:00 pm each evening. Tour space is limited to 20 participants per tour. There will be an actor's break from 7:40-8:00 pm.

Nevermore!

Look out for the ravens as you wander through the 1897 Poe House during the annual Poe House and Museum Trick or Treat event on Saturday October 25 from 11:00-4:00 pm. Friendly guides will be stationed throughout the house to help you on your way. Listen to a Halloween

story and then play carnival games in the backyard for a prize. Don't forget to visit the Museum as well; the exhibits just may come to life.

Event also features a Costume Contest for ages Infant-

12 yrs. Register from 11:00-2:00, entry fee \$1.00. Judging begins at 2:15, prizes in each age category: Infant: 2yrs, 3-5yrs, 6-9 yrs, 10-12 yrs. Candy, prizes, scavenger hunt and more. Concessions on

site. Admission is Free. 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Poe House Tour

Is the Poe House haunted? Find out the answer by taking a Hallowe'en themed tour

during the month of October. 1897 Poe House tours are given at 11:00, 1:00, and 3:00 on weekdays and on the hour on weekends. The house is closed on Mondays. The cost is Free.

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Chapel in the Pines Rummage Sale this Weekend

The Rummage Sale will be this Saturday, October 18, from 8 am to 1 pm, at the Old West End Gym. Hidden treasures and bargains will be on sale for everyone.

All proceeds from the rummage sale benefit the Chapel "Community Christ Fund."

Advertise in The Times
Call 673-0111

In memory of . . .

James Gunderson, 83 of Seven Lakes died at home with his immediate family surrounding him on Wednesday, October 8.

He was born in West Belmar, New Jersey son to the late Lawrence A. and Ruby Gunderson.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 8, at 2 pm at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes with Rev. Larry Lyons officiating. Burial will be at Arlington Memorial Cemetery, VA.

Mr. Gunderson retired from the United States Army as a Master Sargent after over twenty years of active duty including service during the Korean and Vietnam wars. He received many awards and decorations including the Combat Infantry Badge, Parachute Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, five awards of the Good Conduct Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. After retirement, he taught Jr. ROTC at Seneca Valley High School, in Harmony, PA and North Iredell High School in Statesville, NC.

He was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He was active in many sports, and a concerned community activist.

In addition to his parents,

he was preceded in death by his brother, Charles Gunderson and sister, Marjorie Layton.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Gunderson; daughters, Kristen Berry and husband James of Seven Lakes; Sheryl Cepek and husband Ronald of Pennsylvania; Lisa Reed and husband Alston of Seven Lakes; brother, Lawrence Gunderson; sisters, Mary Scott; Virginia Scheidt; and Jeanne Clayton; seven grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to FirstHealth Hospice Foundation 150 Applecross Road Pinehurst, NC 28374

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory, of Seven Lakes is assisting the family.

Dale Earl Russell, 64, of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, October 8, at FirstHealth Hospice, Pinehurst.

A memorial service to celebrate Mr. Russell's life will be held on Sunday, October 19 at 2 pm at the Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes.

Mr. Russell was born in Pittsburgh, PA, he was the son of Dale and Olga Russell. He was an Alumni of Penn State University. Mr. Russell moved with his career at Rockwell/Meritor for thirty-two years before retiring in Seven Lakes. He was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman, and enjoyed sharing his passion with his friends and family.

Survivors include in wife of 42 years, Denise Ann Russell of Seven Lakes; daughters, Jodi Lynn List and husband Simon List of Raleigh; Jenna Marie Woodhead and husband Christopher Woodhead of Wake Forest; and son Matthew Dale Russell and wife Laura Russell of Durham; and four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to FirstHealth Outpatient Cancer Center, 220 Page Road, Pinehurst, NC or FirstHealth Hospice, 251 Campground Road, Pinehurst, NC.

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc. of Seven Lakes is assisting the family.

Lois Gustafson Moore, 89, of Penick Village, formerly of Seven Lakes, and Manchester, CT, died Sunday, October 5.

She was born in New York City, but spent most of her life in Manchester.

Mrs. Moore was a graduate of Manchester High School and Greenwich Hospital School of Nursing. She valued her work as an RN at Manchester Memorial Hospital, where she worked for many years.

In 1990, she and her husband Turk retired to Seven Lakes. She enjoyed the lake, golf, and all the social activities, especially bridge and was an active member of Chapel in the Pines.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard "Turk" Moore.

Survivors include her son,

(Continued on page 14)

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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 13)

Stephen and wife, Carol; daughter, Melinda and husband John Ferry; her brother, Alfred Gustafson and wife Jan; seven grandchildren, and sixteen great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held Tuesday, October 7, at the Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes.

Memorial donations may be made to: Chapel in the Pines, 2125 Seven Lakes South, West End, NC 27376, FirstHealth Hospice Foundation, 150 Applecross Rd, Pinehurst, NC 28374 or Penick Village Benevolent

Assistance Fund, 500 E Rhode Island Ave, Southern Pines, NC 28387.

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

Dorothy W. Cagle, 87 of Eagle Springs died Saturday October 4.

A memorial service was held Friday, October 10 at Eagle Springs Baptist Church, Eagle Springs. The Rev. Matt Brogli officiated.

Mrs. Cagle was preceded in death by her husband John B. Cagle; son, Richard (Dickey) E. Cagle; her parents, Grady and Lessie Williams;

brothers, Lester and Leon Williams.

Survivors include two granddaughters, Charity Blanchard and husband Stephen; and Elizabeth Lingerfeldt and husband Trey; four great-grandchildren, Andrew, Caleb, Grace, and Ruby Grey; and her caregiver, Linda Wiseman.

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Dorothy Cagle to The Moore County Humane Society, 5355 NC Hwy 22, Carthage, NC 28327.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Grimesey to address League

Dr. Robert Grimesey, Moore County's Superintendent of Schools, will speak to the League of Women Voters at their Tuesday, October 21 meeting. The League meets at Table on the Green for lunch at 11:45 am, followed by the program. The public is invited to attend.

Dr. Grimesey joined the Moore County Schools as Superintendent in July and has had a busy start to his job of running the school system. In addition to decisions regarding facilities and whether a bond issue was

in order this year, he has had to deal with issues surrounding the Common Core curriculum.

Dr. Grimesey will be discussing Common Core and other subjects of interest at the League meeting.

Education is always a top issue for the League of Women Voters when they set study priorities for the

year, and the League looks forward to hearing from Moore County's top educator.

If you would like to attend the meeting, please contact Charlotte Gallagher at 910 944-9611 or email her at owegeecoach@gmail.com The cost for the luncheon is \$13 and can be paid by check made out to LWVMC.

7 Lakes Stables Halloween Party

Join the Stables for a great Halloween Party on Friday, October 31, from 5 to 7 pm. There will be games, hot dogs, cookies, and candy.

Horse and riders in costume. (Cookies donations to share with everyone will be appreciated.)

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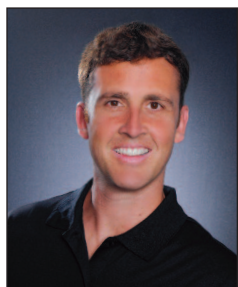
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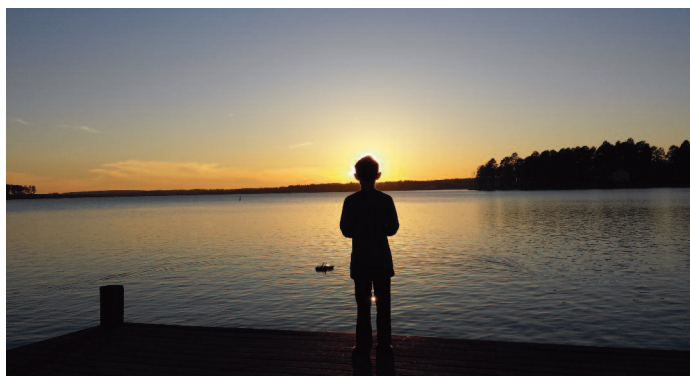
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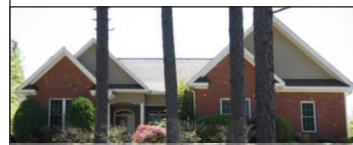
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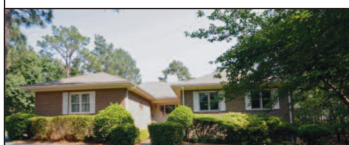
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4BD+LOFT, SPECIAL FEATURES
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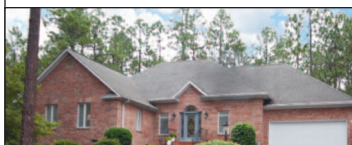
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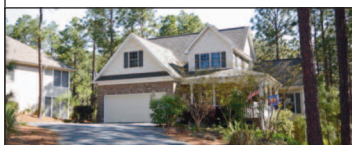
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

- **Sticky Icky Spider Webs** (For Wee-Ones) – 10 am, Learn about the amazing creatures, plays some games, and make crafts. For 3 to 5 year-olds. Program 30 minutes. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines.
- **"The Truth Behind Garden Remedies" with Jeffrey Gillman** – 1 pm, Gillman will share his knowledge and the science of horticulture. Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College, Free.
- **BBQ Plate Sale for the Sandshark's Community Pool Project** – 11 am - 2 pm, at The Arc of Moore County, 673 S. Bennett St., Southern Pines. Group will deliver for orders of 5 or more. Tickets \$8 at the office or call 692-8272 or at www.thearcofmoore.org/category/events.
- **Pirates of Penzance Auditions at Sandhill Community College** – 6 to 9 pm, Roles include male and female leads, supporting roles and ensemble singers, crew and backstage positions. Everyone welcome to audition. Callbacks 7 pm on October 18. Complete audition information, with required audition form, www.sandhills.edu/pirates/auditions

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

- **Chapel in the Pines Rummage Sale** – 8 am - 1 pm, 31st Annual Rummage Sale, at the Old West End Gym.

- **Fall Plant Sale** – 8 am to 12, Sandhills Horticultural Society and Student Horticultural Club plant sale next to Steeds Hall, Sandhills Community College.
- **Pirates of Penzance Auditions at Sandhill Community College** – 1 to 4 pm, Roles include male and female leads, supporting roles and ensemble

fee \$75, buffet lunch and 18 holes of golf. Details call Pete Olson 910-255-6327 or Phil Cox 910-986-2964.

- **Prancing Horse Tour Features Five Horse Farms** – from 11 am to 4 pm, horse farms will be open to visitors for self-guided tours. Proceeds benefit the Prancing Horse Center for Therapeutic Horsemanship.

Tickets purchased in advance \$20 from Sandhills Winery of Seven Lakes, Lady Bedford's Tea Parlor, M o o r e

Equine Feed and Supply, Cold Stone Creamery, and The Wine Cellar; \$25 day of tour at the NCSU Equine Health Center, 6045 US HWY 1, North. Children under 12, free. www.prancing-horse.org or 246-3202.

- **Fall Wildflower Hike** – 3 pm, Join a Park Ranger for a hike along the trails to see wildflowers blooming in the Autumn. Free. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines.
- **McDonalds Chapel Music Acoustic Circle** – 4 to 6

pm, in the church's fellowship hall. Group invites all levels of acoustic musicians to participate. Everyone welcome. McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen (off Linden Road right outside Pinehurst). Jill McCloy 692-5094.

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

- **West End United Methodist Church Explorers** – 5 pm – 6:30 pm, for children grades K-5. Time of learning, crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth 6 - 6:30 pm.

- **West End United Methodist Church Youth Group** – 6 – 7:30 pm in the Youth Room at the church, open to all youth in 6th – 12th grades.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

- **Rally for Thom Tillis** – 3:00-5:00 pm at Cannon Park, Pinehurst. Thom & Susan Tillis, as well as U.S. Senator John Thune, will be there. A family friendly

event and Free.

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

- **Fox Hollow Senior Living Brunch and Flu Shots** – 10 am. Join Fox Hollow for Brunch and a complimentary flu shot. Call Elizabeth Ragsdale at ERagsdale@5sqc.com or 910-695-0011 if you would like to attend. At Morganton Road, between Turnberry Wood and CCNC.
- **Zumba Class** – 10:30 to 11:30 am, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 673-4656.
- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.
- **Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club** – lunch 11:30 am, meeting 12:05, Seven Lakes Country Club. Speaker: John Calari, FirstHealth Fitness Center.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – Lunch

What's When



singers, crew and backstage positions available. Everyone welcome to audition. Callbacks at 7 pm tonight. Audition information, including the required audition form, at www.sandhills.edu/pirates/auditions

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:00 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church Golf Tournament** – noon lunch, 1 pm shotgun start, Seven Lakes Country Club. Entry

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11:30 am. Guest speaker Bob Grimesey, Superintendent of Moore County Schools. Table on the Green Restaurant, 2205 Midland Drive, Midland Country Club. Public invited, reservations, contact Charlotte Gallagher 944-9611 or owegecoach@gmail.com. Cost with lunch is \$13, inclusive. Check made payable to the LWVMC.

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 5:30 pm, at the Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Women's Volleyball at Seven Lakes Baptist Church** – 6 pm to 8 pm, open gym, Hankins Family Life Center, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **AWANA Youth Group** – 6:30 to 8 pm, Hankins Family Life Center. Children age 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes Baptist Church.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. For seniors, Fellowship, devotion, a meal for at \$5.

- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Clara McLean House Fundraiser** – 6:30 pm, a Dessert Buffet. Cost \$20/person. Fashion Show features "Day to Dinner" fashions. Proceeds benefit Clara McLean House Cancer CARE Fund. For tickets and information call Denyse Williams 910-690-9663.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

- **United Nations Day**
- **WEUMC Men's Spaghetti Supper** – 5 pm - 7 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets \$8 each. Take out available. Tickets purchased from any member of the United Methodist Men or at the door. WEUMC 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.
- **Danielle's Playhouse Fall Festival** – 5:30-8 pm, 1135 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Activities include Games, prizes, a Boo Dance Hall, Lollipop tree, face painting, Silent Auction, raffle, hot food, and yummy treats.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

- **SLBC Indoor Yard Sale** – 9 am - 2 pm, \$25 per booth, (10x10 w/one table included). Proceeds benefit Seven Lakes Baptist Church Youth. Call 673-4656 to reserve.

- **Seven Lakes Business Fall Festival & Chili Cook-Off** – (2-6 pm), at Seven Lakes Central (next to Lake House Restaurant and behind TempControl) on Grant Street. Sample Chili, Auction Baskets and more. Free concert at 6:30 pm. Contact Ed Hill 295-0307, email edward.hill@edwardjones.com or Gayle Mace at 673-0093 to reserve a booth.
- **Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Halloween Party** – 3 to 5 pm. ages 4 - 12 are invited to attend. Children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes. Younger children accompanied by parent. Crafts, contests, games, Halloween songs and a Veggie Tales movie, "Where's God When I'm Scared?" Popcorn and other refreshments. Contact Dora Lancaster, 673-0166.
- **Jackson Springs Chicken and Dumpling Supper** – 5 - 8 pm, at Club House, 447 Mill Road, Jackson Springs. Supper includes the World Famous Dumplings and the fixings. Supper \$7. Children 12 and under only \$3. Auction and raffle. Judy Boroughs, 910-673-5963 (cell: 910-639-5366) or O'Neal Bennett 910-974-9406.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:00 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Spooky Side of the Sandhills** – 3 pm, Group spends time inside and outside for program, short walk. Free. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6:00 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: Robbie Fulks. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.
- **West End United Methodist Church Explorers** – 5 pm - 6:30 pm, for children grades K-5. Crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth 6 - 6:30 pm.
- **West End United Methodist Church Youth Group** – 6 - 7:30 pm in the Youth Room at the church, open to all youth in 6th - 12th grades.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Moore County Library Halloween Spooktacular** – 5:30 to 6:30 pm, in Carthage. Join the Library for games, refreshments, & Clara the Witch. 947-5335 for information. Costumes welcome!
- **Sandhills Natural History Society** – 7 pm, Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines. Heather Moylett, from NCSU, will present, "Native Bee Fauna of North Carolina Sandhills." Visitors Welcome. 910-692-2167 or www.sandhillsnature.org

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

- **Zumba Class** – 10:30 to 11:30 am, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.



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Women of 7 Lakes hear FirstHealth hospitalist

by Joyce Freiert

Women of Seven Lakes

The speaker at the October meeting of the Women of Seven Lakes (WSL) was Dr. Jenifir Bruno.

Dr. Bruno is a Hospitalist with the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. She shared the changes and updates regarding Medicare hospital admissions and ancillary charges, and discussed the difference between being admitted to the hospital, being kept for observation (outpatient), or just being an outpatient. She also discussed the role Hos-

pitalists play in the care of patients who are in the hospital.

Ms. Gay Green, Associate Director, of Revenue Cycle Management, discussed financial obligations and charges for the various classifications of patient care, and how Medicare determines what they will pay.

Also assisting were Jen Gripp, Director, Case Management, and Denise Conn, Denials and Appeals Management.

The upcoming Thursday, November 6 General Meeting of the Women of Seven Lakes

will be a Luncheon and Fashion Show, which will begin at 11:30 am at the Seven Lakes Country Club.

The menu will include a tossed salad, chicken marsala with fettuccine noodles, snow peas, rolls, apple pie a la mode, and tea and water. Models will be wearing fashions from Stein Mart. The cost of the luncheon and fashion show is \$18. Call Lee Connelly, 673-2421, to sign up.

Cards and games may be played after the luncheon and fashion show. If you would like to stay and play,

please sign up and pay as a group, and let Lee know what game you will be playing.

For more information on the Women of Seven Lakes, contact Pat Weber, 673-1457.



Denise Conn, Dr. Jenifir Bruno, Gay Green, and Jen Gripp

Golf Capital Chorus Nov. 1

The Barbershop Express will leave the Pinecrest High School Station at 7 pm on Saturday, November 1, when the Golf Capital Chorus of Pinehurst presents its 34th annual show with an exciting and memorable journey to cities made famous by the U.S. rail system.

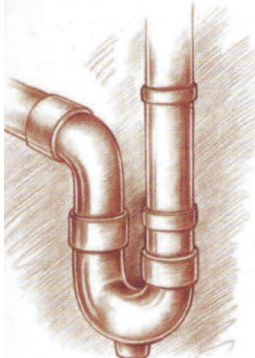
Conductors will shout out the cities scheduled as stops on the evening's melodic tour: Chicago, Chattanooga, St. Louis, New Orleans, Cape Cod, Kalamazoo, and of course, Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe.

The second act will feature "Zero Hour," the North and South Carolina District Championship Quartet known for providing great entertainment throughout the Southeast.

The quartet has more than 50 years of combined experience singing a cappella Barbershop music as well as gospel and doo-wop.

The chorus will then close the show with a couple of favorites from last year's show on Rock and Roll as well as two brand new titles "When I Fall in Love" and "Feelin' Groovy."

Tickets are \$15 adults or \$10 students and can be purchased at the door or in advance from any chorus member or by calling Larry Harter at 295-3529.



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Foxfire

(Continued from page 4)

a leak? We have had some leaks that might account for some of this, but I don't think it accounts for all of it."

"We did lift water restrictions," Durham noted, "which gave residents freedom to do more irrigating."

"We also changed and lowered the water rates in July," Frusco reminded the council.

Defining Duties

Village Clerk Lisa Kivett has been working to organize a manual for village employees. Sedlak asked what prompted the need for the manual and questioned why it was necessary.

"We have employees," Durham replied. "When we go out to hire or begin to do evaluations, it should be based on specific job responsibilities. It should also clearly list benefits, sick leave time, and other specifics. Whether we have one employee or a

hundred, it should still be in writing."

Painting the Pool

The swimming pool needs a new paint job in 2015. Councilwoman Frusco reported that the contractor's estimate was over \$8,000.

Frusco provided Council members with a breakdown of pool operational expenses since 2009.

"As you all aware, we put this information together season by season," Frusco said. "I would like you to look at this and have it on the agenda for discussion at the next work session."

Durham agreed: "It will be on the work session agenda and we can save our questions for then."

Making roads bike friendly

Councilman Mick McCue reported that he had attended the latest meeting of the Moore County Transportation Committee.

"The committee voted to approve the plans and move forward the Central Park Bicycle Plan," McCue reported. "Some of the counties included are Davidson, Randolph, Stanly, Richmond, and Moore County."

"It is a pretty impressive plan that includes Moore County from Seagrove to Hamlet and up through Aberdeen to Carthage," he explained.

"We get a lot of bicycle tourists that come for the annual Tour de Moore Bike Race and the Tour de Moore Bike Ride. The plan is, as roads are improved, they will be widened a couple of feet on each side to make them more bike friendly."

Prepared and Ready

McCue also reported that Moore County is working with the counties of Lee, Hoke, Chatham, and Johnston on a regional hazard mitigation plan.

"By doing that we don't have to make a separate plan," he explained. "The state can adopt that plan once it is approved by FEMA. If a disaster is declared for our area, we have plan in place and that means we will get federal dollars."

Disasters would include

wild fires, severe winter storms, flooding, and hazardous material spills.

Trick or Treat

A Halloween Trunk or Treat will be held Friday, October 31 from 6 – 7:30 rain or shine at the Village Green Park.

Jackson Springs chicken & dumplings

The Jackson Springs Community Club's Annual Chicken and Dumpling Supper will be held Saturday, October 25 at the Club House, 447 Mill Road, Jackson Springs.

Serving hours are 5 pm to 8 pm. Supper includes the World Famous Dumplings, roll, slaw, baked beans and a wonderful variety of home-baked desserts, iced tea and coffee. Supper is \$7. Children 12 and under are only \$3.

Johnny "O" will provide his expertise Auction Services for this Fund Raising Event. All proceeds will be used for Community needs and include scholarships to deserving students in the Jackson Springs area.

Help make this a successful event by donating your "Treasures" for the Silent Auction. If anyone would like to donate furniture, quilts, produce, home baked goods, or tools, and such contact Judy Boroughs at 910-673-5963 (cell: 910-639-5366) or O'Neal Bennett 910-974-9406.

All donated items must be

in good condition. Help make this event a success by

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123 Dennis Circle – Great building lot with gentle elevation. Back gate is convenient! **\$40,000**

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Concept high school

(Continued from page 7)

tion, which could include a half dozen pathways, including Commercial Arts, Engineering and Mathematics, Architectural Technology, Digital Media Technology, Civil Engineering Technology, and Aeronautics Engineering Technology.

Again, students in some of these pathways could receive certifications qualifying them to enter the workforce upon graduation, while others would receive college credit, giving them a head start and an opportunity to save on college tuition.

Kennedy said that students who take six SCC courses while in high school can save \$1,287 per year on college tuition. A high school student who amasses enough college credits to enter college as a second semester sophomore could save \$28,141.

"That could make college accessible for many of our Moore County students," Kennedy said. "I think that could be a selling point for many of our parents who really want their children to go to a four-year college, but they have no means to provide that for them."

Tying the new high school closely to SCC — and locating it on or adjacent to the SCC campus — could present an accessibility challenge for students attending North Moore High School, Kennedy noted. A possible solution is to partner with community colleges in other counties — Montgomery, Randolph, or Lee — that may be nearer students who live in the northern part of Moore County.

Recruiting students

Porter noted that some nearby North Carolina counties have established concept high schools and then fallen short of attracting students. Wake County's new technical high school attracted only 131 students to fill its 705 seats.

"We have to make sure that parents are excited about the new school," he said.

Porter described a recent field trip that some MCS

staffers made to Winston-Salem to visit that district's Career Center High School, which has been in operation for thirty-six years. Unlike the new Wake County school, the Career Center draws students from their "home" school for only part of the day. Porter recalled seeing students in football jerseys and cheerleading outfits of rival schools sitting next to each other at the Career Center.

In addition to technical education, the Winston-Salem school offers a wide range of specialty Advanced Placement classes, including Chinese, Calculus, and Music Theory. Porter noted that MCS may need to consider adding AP classes in order to attract students to its concept high school.

Board Member Bruce Cunningham cautioned against

overemphasizing "early college" rather than technical training and career preparedness, suggesting that Wake County might have made that error.

"There is a lot of support in the business community in Moore County that we could provide skills on graduation that would allow students to immediately go into the work force," he added.

If you build it, will they come?

The outline presented by Kennedy, Porter, and Garner was a first draft. Kennedy noted that the next step is to gather information from a wide range of sources: parents and students, as well as high school and middle school principals and counselors.

Porter said "a key piece is branding and marketing. We

need to make sure we do a good job so that people are excited and really want to go to this school." Kennedy said even the architectural design of the school comes into play in that regard and recommended "a burst of color" and "lots of natural light."

And if the end result is the disappointing enrollment experienced by Wake County?

"We have about 1300 students we need to find places for by 2023," Superintendent Grimesey said. "This particular program involves a degree of risk . . . For every child that doesn't participate in this program between [an enrollment of] 600 and 800, that's a child that stays back in the home school. And our Master Facilities Plan does not accommodate them, if

(See "Concept," p. 21)



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Tom Leen

(Continued from page 10)

in, preferably in the renewable energy field, and establish a mini RTP [Research Triangle Park] here, paying high wages."

"First, that increases the tax base," he said.

"Second, it moves us toward renewable energy. I'd like to see that be the focal point of the county right now. It's moving faster and faster, and we're still worrying about fracking. That's a finite resource, where the sun is most likely going to be here longer than most of us."

"Third, it gets us high-paying jobs," Leen continued. "I'm a grandfather now, and my kids didn't move down here. Say you are in your 40s or 50s and your kids go to UNC or state and get engineering degrees. There are limited opportunities for them to move back here."

"Plus, we wouldn't be affected so much by the ups and downs of tourism. It's a much more stable economy."

"But, if you want to bring in companies like Google, the first thing they are going to look at is education," Leen cautioned. "They are going to question where we are rated — where we are."

"If we are going to get these companies, then we are going to have to refocus our thinking on education."

Local input on fracking

Leen, who describes himself as "an environmentalist, first and foremost," said he doesn't like the way that the General Assembly has handled the development of regulation on hydraulic fracturing for shale gas.

"If the state really thinks there's no problem with this," he said, "then they

should schedule meetings at every county seat in the state, lay all their cards on the table, and answer any and all questions."

"A county and/or municipality ought to be able to impose stricter rules," he

added, "just like they set speed limits on their own streets."

"If it takes two years, if it takes ten years, let's take our time. This stuff is not going anywhere."

"But it seems like a super-

majority in the legislature just decided that 2:00 am on a Friday night was the time to make decision about this."

A wealth of information about Leen's views and proposals is available on his

Concept high school

(Continued from page 20)

they choose to stay."

"Ultimately, there is going to be the need to take an attractive program out of one of our home schools and put it here," he added.

"With those 1300 students, that is about enough to build a fourth comprehensive high school. But we have chosen to go this route, and, in so doing, we have accepted some degree of risk to make sure that this works properly."

"This is the most exciting project I have been involved in during my ten years of dealing with school facilities issues in Moore County," Cunningham said. "Previously we've been talking about number of seats and number of students Now we are talking about filling voids in the economy . . . we're talking about how do you attract students and keep them involved in education. I think it's very exciting."

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Wise Investments

This week my family was back together again, as my oldest son came home from university for his fall-break. It is the last fall break of his college career; he will graduate in the spring.

My wife and our two college-aged sons went out for dinner and a movie to enjoy the time that we had together while each was home. While we were at the restaurant, a young Dad came in with his two young sons shortly after we sat down to eat.

I was empathizing with the young father as he struggled through his youngest son's meltdown after receiving the wrong drink. All of a sudden, I was struck for the first time — like a kick to the gut from Bruce Lee — that my sons have grown up. As I watched the young father interact with his sons, the memories of my time with my boys flooded my mind.

I remembered when my oldest son Zach, who always loved critters and science,

was in his little suit standing on the steps of our church looking at the toad that was sitting on the step below him. The older ladies of the church were talking about how cute and sweet this little toddler

arms at his side with hands coming out of the pants legs, and curled his lips above his teeth yelling "nuts!" It is hard to imagine what goes through the mind of a middle school boy. He had everyone laughing so hard that we couldn't speak.

I thought about the time when they raked the leaves in the yard into a huge pile next to the trampo-

line and "super-jumped" each other into the pile. Or when they would get the dog to pull them on the skateboard at what seemed, to a concerned parent, like 100 mph. We laughed about the late night "jam-sessions" when they were just learning to play guitar and drums. My wife and I should have invested in ear-plugs!

I remembered so many people telling me how fast those

times would go by. I knew that they were speaking from experience and care, but I must admit that I quietly thought that I had plenty of time. I thought about all of the experiences that this young father in the restaurant has ahead of him and I was jealous for those times.

The Bible tells us that life is like a vapor. It is here for a little while and then vanishes away. There are cer-

tainly some things that I might do differently, but I don't regret one minute that I was able to spend with my kids. Parents, invest wisely! Spending time with your kids will yield some of the biggest and best returns of anything that you will ever invest.

Chris Hrabosky is pastor at Seven Lakes Baptist Church. Email him at chrabosky@mac.com



Bound by Grace

Rev. Chris Hrabosky

was, right up to the point that he jumped off of the step and squished the poor little toad. I can still see the horror in their eyes and hear their gasps when he accomplished his goal.

I chuckled as I remembered the time when Matt, my youngest son, would run around as his made up character "Squirrel-Boy." He pulled the waistband of his shorts up over his shoulders,

Woman's Exchange lives!

Dear Editor:

The Sandhills Woman's Exchange, in Pinehurst, is "not dead, yet."

At the ripe old age of 93,

the historic log cabin continues to offer lunch, Tuesday through Saturday, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm, with the sales room open from

10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The Exchange will close its doors in May unless there is a dramatic change in lunch room and consignor sales.

As a non-profit organization, the Sandhills Woman's Exchange continues to face the issue of a drop in the number of volunteers, many of whom are in their 80's.

The Exchange is in need of two servers, two cashiers and a salesperson each day.

Shifts are two to two-and-one-half hours. To quote a volunteer, "it is a pleasure to serve as an ambassador to the Pinehurst area while meeting and chatting with visitors from all over the world."

The Exchange can be reached @ 910-295-4778.

Carole Base

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Farley Foundation needs animal rescue volunteers

Dear Editor:

The Farley Foundation is a non-profit 510(c)(3) domestic animal rescue organization with a mission to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, unnecessary euthanasia of unwanted, adoptable animals here in Moore County and elsewhere.

We operate in association with the owners of Seven Lakes Kennels, located at 347 MacDougall Drive in Seven Lakes, who have agreed to provide use of up to 20 kennels at their boarding facility (completely segregated from their client-

boarders) to help The Foundation fulfill its mission. Our primary objective will be to provide temporary and transitional living space at the kennel for animals identified for rescue.

Volunteers from the community are needed for a variety of opportunities which are available daily from 7 am to 5 pm (in various increments of time) including: kennel maintenance; feeding, playtime, walks and simple TLC for the animals. We also need volunteers for non-kennel functions, such as: adoption web sites; social media;

photography; fundraising; veterinary technician time; training; behavioral assessment; laundry; and animal transporting.

We feel that if even one adoptable animal is euthanized in this county then we, as a community, are failing our moral imperative to save these helpless animals who, through fault of their own, are without a forever home and human companionship.

If anyone is interested in helping us by volunteering with The Farley Foundation, please contact Betsy Ficarro,

President & COO at 910-315-9569 or adopt4leggeds@aol.com.

If you would like additional information, including how to make a donation of money or kennel supplies, please

contact John Ficarro, Chairman & CEO @ 910-315-3052, jrficarro@aol.com. Thank you.

*The Farley Foundation,
John and Betsy Ficarro*

Voting

(Continued from front page)

from 11:00 am to 6:30 pm from Tuesday, October 28 to Thursday, October 30.

New legislation has eliminated the option for voters to register to vote during the one-stop voting period. If you weren't registered in the state prior to October 10, you won't be able to cast a North Carolina ballot this year.

Voter ID & Other Changes

The General Assembly approved a new law that requires voters to present a photo ID, but that takes effect in 2016. No ID is required for this year's election.

But this year, voters must be extra careful to vote in their own home precinct.

"It's not sufficient to simply pull in wherever you see a 'Vote Here' sign," Moore County Elections Director Glenda Clendenin told citizens attending a recent candidates forum. Both the county elections website, at moorecountync.gov, and the state board of elections website, at ncsbe.gov, have links to voter lookup tools that can help citizens find their proper precinct.

Another big change to this year's ballot is the disappearance of the option to

vote a straight party ticket. Instead, voters must select an individual candidate in each race. The ballot will continue to show the party of the candidates in partisan races.

Voters can always choose not to cast a vote for any of the candidates for any particular office.

Sample ballots for each voter precinct are available on the county and state board of elections websites.

Chapel Halloween Party

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines will have a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 25, from 3 to 5 pm. Children ages 4 through 12 are invited to attend. Younger children in the family may attend if accompanied by a parent.

All children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes.

Crafts, contests, and

games are planned. Special Halloween songs will be sung and a Veggie Tales movie, "Where's God When I'm S-Scared?" will be shown. The movie deals with handling fear.

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Daeke

(Continued from page 11)

sometimes borrow in order to achieve its objectives.

"But it has to be controlled debt," he said. "It doesn't need to get out of hand like it has at the federal level. If we are going to have debt, we need to know where the money is coming from to pay it off."

Setting the tax rate

Daeke said the county's tax rate has been set at "about the right level to cover expenses and put some money into reserves."

"You have to look at the financial needs of the county and the tax base, and set the tax rate based on those factors," he explained.

The county has a revaluation of real property coming up in January, which will have an as yet unknown impact on the tax base. As a real estate appraiser and member of the Board of Equalization and Review, Daeke has a unique insight into property values in the county.

"Doing appraisals, I know that many values have fallen from January 1, 2007 [the date of the last revaluation] to now," he said. "There has been some indication that it is rising again, but generally, they have dropped."

Hopefully, the new tax base won't have dropped to the degree that the county has to raise the tax rate," Daeke said. "I doubt that we will be able to drop the tax rate — in fact, I would probably advise against lowering the rate. Lowering the rate sometimes looks good, but in the not to distant future, you might have to increase it. And even if you raise it back

just to where it was, it upsets the people.

"It's been where it is for several years, and, hopefully, we can keep it that way."

What's good for all of Moore County

"My strongest feeling is that we need to do what is going to be good for the county — not just the southern end of the county, but the northern end as well."

"I remember when I was growing up," Daeke recalled.

"The southern end of the county was king, and the northern end were nobodies. But that's not right and that's not the way it should be. They are part of us and we need to take care of them too."

"I think the current board has done one fantastic job. And I think that the two new commissioners will have a challenge to be able to perform and contribute at the same level as the commissioners we have now."

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Schools

(Continued from front page)

Interest buys nothing but time

Another option is just what the commissioners have in mind. Because, as Commissioner Randy Saunders explained, in the current interest rate environment, the county can borrow short-term money from banks at a far better interest rate than can be obtained by selling bonds with a twenty or thirty year maturity on the public market.

Moore County voters approved the sale of more than \$60 million in bonds for Moore County Schools [MCS] and Sandhills Community College in 2007. Saunders explained that the county still owes about \$50 million of that total — and will have to come up with another \$17 million in interest before that debt is repaid. Moreover, those bonds can't be paid off early in order to save some of that interest.

"Interest doesn't buy you anything but time," Commissioner Nick Picerno explained. "That's it. It doesn't buy a seat, it doesn't buy a pencil, it doesn't get you anything but time."

The school board's list of projects is expected to cost

\$110 million. Saunders said the County's financial advisors had projected the interest cost on the sale of \$100 million in bonds at current market rates.

"The interest on that would build your three elementary schools," Saunders told school board members. Each new elementary school is expected to cost \$15.6 million.

By contrast, the county's financial advisors report that the interest rates currently offered by banks would allow the County to borrow \$60 million and pay only \$2 million in interest.

"We are probably going to have to borrow something somewhere," Saunders said. "But if we do short term borrowing, and the county prospers, and we continue to find ways to cut costs . . . then we could pay that debt off."

Pick two and start building

Saunders explained that the Commissioners have accumulated a bit more than \$20 million in a capital account, recognizing the upcoming need for school construction. That is roughly the price tag for the first two projects on the school board's ten item facilities to-do list: adding capacity for an addi-

tional 400 students at Pinecrest High School and another 260 students at Union Pines High School.

Even if the schools started those projects today, Saunders explained, the bills will not all come due at once, giving the county time to accumulate more surplus in its capital accounts — or, if necessary, to arrange for short-term borrowing.

"We need flexibility in managing our debt," Saunders said. "We are in a positive cash flow position, we are in a great financial situation to borrow money — short term, long term, or not at all."

Saunders said what the commissioners need to know is whether the Pinecrest and Union Pines projects are indeed the school board's number one and two projects, as well as the cash needs and timing for those projects.

"And we'll worry about projects three, four, and five in twelve to eighteen months," he said.

"If we prioritize it right, and do it right, then the money won't all be going into interest," Picerno said. "It will go into building the facilities that we need."

Mindful of upcoming elections that will replace at least one member of the school board and two on the board of commissioners, chair Kathy

Farren said the school board will consider in December whether the Pinecrest and Union Pines expansions are in fact their top priorities, relaying that to the commissioners for possible action in January.

Both Picerno and Saunders stressed the need for continued communication between the boards, so that county officials have a continual read on the school

board's projected need for construction funding.

Those two commissioners have held planning meetings in recent weeks with school board members Bruce Cunningham and Ben Cameron, along with the top managers of both organizations. Saunders said he hoped those meetings would continue as the plan for new and expanded school facilities moves forward.

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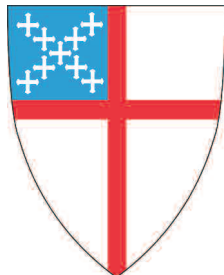
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Commissioners

(Continued from page 5)

naming of two roads and on conditional use permits for two cell towers, a 300-foot tower on NC Highway 705 in the far northwestern corner of the county and a 250-foot tower on NC Highway 24/27 near the Montgomery County line.

- Called an October 21 public hearing on the county's Rural Operating Assistance Program application for \$184,567 in funding for Moore County Transportation Services [MCTS].

- Approved the grant agree-

ment for \$295,370 in funding for MCTS under the state Community Transportation Program.

- Approved project amendments that altered the particular grant funds used to pay for a waterline extension at the Moore County Airport.

- Approved a contract extension with Utility Service Company for renovation of the county's McLean Road water tanks.

- Granted a utility easement to the Town of Southern Pines

- Approved a contract with FirstHealth of the Carolinas for management of the county's Wellness Works employee medical clinic.

- Accepted a \$137,000 Department of Homeland Security grant for a communications trailer that could be used, among other things, to substitute for the County's E-911 center, if it were disabled during a natural disaster. The trailer will be available for use by public safety departments in eleven counties.

- Approved a realignment

of fire insurance districts to reflect coverage provided by the new Glendon Carthage Road fire and EMS station. Currently, homes in the area have a fire protection rating of 10 for fire insurance purposes. Fire Marshal Ken Skipper explained that the rating for homes within five miles of the new station will drop to a 6, which should improve fire insurance rates. Homes outside that area will be rated at 9.

- Approved the rules of procedure for a new advisory Fire Commission that will advise the commissioners on budget, training, standards, and recruitment for fire and EMS services. Public Safety Director Bryan Phillips said he hopes to have all members of the commission appointed by November 4, so the panel can participate in the FY 2016 budget process.

- Voted to move the first commissioners' meeting in

November to Monday, November 3, in order to avoid holding the meeting on Election Day.

- Approved a resolution establishing a corridor planning initiative for NC Highway 211 from West End to Pinehurst and appointed Planning Board member Robert Hayter to serve on that panel.

- Appointed Brenda Pickler to the Nursing and Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee.

- Appointed alternate member John Monroe to a full member position on the Voluntary Agricultural District Board.

- Heard from Commissioner Picerno that the national debt totaled \$17,749,821,000 as of September 18. "Tonight in two [federal] grants that we approved, we spent \$373,000, and we are borrowing every penny of it," he said.

Paving

(Continued from front page)

Lakeway to Smathers

Before the FDR machine begins its trek up Longleaf, a contractor will remove about one foot of asphalt from each of the eleven paved driveways along the route. Because most Westside roads have a sixty-foot right-of-way, the first eighteen feet or so of most driveways actually lie on Association common property.

Once driveway preparations are complete, the FDR machine will begin at the Lakeway Drive intersection and proceed slowly up Longleaf Drive for 5610 feet — about 200 feet past the intersection at Smathers Drive. That's as far as this year's budget allows, Opdyke explained. The machine will

then turn around and eat its way back to Lakeway.

In both cases, the opposite traffic lane will remain open, so that vehicles may pass, though some delays are to be expected and patience will be required. The compacted road base can be driven on for a limited period of time, Opdyke said.

Year 2 of a six-year plan

Opdyke told *The Times* that the upcoming paving project represents Year 2 of a six-year project that is projected to cost approximately \$250,000.

Year 1 was devoted to a planning process that included a detailed engineering analysis of the entire Seven Lakes West road network, providing detailed guidance

on what sort of repaving or repairs are needed on each section of each street.

The plan for next year calls for 1.4 miles of repaving. The section of Lakeway from Smathers to Golf South Drive, near Beacon Ridge Country Club will be repaved, as will a section on either side of its intersection with Gateway Drive, near the back gate.

Subsequent years of the project will include more work on Longleaf, as well as internal streets. In some cases, the FDR process will be used; in others, new asphalt may be laid over existing pavement.

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Fence

(Continued from page 3)

the fence fails, and the horses get out, they are no longer thinking — they are reacting. Rails on the current fence fall daily. When a rail falls, it takes the electric wire with it. The fence used to be taller, years ago. But it's been there thirty years, and much of it is no longer repairable."

"Put an interior fence just inside," Duggan recommended. "People are most likely going to be able to see it. But it will protect a horse from being struck by a car or a kid getting trampled. We are looking at what's safer for our community and horses. We have the responsibility of taking care of them."

Racine reported that a rail along Seven Lakes Drive had fallen twice in four days. Several SLLA members in the audience suggested using fewer electric fence posts and spreading them out to save money.

SLLA Director Bill Hirsch agreed with Leach that the proposed fence should be channeled appropriately.

"I think it should be an absolute consistent policy that what the board acts on should go through the same process as any project that goes through — and there should be no exceptions. It is just proper way to do it. The ARB is meeting this Thursday; we can put it on the docket then."

SLLA Board Director Sandy Sackman recommended

expediting the process. "I think it is important to begin to look at this and address it before an accident or someone is hurt."

The ARB meets on Thursday and the Facilities Committee meets on Friday. Hirsch said there would be enough time to discuss the fencing. The board voted to move it to the open meeting with Leach opposed.

In times of urgency

In other business board members discussed a bylaws amendment recommended by the Association's attorney that would permit the Board of Directors to take action without a meeting, voting instead vote by email or US Mail or other written means, for matters that would require immediate or urgent action.

The bylaws in effect prior to a recent rewrite allowed for email votes for emergencies.

President Racine said any provision for voting outside of a meeting would have to be worded correctly to avoid

misuse.

"What we had in the past was people meeting in secret," he said. "We don't want to go down that road again. There are no strict rules on what would be considered necessary or urgent."

"Everyone here understands and is committed to a transparent process," Director Steve Ritter said. "But we would not be responsive, if we couldn't take immediate action under safety kinds of issues."

Director Leach suggested that such voting be allowed only when "the health, safety and welfare of the community" is at stake.

Director Hirsch suggested: "immediate and urgent action."

The board voted to move the item to the open meeting with the modified wording.

Underwater Grazing

The Lakes and Dam Committee recommended that the SLLA renew its contract with Foster Lake Service, which includes continued

water testing and analysis, monitoring for the exotic and noxious water weed hydrilla, and introducing an additional 150 sterile grass carp to control underwater plant growth.

The annual cost of monitoring the lakes is more than \$18,000.

"Three years ago, we decided to go with a company to conduct a baseline study and determine the condition of our lakes," Director Leach said.

"For years and years our lake water has looked excellent and still does. Last year, Director Rich Faraci, who was over Lakes and Dams, recommended we do it one more year to make sure we have everything in place. The contract has expired here again. We have spent \$54,000 in three years to monitor our lakes — and to control vegetation. I think it is overboard, and we could save consid-

erable funds if we had it monitored every three to five years."

Several Lakes and Dams Committee members in the audience spoke up to defend their recommendation.

"Hydrilla was one word that was unrecognized by our maintenance crew before they [Foster] came here," Don Fentzlaff said. "Hydrilla is something you don't even want to get involved in — talk about expense. Once it takes hold it is almost impossible to stop. You can't eradicate it. It is horrible stuff."

Leach asked if anyone knew of other companies that offer the same service at lower cost. He also asked whether it was necessary to have the lakes checked eight times a year, as called for in the agreement with Foster.

Hydrilla grows more than a foot a day. Waterfowl and

(See "Fence," p. 28)

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Fence

(Continued from page 27)

boats can contaminate a lake with hydrilla.

"What you are saying is, in a year, the stuff could really come back with a vengeance," Ritter noted.

A number of Moore County Lakes have been infested with hydrilla.

"Lake Pinehurst had hydrilla, and it cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, and they had to drain the whole lake to get rid of it," Hirsch said. "This is probably some of the smarter money that we spend. The lakes are such an important part of our community."

The board voted to move it to the open meeting with Leach opposed.

Grounded

The Judicial Committee reported that the lack of a community boat storage has led to an increase in the improper storage of boats and trailers in front driveways.

"We have land on the side of the existing boat storage area," Racine said. "I would like to get a consensus on exploring the possibility of expanding so that people have a place to store their boats."

The board agreed to research the issue.

Other business

In other business during the Monday, October 13 SLLA Work Session:

- The Board will vote on two proposed events at the October open meeting: a charity run in November and the 2015 Open Water Race on June 4 - 7, 2015.

- Manager Sohl reported that bids have been solicited for landscaping services, adding that the current landscaping contractor has provided prompt and efficient service. During the November work session, the board will discuss the pros and cons of in-house maintenance versus contracting services out.

- Director Leach reported that \$3,800 in upgrades to the North and South mail-houses could result in electrical energy savings.



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- 128 Winsford - SOLD!
- 118 Winsford - SOLD!
- 139 Edgewater - Under Contract
- 174 Banbridge - SOLD!
- 106 Swan Run Ct - Under Contract
- 110 Shenandoah - New Listing
- 106 Dogwood - New Listing
- 188 W Devonshire - Under Contract
- 115 Shagbark - Under Contract
- 119 Winsford - Under Contract

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SEVEN LAKES WEST – Large wooded corner lot in (Beacon Ridge) 173 Longleaf Drive. Sale \$5,000. Brenda 910-603-4882 Naturechild01@yahoo.com

100X200 LOT FOR SALE – at 114 Seminole Court, Seven Lakes North. \$10,000 or best offer. Call Melanie at 910-894-2281. 10/31

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