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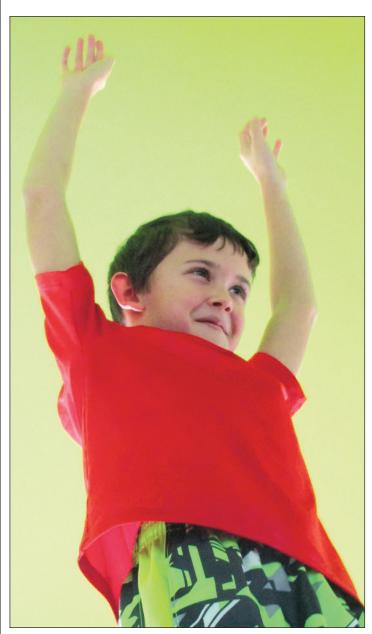
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Volume 29 Number 6

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

January 10, 2014

Green is the color



Westsider Will Stites got to pick the color of his bedroom ceiling in the new Stites' home on Lake Auman. See page 4 for the family's adventures in remodeling the house they are living in.

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Proposal for SLLA 4-H Club meets with some resistance

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



A recommendation from Recreation Director Bob Darr that Seven Lakes establish a 4-H

Club, overseen by stable manager Kate Pennington and Amanda Dugan, ran into surprisingly rough sledding during the Work Session.

4-H is an organization for rural youth created in 1902 by Ohio school principal A. B. Graham. The 4 H's stand for head — managing and thinking; heart — relating and caring; hands — giving and working; and health — being and living. There are 4-H chapters all across the

country, including in Moore County.

If established, a SLLA 4-H club would meet once a month for an hour, after school, at the SLLA game room. Club members would work individually on their own projects.

Darr explained that the focus could vary with each child's interest, but the goal is to instill in children leadership skills and a better sense of community.

"I would like to see us go forward with 4-H program," Darr said. "We have seven kids out there now that are interested. A couple are familiar with 4-H and have been active before.

"I can compare it best to Prancing Horse, Darr said, referring to the Stables' hosting of that non-profit's riding program. "It is program that we are hosting here for a particular group. The 4-H requirement is that we cannot limit it to children in SLLA. We would be required to open it up to all area children."

Liability and Expense

The prospect of including non-resident children seemed to set off alarm bells for other Board Members.

Director Bill Hirsch asked: "What is the consumption of resources and how does this all work? When does it hap-(See "SLLA," p. 28)

County fine-tunes the new Public Safety Center & Jail

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Fine-tuning the Rick Rhyne Public Safety and Detention Center Complex provided

a large number of the items on the agenda of the Moore County Board of Commissioners Monday, January 7 regular meeting.

Last month, the Board approved the purchase of a small frame house, currently used as the office of a bail bondsman, that sits adjacent to the Rhyne Center on South McNeill Street in Carthage.

During its January 7 meeting, the Board approved the purchase of a property right next door, at 204 South McNeill Street, for an amount not to exceed \$175,000. The

purchase agreement offers the existing occupant of the home a 14 month lease at \$750 per month, reducing the County's total cost of acquisition to \$165,000.

County Manager Wayne Vest told *The Times* that the most likely use for the properties is as additional parking for the Rhyne Center, though that will depend to some degree on plans for the County Courthouse.

In other Rhyne Center related business, the Commissioners approved a contract with Oasis Management Systems to provide commissary services to inmates at the new County jail. Sheriff Godfrey explained that NC detention centers are required to either provide snacks to inmates in the evening after supper, or provide a com-

missary that allows inmates to purchase snacks.

Current practice at the old jail is to provide cookies and Kool-Aid, but the new jail has a facility for providing a commissary. The County will receive a 29.1 percent commission on sales of items to inmates.

The Board tabled consideration of bids to provide inmate telephone services. Sheriff Godfrey recommended the contract go to Legacy Inmate Communications, which offered the County a \$25,000 signing bonus and a 75.5 percent commission.

But Commissioner Picerno noted that another Vendor, IC Solutions, had offered a \$100,000 minimum guarantee and a 75.6 percent commission rate. Godfrey said

(See "Commissioners," p. 25)

Seven Lakes Times January 10, 2014 **Events**

7 Lakes Kiwanis name top holiday decorators

The homes of Craig & Deborah Castro-Giovanni (SL Westside). Bob & Leslie Rose (SL South side), and Megan Westcott (SL North side) were chosen as winners in this year's Kiwanis Christmas pre-winter cold temperatures decorations contest.

This is the 19th year of this event, sponsored by the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club.

Each home received a \$65 gift certificate for their decoration displays.

Three teams of judges toured the community prior to Christmas to select the winners

Even though the rain and somewhat curtailed participation, the hardy decorators this season brought out many beautiful displays. It is noteworthy that two of the three awards list. Congratulations! Keep up the good work.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club dedicates their energies towards uplifting the community and its children.

New members are invited to meetings each Tuesday at 11:30 am luncheon meetings at Seven Lakes Country

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

Natural History Society

Sandhills Natural History Society will meet Monday. January 27 at 7 pm at Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines.

Bruce Sorrie, author of Wildflowers of the Sandhills Region, will speak on Birding and Botanizing in Southern Brazil.

His trip begins in Rio de Janeiro and ends in Porto Alegre, in the country's

southernmost state. Along the way the group will see birds and plants from the Atlantic rain forest, coastal marshes, plateau grasslands, and woods of monkey-puzzle trees. Some of the birds are among the rarest and least known in South America.

Visitors Welcome! Call 910-692-2167 for more information or visit www.sandhillsnature.org

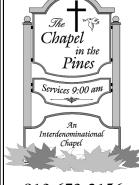
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Christopher and Taylor Malpass have been playing country music since they were small boys. They were taught by their grandfather to emulate the styles of the greats like Hank Williams and Merle Haggard.

Haggard heard them and liked them well enough that The Malpass Brothers began to open for him in 2008. They have been nominated for the prestigious 2014 "Honky Tonk Group" Award.

Doors open at 6:30 pm, with the show at 7 pm. All seating is reserved.

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Schools January 10, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 3

New schools and upgrades likely to top \$100M

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County voters could be asked to approve a school bond

issue totaling more than \$100 million — and possibly almost \$130 million — in November, if all the recommendations of Moore County Schools' [MCS] 21st Century Facilities Task Force make it into the final funding plan.

Meeting on Monday, January 6, the Task Force completed its review of facilities needs, endorsing a set of staff recommendations presented by retired Deputy Superintendent Larry Upchurch.

Needs identified, in order of priority, included:

• Building a new 800-student "concept" high school, at a cost of \$10-\$14 million, that would offer students an early college option or technical training in fields

that might include health care and computer technology.

- Expanding Pinecrest HIgh School to accommodate its current enrollment of roughly 2,000 students, without the use of portable classrooms, at a cost of \$14-\$17 million.
- Expanding Union Pines HIgh School to accommodate 1,250 students at a cost of \$10-\$12 million, and undertaking renovations at North Moore High, including a new cafeteria and wellness center, at a cost of \$2.5-\$3.5 million.
- Building a new middle school in the Pinecrest District [Area III] at a cost of \$16-\$18 million.
- Building a new K-5 elementary school in the Union Pines District [Area I] at a cost of \$15-17 million.
- Building two K-5 elementary schools in the Pinecrest district at a total

cost of \$30-\$34 million.

- Converting Robbins Elementary School to accommodate grades K-8 at a cost of \$7-\$9 million
- Expanding West Pine Elementary School to serve 650 students, at a cost of \$2.6-\$3.5 million.
- Closing four schools: Elise Middle School in Robbins, Aberdeen Primary, Aberdeen Elementary, and Southern Pines Primary. MCS' John Hawthorne explained that Southern Pines Elementary, currently serving grades 3-5, would become a K-5 school as some of its students are placed in the newer elementary schools in Area III.

That brings the total estimated cost of the new schools and renovations to between \$107 million and \$128 million.

Upchurch warned against budgeting to the lower number in that range.

"The lower you go with your expectation of cost, the more contingency you should put in," he said, adding that there is "nothing worse" than going to the public for approval of a school bond, promising a variety of improvements, and then coming up short of the funding actually needed to keep those promises.

School Board, then Commissioners

Whether the bond that voters are asked to approve in November will, in fact, total \$128 million — and whether it will include all the projects that the Task Force has identified as priorities — largely depends on the Moore County Board of Education.

Task Force Chairs Robert Hayter and Pat Corso plan to produce a report detailing the panel's recommendations that will be circulated to Task Force members via email for final approval. It will then move to the School Board for action and, ultimately, to the Board of Commissioners, who must vote to put it on the November ballot.

Commissioner Randy Saunders is a Task Force member, and endorsed the recommendations during Monday's meeting.

"What the staff has recommended here is exactly what I was coming in with tonight," Saunders said.

"We are working on our side already," he added, referring to the Commissioners. "I am going to our budget teams and we are putting budgets together."

During the Task Force's December meeting, Saunders expressed concern that a \$125 million bond issue would result in a 25 percent increase in Moore County property taxes. But, at that time, Saunders was also concerned that the total cost of school improvements might be \$150 million.

(See "Schools," p. 29)



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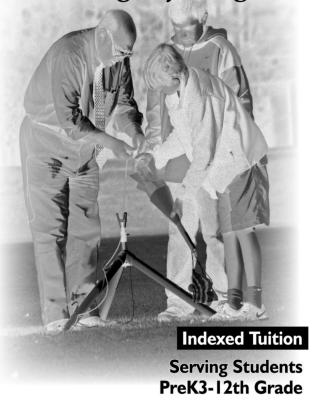
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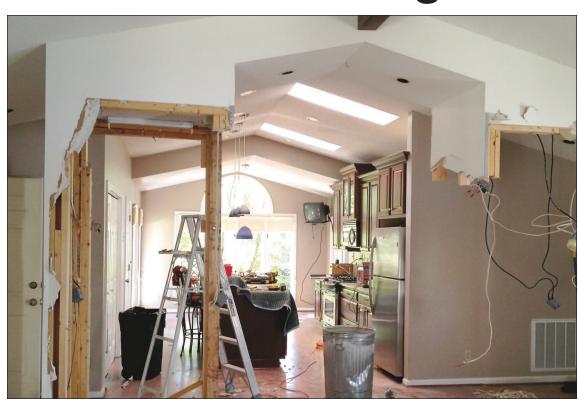
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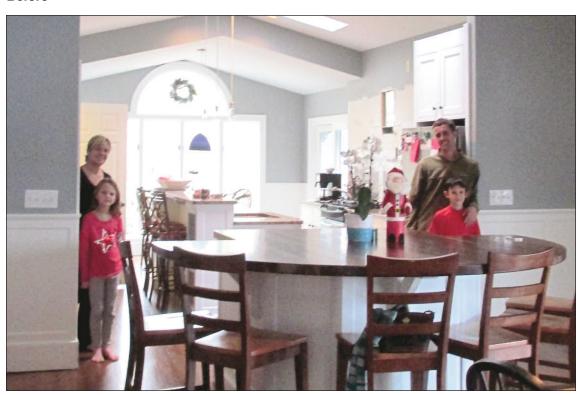
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4 Seven Lakes Times January 10, 2014 People

The Stites'challenge: Remodel your home



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by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter

From apprentice to journeyman, Westsider Chad Stites has mastered the art of woodworking. Balancing his custom cabinetry business, The Custom Shop, with updates to his family's new home, Chad never cuts corners.

Shannon Stites appreciates the fact that her husband can create her vision.

"I think it and he can build it," Shannon laughs.

The Stites' every second is accounted for, as Shannon

juggles her real estate business with the schedules of their energetic children, eightyear-old Will and his sevenyear-old sister Alyson.

"This has been the busiest three months of my career, Shannon says. "The market is just picking up a little bit. There are a lot of buyers out there looking."

Chad grew up on the South Jersey Shore. "It is a unique place, South Jersey, there is no other mind set like it," he says. "It is the complete opposite of pretense. People are

(Continued on page 5)





January 10, 2014 **People Seven Lakes Times** 5

while you're living in it, with two children

(Continued from page 4)

honest, genuine, hard-working, and slightly crazy in a refreshing way."

It was those very qualities that attracted Shannon to Chad. Shannon shared an easy-going nature -- though

one spawned in the Midwest couple. rather than South Jersey -appreciation for the outdoors, and work ethic. The first time she met Chad, he was playing the Harmonica at O'Donnell's. Fourteen years later, they are still a creative, fun-loving

Chad's father, Keith Stites, was a local custom home designer and builder, and owner of Visions Design Build Company, responsible for many fine homes in Seven Lakes West.

After Chad and Shannon married, she began working for the family business, keeping the books. Shannon, who had earned her degree in business administration at UNC Chapel Hill, soon found herself also helping to pick out fixtures and finishes. With a good eye for aesthetics and good head for business Shannon earned her real estate license. Chad recently earned his real estate license to partner with Shannon.

The Stites first experienced life on the lakefront in their previous home in Seven Lakes West. Their children grew up on and in the water.

When a Lake Auman home built in 1988 by Yates Hussey (See "Stites," p. 20)



Alyson & Will Stites show off an innovative wooden clock designed and built by their Dad.



Chad, Shannon, and Will Stites in the not quite ready for primer time kitchen.

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6 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014 News

Revised SLLA Bylaws ready for final vote

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



The thoroughly overhauled bylaws of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] are

ready for final Board approval. SLLA Directors agreed during the is Monday, January 6 Work Session to move the revised bylaws to the month-end Open Meeting for a vote.

During the Work Session the SLLA Board and residents gave their final nips and tucks to the draft, which has been written and rewritten over the past four months with the assistance of an outside attorney specialized in North Carolina law governing homeowners associations.

The Board voted during the December Open Meeting to make a near-final draft available to SLLA members for comment.

Closed door decision making?

During the work session Bob Cook told the Board that Article 5, Section 8 allowed for backroom discussions.

That section reads, in part: "Any action permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if the action is taken by all Board members entitled to vote on the action."

"I don't understand why there would be a need to have a meeting without going to the community, without explaining what you are doing?" Cook asked.

Board Director Conrad Meyer said that he thought that the language was only to be used in emergencies or catastrophic events.

"If there was an ice storm, and we needed to bring in plows," Meyers gave as an example.

Cook worried that the wording of the section provided an opportunity for abuse.

Cook a 14-year resident, said, "I've been here a long time and have seen a lot of boards and seen lot of controversy that has really been detrimental to community. Some future board could take

this . . . "

agreed with Meyer that he unforeseen and rare situa-President Steve Ritter thought it was included for

"In dealing with emergency (See "Bylaws," p. 21)



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Mom Nominates FirstHealth NICU Nurse for Award

remembers the situation well - a "sweet family" facing the possibility that their premature infant might also have a serious genetic disorder.

A nurse in the Clarke Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital for more than five years, Bowyer did her best to reassure the concerned mother, consoling her and assuring her that the NICU physicians and staff would see that her baby and her family got the help they needed.

"You could tell they needed extra emotional support," Bowyer says, "but they were so easy to give it to, because they were the nicest people."

Although testing confirmed the suspected diagnosis, the baby's mother rewarded Bowyer's kindness and professionalism by nominating her for the national NICU Heroes Award presented by Mead Johnson Nutrition and Hand to Hold, a national NICU family support nonprofit.

Bowyer did not win, but she did get a certificate noting her nomination as well as a copy of the grateful mother's nominating essay.

"I was so proud that someone took the time to sit down and write something about me," Bowyer says. "You really feel like you're doing your job."

If not for Bowyer's own

Jennifer Bowyer, R.N., NICU experience, her life might have taken a very different direction. She had always wanted to be a stayat-home wife and mother and had expected that was where she was headed until her son – the younger of her two children – spent time in the Clarke NICU 10 years ago.

Bowyer left the hospital after three weeks with a healthy baby and a new goal for her life.

"I remember that I had some awesome nurses who took time with me," she says. "I wanted to be that nurse."

When her son entered kindergarten, Bowyer set out to fulfill her goal by entering the nursing program at Sandhills Community College. She earned her associate degree in nursing and had a job in the NICU at Moore Regional within weeks of graduating.

She is now working on her bachelor's degree in nursing through Winston-Salem State University's on-site nursing program at Moore Regional.

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In her precious "spare time," she enjoys being with her family: husband Brandon; daughter Juliet, 15; and her own NICU "graduate," an active 10-year-old also called Brandon.

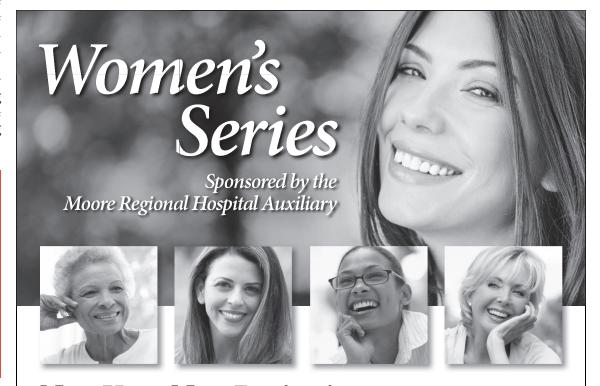
Bowyer is the daughter of Nick and Jan Picerno of McLendon HIlls.

She expects to spend her entire career in NICU nurs-

"This is where my heart is and what I'm passionate about," Bowyer says. "I love my job, and I love coming to work every day. I know I'm lucky to have a job I feel that way about. I can't imagine working anywhere else."



Jennifer Bowyer, RN



New Year, New Beginnings Tuesday, January 14, 5:30 p.m., Clara McLean House

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Wild Side **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014

The Wild Side

Neither buzzard nor turkey, the vulture waits

Moore County is home to a in which The Times will try wildlife you'd like to share, to do, without complaint and wide variety of interesting wildlife, which folks encounter on a country drive, or, sometimes, in the back yard. But most of us don't know much about those critters. This article begins an occasional series

to get us better acquainted with our furry and scaly neighbors, drawing on the knowledge of local biologists.

If there's a critter you'd like to know more about — or if you have a great shot of email us at mail@sevenlakestimes.net

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter

Respect your elders, respect your parents, but most of all respect the buzzard. My daddy took pains to explain the important role that buzzards played in the environment: they did the very job that no other creature wanted

with no thanks.

I once heard my Granny Edith fondly pay respects as we were driving down a sandy lane through the woods.

"Well, hello Mr. Buzzard, so sorry to interrupt your picnic," she said politely, as she slowed the car to a stop and patiently waited for the massive bird to spread his wings and gather enough strength to laboriously fly to

the nearest pine limb.

The great Southern writer William Faulkner greatly misunderstood the bird.

"If I were reincarnated, I'd want to come back a buzzard. Nothing hates him or envies him or wants him or needs him. He is never bothered or in danger and he can eat anything.'

Faulkner was wrong on all accounts. Like many South-(Continued on page 9)



Two vultures eye each other warily



Who you callin' "buzzard?" - A flock, or more properly, a "committee" of Eastern Turkey Vultures convene on a dead tree on a misty winter afternoon.





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Wild Side **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014

patiently to dispose of those less fortunate

erners, Faulkner incorrectly called the vulture a buzzard, which is a different species altogether. What distinguishes a vulture from a buzzard is that it doesn't have the heart to kill or maim. Its one act of aggression? If cornered, it will throw up on its attack-

Faulkner's impression that a vulture will eat anything is pure rot. In fact, the birds are actually picky, dining only on fresh carrion and turning up its beak at anything past the expiration date.

Just for being a buzzard, it has been made the target of ridicule and slingshots. But to assert that nobody needs a buzzard is Faulkner's most egregious error. The world desperately needs vultures. The vulture is the world's oldest, most-timely, and most efficient public works garbage service. Blessed with keen vision, superior olfactory sense, and a stomach of steel, it is a super bird. King of the bird's eye view, groups of vultures form "kettles," rising up to 20,000 feet on thermals. They can soar effortlessly for hours.

A pretty bird, the vulture is not. Much fun has been made of its features: straggly dull black feathers, narrow long face with crooked hooked beak, and receding and sparse feather line.

It' not a bird for aesthetics or etiquette, but is practical and sensible to a fault. On

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a searing hot day it will defecate on its own feet so the resulting evaporation will cool them off. The lack of the vulture to forgo bib or

napkin, instead plunging head first into its supper with gusto.

In flight, however, a vulture feathers on its head allow is a raw, ominous beauty. On a crisp clear icy day the

graceful spirals of black vultures connect the heavens to the mortal earth.

The feeble old coon dog, feeling frisky, chases a cottontail onto the roadway, straight into the path of a log truck. The all-seeing vulture gives thanks and breaks away from the kettle, forming the longest ray in the circle

9

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10 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014 **People**

The Year in Pictures

When we pause to take stock of the past, the places we've been, the folks we've seen, the things we've done, we're more apt to pull out the photo album than the diary.

We look for pictures, not words.

So, as we begin a new year, before the old one slips from memory, we'd like to share a few of our favorite images from 2013.

Happy New Year!



Lakes West Landowners Association's Joe Fellingham Award





Tinkie Petterson is Chapel in the Pines' Wedding Coordinator. The Chapel hosted its 155th wedding in early 2013



A bright day in early Spring brought the paddlers for the Charles E. Brady Paddle Challenge on Bear Creek



Students at Carthage Elementary received iPads, as MCS rolled out its 1:1 Digital Learning initiative



Laura Douglass was named SLLA Citizen of the Year at the Association's Annual Meeting.

Welcome, New Patients!

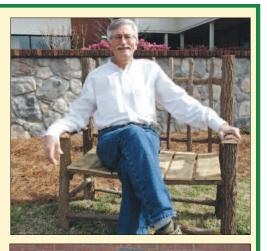
New in town? Ready for a change? We make it easy and affordable for new patients to become a part of our family.

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ONLY

Call Harriet or Christine @ 673-0113

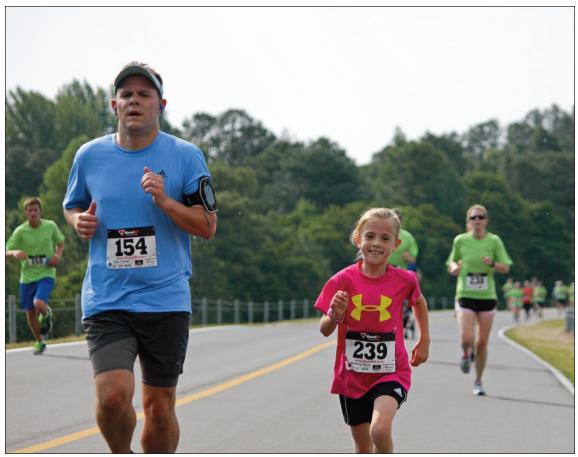






People January 10, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 11

The Year in Pictures



A beautiful day and a worthy cause brought together runners, walkers, cornhole tossers, BBQ lovers, friends, and family from Seven Lakes and beyond to offer strength for 22-year- old Laker Sienna Shute, who suffers from Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma [Tom Uhll photo.]



Kayleigh Wachter wins 4-H Horse show ribbons competing from Seven Lakes Stables



Lake Auman Fish stocking team – Don Smith, Jim Beck, Dan Pieroni, Charlie Finchum, Bruce Keyser and Dave Lamon



New Doctor in Seven Lakes!

"Your Body Tells You It's Wright"



Dr. Sharon A. Wright Doctor of Chiropractic

No Fee For Consultation • Bring your Insurance

673-Back(2225)

4317 Seven Lakes Plaza

Accepting New Patients!



This meditation-based program has been proven to help people with:

- Anxiety
- Compulsive Overeating
- High Stress Levels
- Recurrent Depression

- CancerChronic Pain
- FatigueHeart Disease
- High Blood Pressure Panic Attacks
- Skin DisordersSleep Disturbances

This is an eight-week program held on Mondays from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The program includes an initial individual assessment, group therapy, classroom materials, follow-up assessment and a one-day workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 5. Space is limited.

Medicare and most major insurance companies cover group sessions. Our admissions personnel will verify your health insurance coverage and discuss rates and payment options with you. Payment is expected at the time of service unless other arrangements have been made.

To register, please call (910) 715-5217.

Elizabeth Manley, MSN, R.N., C.S., Clinical Coordinator

FirstHealth OF THE CAROLINAS

www.firsthealth.org/behavioral

1239-10-1

12 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014 People

The Year in Pictures



Boys and Girls Club Member Mianne Elisibith Goforth cools down with some cold water at the Rick Rhyne Memorial Fishing Tournament



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



Matt Robeson transports his plane to the runway during an event sponsored by the Seven Lakes Aeromodelers Club



Hannah Williams serves up just-picked peaches at Kalawi Farms in Eagle Springs



WHAT IF YOU MISSED HER FIRST WORDS?



Hearing Aid Specialist/Owner Retired Veteran Lorraine Scantlin

Office Assistant

HEARING SOLUTIONS

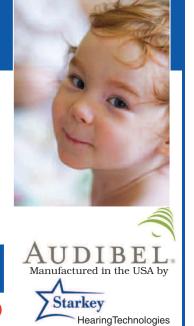
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People January 10, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 13

The Year in Pictures



Lake Auman Tournament organizer Don Smith's eightyear-old grandson caught a prize winning bass



The ladies of Culdee Presbyterian Church are the undisputed queens of the dumpling



A purple unicorn made an appearance at the Halloween party hosted by Seven Lakes Stables



David Widman is building a two-man submarine in the family garage in Seven Lakes North

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West End Presbyterian Church

A place to love, and a place to be loved A place of grace, for all ages



"Come and see" our worship in a loving and joyful atmosphere each Sunday at 11 a.m.

Larry Lyon, Pastor; Chip Pope, Associate Pastor Worship – 11 a.m. • Sunday School 10 a.m.

West End Presbyterian Church is located on Knox Lane 673-4341 in West End, one block west of Highway 211



Lilliya and Rianna enjoy plastering the walls of the Town Creek Lodge with Little River clay

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Gary C. Kunce Vice President

CONSUMER ALERT

The North Carolina Department of Insurance received a request from the North Carolina Rate Bureau for a statewide average rate increase in homeowner's insurance of 25.3 percent and an effective date for this increase of August 1, 2014.

To learn more about this, you can view the entire filing at http://pserff.ncdoi.net/pc.html and enter the Serff Tracking Number NCRI-129361028.

You can also send written comments via email to 2014homeowners@ncdoi.gov.

The complete notice offered to independent agents like FCIG from the IIANC (Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina) can be found posted on our facebook page by searching for "FCIG NC." This is an opportunity for your voice and comments to be heard.

14 Seven Lakes Times January 10, 2014 People

Meet SLCC GM & Head Pro Mike Floyd

Mike Floyd, the new General manager and Head Pro at Seven Lakes Country Club has big plans for improving all aspects of the Club's offerings and operations.

Floyd was born and raised in Florida and spent all of his summers in Linville Falls and Myrtle Beach with family.

His career in the hospitality industry began in 1977 at Walt Disney World, startingwith all aspects of Food and Beverage operations from the front and back of the house to management.

In 1985, Floyd changed career paths and begin to focus on golf and club operations. At Disney, he enrolled in the PGA Apprentice Program and was awarded Disney Employee of the Year. He took on many roles during his tenure with Disney and was involved in all facets of the company's 90-hole golf complex.

Some of the roles he held were Professional Golf Instructor, Tournament Coordinator, Assistant Manager, Senior Sales Manager, Marketing Director, Head Golf Professional, Events Manager, Budget Group Leader, Technology Director, and Media Director, including working with the PGA Tour event hosted annually at Disney World.

After 20 years with the Disney organization, Floyd became involved in the opening of the 45-hole Orange County National facility as Director of Sales & Marketing.

He later moved on to Linkstime.com, which provided technology to the golf industry. Floyd eventually began his own consulting business and managed several properties including The Grenelefe Golf Resort in Haines, FL, once home to the PGA Tour's Qualifying School.

He moved to Pinehurst and accepted the position of Executive Director for the Sandhills Golf Association. He later became General Manager of Longleaf Golf & Country Club. After several ownership changes, he had the opportunity to start working

with a local golf package business. He returned to the "hands on" aspect of the golf and club industry when he was asked to take on the role of General Manager at Whispering Woods Golf Course for Warrior Golf. During



Mike Floyd

Floyd's tenure he spearheaded the renovation plans at Whispering Woods and just this past summer completed the project.

When asked to comment on his new position at Seven Lakes Country Club he offered, "I am honored to become the new General Manager of Seven Lakes Country Club and will commit 110 percent of my effort to improve all areas of the club's operation."

He added, "My first area of focus will be on customer and guest services. This is the backbone of any customer oriented business. We also want to increase revenue opportunities, grow the game, direct membership development, package play, and local outings. We feel that our experience in the club business and expertise in technology and social media will be a huge benefit. There are a lot of business opportunities that need to be captured here and we should showcase our assets at Seven Lakes Country Club."

Floyd directed his closing remarks to the members of SLCC: "Thank you for affording me this opportunity to be of service to you! I look forward to working with the members at Seven Lakes and the Brown Golf Management team. I am well aware of their reputation as dynamic leaders in the golf and club industry and look forward to working with them as well."

As they say on Golf Now . . . Go Play!

Our new tag line should be Come Play!

Children's books needed for new reading corner

The Sandhills Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has recently started a Laundromat Reading Project to promote the love of reading and to provide availability of books.

The group has set up a small Reading Corner in a Carthage laundromat.

Children are invited to read while waiting and to

take a book home. It is so popular the AAUW is having difficulty keeping books on the shelves.

If you have books that your children or grandchildren have outgrown and would be willing to donate them for this endeavor, it would be greatly appreciated

Contact Alice Shaughnessy at 910-673-9193.



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News January 10, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 15

In memory of .

John Lewis Thompson, years and also golfed in many 95, of West End died Monday, January 6, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Thompson was born in York County, South Carolina son to the late John Leslie Thompson and Minnie Stowe Thompson.

He was a farmer and worked for Stanley Furniture Company as a security guard for many years. He was a member of West End Presbyterian Church. He will also be remembered for his devoted service to the West End Fire and Rescue Department where he was a founding member.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 9, at West End Presbyterian Church. The Dr. Larry Lyon officiated. Burial with military honors followed at West End Cemetery.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ellen Thompson and four sisters: Margaret Hackney, Emily Thompson, Mildred Sutphin, and Dorothy

Survivors include his daughter, Martha T. Mathews and husband Rick of Pinehurst; son, Andrew John Thompson and wife Ilene of Carthage; three grandchildren and several great-grandchil-

Memorial contributions be made to: West End Presbyterian Church, 275 Knox Lane, West End, NC 27376 or to the West End Fire & Rescue Department, PO Box 596, West End, NC 27376.

Blaise Edward McNair,

12, of Carthage, died Friday, January 3, with his family and friends at his home in Carthage.

A funeral service was held Sunday, January 5, at Middle Cross Baptist Church in West End. The Rev. David Reynolds officiated. Burial followed at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Blaise was a seventh grader at West Pine Middle School. He was an avid UNC fan and loved basketball, golf, football, baseball and all sports. He competed in the U.S. Kids golf tournament for several

Tin Whistle golf tournaments. He was preceded in death

by his paternal grandparents, Charles and Sadie McNair.

He is survived by his mother, Linda Mabe McNair, of

Carthage; father, Tony Charles McNair, of Rockingham; maternal grandparents, Richard and Geraldine Mabe, of West End; great-grandmother, Jeanette "Mammy" Needham, of Eagle Springs;

sisters, Kayla Darlene Matthews, of Seven Lakes, and Maggie Alison McNair, of Carthage; brother, Charlie McNair, of Southern Pines; his aunts and uncles and several cousins.

Memorial contributions be made to Team Blaise Foundation, PO Box 1031, West End, NC 27376.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the

Tutts' Grill at Seven Lakes country club COME OUT & JOIN US...PUBLIC ALWAYS WELCOME!

Seven Lakes Country Club is rolling out the red carpet for ya'll. Peter Tufts Grill is pleased to announce our new menu selections for 2014.

Cheese Quesadilla \$3.99

Cheddar & Monterey Jack cheese blend served with salsa & sour cream Add: Chicken \$2.99 or Steak \$3.59

Good Ole Fish-N-Chips (2 piece) \$7.99 (3 piece) \$8.99

Yuengling ™ beer battered cod strips lightly fried served with fries and coleslaw

Chicken Tenders-N-Fries \$7.99

Plain or Buffalo

Personal Flatbread Pizzas \$6.99

Plain or Pepperoni: red sauce, mozzarella cheese, pepperoni Add a topping \$.50 each: tomato, mushroom, green peppers, onions, bacon, chopped ham Caprese: Garlic & Olive Oil base, Mozzarella cheese, tomatoes, basil

1/2 Sandwich or Petite Salad w/Cup of Homemade Soup \$6.99

Chicken salad, Tuna salad, Egg salad, Ham, or Turkey

Salad Medley \$6.99 / Trio \$9.99 (all 3) Traditional house salad with choice of egg, chicken or tuna salad

Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad \$6.99

Grilled Chicken Breast on bed of Romaine with Caesar dressing

Chicken Cordon Bleu Wrap \$7.99

Crispy chicken tenders, ham, Swiss cheese & honey mustard in a grilled tortilla

Lakes Club \$7.99

Honey roasted Ham, oven roasted Turkey breast, bacon, American cheese, lettuce, tomato, mayo

Black Angus Cheeseburger* \$7.99 / Double Up* \$9.99

Served on a brioche roll with lettuce, tomato, onion & choice of cheese Add Bacon: \$.99 Add Mushrooms: \$.50

Nathans FamousTM Foot-long or **Hebrew NationalTM Hot Dog \$5.99**

YOUR CHOICE: chili, sauerkraut, onions, cheddar cheese, coleslaw on a Sesame Hot Dog Roll

Classic Reuben \$7.99

Corned Reef Sauerkraut Swiss cheese on Rye bread with 1000 Island

Traditional Philly Cheese Steak \$7.99

Thinly sliced rib eye steak, sautéed onions and peppers with melted Provolone Cheese

Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$7.99

Tender Grilled chicken Breast on a knot roll w/ lettuce tomato & your choice of cheese

Add: caramelized onions \$.50 **Bacon: \$.99**

All Sandwiches come with choice of side: (excluding ½ sandwiches with cup soup) Coleslaw, Homemade potato chips, Fries, Sweet Potato Fries

*Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of food borne illness, especially if you have a certain medical condition.

> NC State Sales Tax and 15% gratuity will be added to all orders

We invite you to experience fantastic menu choices, a wide variety of spirits, and the awesome scenic view overlooking the 18th green & fairway.

Plan your business meetings, girl's day out, or just hanging with good friends at the best restaurant in town. We want your business.

Open for Lunch 11am-3pm (Closed Sun & Thurs in January)) Bar Open 11am-5pm (with limited food selections 3pm-5pm) 124 Devonshire Ave, Seven Lakes, NC 27376 910-673.1092 | www.sevenlakescountryclub.com



What's When 16 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

- · Casual Friday at SLCC -Cocktails at 5:30 pm, Baked ziti with meat sauce buffet dinner at 5:30 pm. Call 673-1100 for details and reservations. Nonmembers welcome. Enjoyable dinner out, socializing with friends and neighbors, and the option of staying to play games afterward.
- · Sunflix at the Sunrise -7:30 pm, All is Lost, starring: Robert Redford. Tickets: \$7, available at the box office 30 minutes before showing. After a collision with a shipping container at sea, a resourceful sailor finds himself, despite all efforts to the contrary, staring his mortality in the face. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

to attend.

- **WEUMC Men's Breakfast** - 8 am, Men at West End United Methodist Church meet and enjoy a homecooked Breakfast and a time of fellowship. After breakfast, a brief devotional and the men discuss projects to assist both the church and the community. Any man of the church or our community is welcome
- Turkey Shoot Alec Creek Farm, Jackson Springs for a Turkey Shoot held every Saturday night at 7 pm, (weather permitting) through March 1. 12 Gauge Shot Guns only. Win a turkey, ham, slab of bacon or cash. Proceeds benefit Sandhills Animal Rescue League, who are dedicated to the rescue and rehab of stray and abandoned pets. Join the fun and support the animals. Alec Creek Farm, 396 Thomas Road, Jackson Springs. 910-974-4468 or 910-638-1921.
- Night of Bluegrass at the Sunrise - doors open at 6:30 pm, show at 7 pm. First to take the stage will be North Carolina born bluegrass crowd-pleasers, Ted Jones and the Tarheel Boys, hailing from Smithfield. Next on the billing is The Malpass Brothers. They are solid, old-school, retro country. They emulate the

styles of the greats like Hank Williams and Merle Haggard. Haggard heard them and liked them well enough that The Malpass Brothers began to open for him in 2008. Seating reserved. Tickets \$15. www.SunriseTheater.com or (910) 692-8501. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad St., Southern Pines.

SUNDAY JANUARY 12

Rosary at Our Lady of · Sunflix at the Sunrise the Americas

What's When Calendar

Church

-8:00 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.

- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church - 9:30 am. Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-3838.
- Road Scholar to Speak at Cape Fear Museum -2 pm, Dr. Roxanne Newton, Director of the Humanities and Fine Arts Division at Mitchell Community College, will present "Hard Times in the Mill: Working Lives Past and Present. Event is free and being held in conjunction with the museum's current special exhibit, The Photography of Lewis Hine: Exposing

Child Labor in North Carolina, 1908-1918. Exhibit, held over through February 2, shows and defines the working conditions of all ages of workers including children in textile mills. www.museumofthecapefear.ncdcr.gov and http://nchumanities.org/pr ograms/roadscholars/hard-times-millworking-lives-past-and-present or 910-486-1330.

2:30 & 7:30

pm, All is Lost, starring: Robert Redford. Tickets: \$7, available at the box office 30 minutes before show-

ing. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

- **EXPLORERS! A New Min**istry for Children at West **End United Methodist Church** – 5 pm, Explorers children meet on Sunday nights for school age kids, Grades K-5. Children will have a time of learning, crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth. Bring your children to join this exciting new children's ministry and explore God's Word through scripture, crafts, games and more.
- **WEUMC Youth Group** 6 to 7:30 pm, West End United Methodist Church Youth Group invites all youth to

join them as they meet each Sunday in the Youth Room at the church. Youth Ministry is led by Mandy Allen, Youth Coordinator and is open to all Youth in 6th – 12th grades. Enjoy fellowship, study and a meal with the youth each Sunday.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Group leader Armecia Medlock.
- Sunflix at the Sunrise -7:30 pm, All is Lost, starring: Robert Redford. Tickets: \$7, available at the box office 30 minutes before showing. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

· Behind the Veil: Life in Saudi Arabia - 10 am, Seven Lakes Baptist Church will be hosting Seven Laker Dora Lancaster as their speaker in the Fellowship Hall. Come and learn some little-known facts about Saudi Arabia from someone who lived and taught there for seventeen years. She will share

some arabian music, clothing, jewelry, pictures, and a few unusual articles will be part of her presentation. Everyone is welcome.

- Healing Service 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. Reverend Carol Burgess. All are welcome.
- Foxfire Village Council 7 pm, meeting at Foxfire Village Hall.
- Ruth Pauley Lecture Series - 7:30 pm, "Silent Too Long: What Southern Foods Would Tell Us If They Could Talk" will be the topic of Sandhills Community College's Ray Linville. Linville will discuss the influences of history and culture on the nutrition of the South and how they affect the region's public health. Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst. Admission is free and open to the public.

<u>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15</u>

· Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church -8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.



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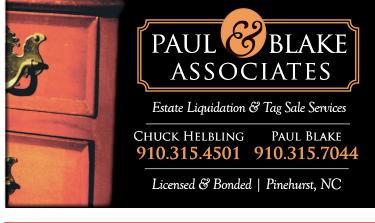
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- Rosary at Chapel in the Pines 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- Mayberry Bible Study 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead the focusing on Biblical Truth and everyday life applications based upon Andy Griffith's Mayberry. Bible Study meets in the WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

- Bread of Life Ministry West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship and devotion and a meal \$5.
- Gallery at Seven Lakes 1 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- Yellow Rockers Square Dance Club Open House

 7 pm to 8 pm, at the Moore County Senior Center. The group is looking for new members. Anyone with an interest in learning to square dance is invited to attend. For more information call Karen at 949-2001 or Jan at 215-9313.

<u>FRIDAY, JANUARY 17</u>

• Sunflix at the Sunrise – 7:30 pm, *Nebraska*, starring: Bruce Dern & Will Forte. Tickets: \$7, available at the box office 30 minutes before showing. Director

Alexander Payne (Sideways, The Descendants) takes the helm for this blackand-white road-trip drama starring Bruce Dern as a tempestuous Montana father who is convinced he's won a million-dollar magazine sweepstakes, and Will Forte as the son who begrudgingly agrees to drive him to Nebraska to claim his winnings. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611

<u>Saturday, January 18</u>

- Sunflix at the Sunrise 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *Nebraska*, starring: Bruce Dern & Will Forte. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- Turkey Shoot Alec Creek Farm, Jackson Springs for a Turkey Shoot held every Saturday night at 7 pm, (weather permitting) through March 1. 12 Gauge Shot Guns only. Win a turkey, ham, slab of bacon or cash. Proceeds benefit Sandhills Animal Rescue League. Join the fun and support the animals. Alec Creek Farm, 396 Thomas Road, Jackson Springs. 910-974-4468 or 910-638-1921.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 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. 673-3838.

Bingo Bash - 3 pm, Join SLCC members to watch the first of two football playoff games or to play bingo. Wings, quesadillas, chili and more can be ordered. Reservations are not required, but to help with planning call SLCC at 673-1100 by 3:30 pm Wednesday, January 15 to make your reservation. Admission to Bingo a \$5 wrapped gift. Non-members welcome.

- Sunflix at the Sunrise 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *Nebraska*, starring: Bruce Dern & Will Forte. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- The Rooster's Wife show at 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: The Farewell Drifters. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Weight Watchers Meeting

 5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary
 Magdalene Episcopal
 Church, 1145 Seven Lakes
 Drive, Seven Lakes. Group
 leader Armecia Medlock.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

• Healing Service – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.

<u>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22</u>

- Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- Rosary at Chapel in the Pines 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- Forgiveness Bible Study
 7 pm, Rev. Dr. Won
 Namkoong will begin a four
 week Wednesday evening
 Bible Study Class on Forgiveness at West End Unit-

ed Methodist Church. To register contact the office at 673-1371.

17

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

- Bread of Life Ministry West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship, devotion and a meal provided at \$5.
- 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
- Sunflix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *The Book Thief*. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.







18 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014 **Events**

FirstHealth offers discussion series for women

A new year traditionally is a time for new beginnings. The opportunity to start fresh gives people a sense of a "new beginning" and a chance to make a New Year's resolution.

Each year, top resolutions typically seem to include the desire to lose weight, quit smoking and to spend more time with family.

However, resolution statistics are bleak. According to StatisticsBleak.com, only 8 percent of people who

make New Year's resolutions stick to them, and those who don't usually abandon them after just one week. Also, men are more successful at keeping resolutions than women

Well, women, it's time for that to change.

FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital is hosting a Women's Series to offer health and lifestyle advice to local women. The January session is appropriately titled, "New

Year, New Beginnings." This session will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Clara McLean House in Pinehurst.

The panel-style discussion will be led by a moderator, and feature advice and helpful tips on topics such as losing weight, eating healthy, quitting tobacco and starting a new family.

"The new year is an exciting time to evaluate changes you want to make in your life,"

says Kari Garbark, program manager at the Center for Health & Fitness – Pinehurst. "Getting healthy is usually among the top three most common resolutions. We will teach you how to incorporate physical activity and proper nutrition into your daily lifestyle by creating a healthy new routine."

The event is one of five monthly educational sessions designed just for women and sponsored by the Moore

Regional Hospital Auxiliary. Sessions include:

Know Your Numbers: Tuesday, Feb. 11, 5:30 p.m. Spring Cleaning: Thursday,

March 13, 5:30 p.m.

Back in the Game: Tuesday, April 8, 5:30 p.m.

The series is free and open to the public. Each session will be held at the Clara McLean House, 20 FirstVillage Drive, Pinehurst. For more information, or to register, call (800)213-3284.

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129 HARRELL RD • 7LW SOLD! BED + DEN, SPACIOUS, GREAT VIEWS! -\$429,000

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3/2 ON .8 ACRE - \$175,000 **106 SIMMONS + 7LW**





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PRIME WATERFRONT LOTS FROM \$350K! INTERIOR AND GOLF FRONT FROM \$20K! **NEWS** January 10, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 19

It's time for (gluten free?) Girl Scout Cookies

Local Girl Scouts will begin test market for the cookies selling Girl Scout cookies door-to-door Saturday, January 4, as part of the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Watch for cookie booths at Seven Lakes Food Lion and Greenbow's Restaurant after January 24.

A new cookie available this year is the program's first gluten free treat, a bite size Chocolate Chip Shortbread

"When customers purchase a box of Girl Scout Cookies, they are supporting a program helping girls grow into leaders in their own life, in business, and in their communities," said Lisa Jones, chief executive officer of Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines.

"We are very excited for this year's sale and pleased to be one of the councils offering the new gluten free cookie.'

Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines is one of 20 councils that will serve as a that retail for \$5 per package.

This pilot has been developed in response to volunteers, girls and consumers who have asked for a gluten free Girl Scout cookie.

Available in a five-ounce. resealable foil pouch, these cookies have no artificial colors, no artificial flavors, no high fructose corn syrup, no palm oil and no hydrogenated

In addition to the gluten free cookie, the sale brings with it another new cookie – a Cranberry Citrus Crisp. This whole grain crispy cookie has cranberry bits and a tangy citrus flavor.

The long-time favorites of the program include Thin Mints, Peanut Butter Patties, Peanut Butter Sandwiches, Shortbread, Thanks-A-Lots, Caramel deLites and Lemonades. The price for each box of these cookie varieties is year of sending cookies to military troops through Operation Cookie Drop.

To date, customer donations have purchased more than 600,000 boxes of cookies for men and women in uniform serving overseas. Those who do not wish to purchase cookies for their own consumption still can assist Girl Scouts by making a purchase and donating the cookies for campaign.

Everything girls do in Girl Scouting is designed to help them grow into women of courage, confidence and character.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-run business in the world and teaches girls essential skills to succeed personally and professionally, including goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics.

These five skills are important ingredients in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.



Emma Elliott and Amy Bumgarner of Girl Scout Brownie Troop 733 man the cookie table.

Now Accepting Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines is in its tenth **New Patients**

Helen Mantila, M.D.

Dr. Mantila is board certified in Family Medicine and speaks English and Vietnamese. She takes pride in being a family doctor and having the privilege of providing health care to the entire family. Dr. Mantila, her husband and their three children make their home in Seven Lakes.

"I love being a part of this community," she says, "and I look forward to working with the families here on their health and wellness."



FirstHealth Family Care Center-Seven Lakes

1035-C Seven Lakes Drive • West End, NC 27376 • (910) 673-0045 Clinic hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Friday 8 a.m.-noon





Local Cookie Contacts

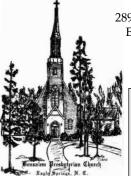
Ready to order some cookies? Here are the local Girl Scout leaders to call or email:

- · Brownie Girl Scout Troop 733 - Contact Sandra Bumgarner at 910-673-
- · Daisy & Brownie Girl Scout Troop 759 - Contact Meghan Cormier at 910-624-0033
- Junior Girl Scout Troop

893 - Contact DJ Waters at gstroop893@gmail.com

- Cadette Girl Scout Troop 1301 – Contact Laura Douglass at 673-1817 Senior & Ambassador Girl
- Scout Troop 820 Contact Amanda Keller at avackeller@hotmail.com
- Senior & Ambassador Girl Scout Troop 911 - Contact Lisa Quinlan at asklisaq@yahoo.com

Bensalem Presbyterian Church



2891 Bensalem Church Road Eagle Springs, NC 27242 910-673-1982

PLEASE JOIN US ON SUNDAYS! 9:30 Fellowship/Breakfast

10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service Nursery & Children's Church Available

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From Hwy 211 in Eagle Springs, turn onto Hwy 705 then left onto Bensalem Church Road

20 Seven Lakes Times January 10, 2014 NEWS

Stites

(Continued from page 5)

Construction went on the market, they immediately recognized the potential. They knew it was well-built, but also recognized that the design was somewhat dated and lacked the flow they wanted. Significant remodeling was in the cards for Chad and Shannon.

But for Will and Alyson, the move meant plenty of trees, water, and their grandparents only a short boat or car ride away.

Shannon has made the task of remodeling an interactive project, posting updates of their progress in before and after photos on Facebook. Refinishing floors, rebuilding walls, and bright new colors mix with holiday celebrations and missing baby teeth on her Facebook wall.

Working with the original footprint, Chad created an open floor plan that would allow them more living space and room to entertain.

With Shannon's busy schedule she has little time for hobbies, but she does make time for friends.

"One of the things I really enjoy is entertaining," she said. "I like to prepare new and different recipes and have people over."

The Stites purchased their home in September and immediately made plans to host Thanksgiving for family and friends.

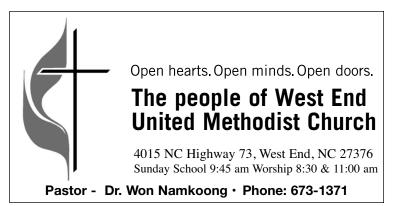
"There are still ongoing projects, but the majority had to be finished before Thanksgiving," Chad explained. "We had a family reunion, and we had to have the pantry, living, and guest areas finished."

Shannon laughed, "Two days before everyone arrived, we were cleaning up construction dust and installing the island. It was down to the wire to make it acceptable for guests and suitable for a Thanksgiving dinner. The somewhat unrealistic deadline gave us something to work towards, and it was very rewarding to be able to share it as soon as it was done."

Their new neighborhood



Taking things apart the right way can sometimes require a little innovative thinking.



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has a fun, youthful vibe where neighbors pitch in to help one another.

"We were moving in and friends were helping, from blowing straw off the roof to washing windows, cleaning, and sorting the garage and basement," Chad said. "I have a good friend up the street who was a huge help; we wouldn't have made our deadline without him."

During construction, Shannon and Chad have teamed up to problem solve. When removing the old fixtures over the counter Shannon suggest putting the glass sconce in a plastic bag and then in a pillow case, taking a hammer to gently break the glass, and placing the plastic bag of broken glass in the garbage can.

"It worked great," Chad

Shannon pointed out that she would have rather him waited to try the experiment until after she had finished making the cheese cake.

"I try to be mindful that there is a balance to make the overall use of the home user friendly, while being conservative. I don't like to waste," Chad said.

There is no gutting and dumping. If there is something Chad can't use, he is careful to keep it intact for someone else.

(See "Stites," p. 21)



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NEWS January 10, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 21

Bylaws

(Continued from page 6)

and time sensitive situations that would allow the Board to take that kind of action," Ritter said.

But Board Members shared Cook's concerns that the section in question lacked clarity and required edits.

Original Commitments

Cooks also raised questions regarding the capital fund set aside for road and dam maintenance.

"In [Article 3] Section 3 Assessments, it allows the Board to touch the roads and dams fund and only requires 75% of board approval," Cook said.

"This fund was set up through an annual meeting," Cook said, reminding the Board of its history. "The community had the opportunity to vote, saying whether they would set aside these funds or not." And that original purpose was restricted to road maintenance and state-mandated dam repairs.

Director Bob Racine agreed with Cook. "It was mandated to go for two specific pur-

poses. I don't know why we would want to touch that fund." Racine said.

After discussion the Board agreed the new wording was most likely included in case of a catastrophic event.

"I am trying to think for a reason why the attorney thought this would need to be there as a catch all," Board President Steve Ritter asked, "if it was to allow the board to access those funds to solve some catastrophic event in the community?"

The Board agreed if there

was such an event then the community could vote on the transfer of the funds.

Director Meyers recommended: "Strike that. I believe it should be the community that would vote on it and that it is a restricted fund. I would strike that whole seventy-five percent clause. It shouldn't be available for any other purpose."

In other discussion. Director Racine raised questions about the section dealing with the Architectural Review Board and its duties.

The bylaws draft was made available to all residents. SLLA Manager Ray Sohl said that a copy with the requested edits would be sent to Board Members within a few days and made available to the public ten days prior to the January public meeting, a requirement of the current bylaws.

The Board voted 4 to 1 to move it to the Open Meeting, with Racine opposed. Board Director Chuck Leach was not in attendance.

Stites

(Continued from page 20)

"If it is something someone can use, I take it and set it to the side at the dump," Chad said. Seventy-five percent of the time, someone has already claimed it before I have left."

Given his woodworking background, Chad has done a considerably classier than average remodel. From the beaded door casings to wainscoting, the house is finished with classic craftsmanship and architectural details that are often absent in modern construction.

Both Shannon and Chad and instawanted the home to be comfortable, warm, and reflect in closet.

their style.

"We wanted make it a little funky with a unique touch," Shannon said. The finished product, "all most finished," is a house to grow up in.

The ceilings in Will's and Alyson's rooms are painted the colors of their choice: Bright, clean colors to dream, float, and swim in. Shannon liked Alyson's color choice so much she brought it into the laundry room. Open the doors, and a burst of subtle turquois brightens wash days.

What is left to do? Finish and install the upper kitchen cabinets and Shannon's walk in closet.

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If Chad could go back and start over, "I would finish her closet first."

A peak into another closet, shelving mitered perfectly, finished edges, carefully stained and braced to hold the weight, is proof of what is to come.

Taking the joys of life's journey in stride, the Stites are happy to end their busy

day with gratitude, watching the sunset over the lake in a home with a view.



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Pilates Mix-

60 minute Pilates based class that incorporates small apparatus such as foam rollers, balls, and bands to lengthen and strengthen the body and core muscles.

Gentle on the Joints Body Sculpt-

45 minute chair and standing full body strength and flexibility weight training class for individuals who prefer not getting up & down off the floor.

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Wednesday

Time Class
10:00 a.m. Vitality Practice
5:30 p.m. Body Sculpt

Thursday

<u>Time</u> <u>Class</u> 10:00 a.m. Pilates Mix

Friday

Time Class
10:00 a.m. Yoga Fusion
8:30 a.m Body Sculpt

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Bobbie Felder LMBT NC 1573 Chrissy Excell LMBT NC 2032 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014

OPINION

Time to stop hunting deer with dogs

Taking a peaceful, early called the Sheriff's Office and morning walk with my two dogs, we were all startled when we heard howling sounds coming from several directions — hunting dogs in hot pursuit of a small deer, clearly petrified, being chased into traffic on Longleaf Drive.

My dogs jerked the leashes, damaging my shoulder as I tried to keep them calm. So I rushed to get them home and grab my keys to the car.

After securing my dogs, I took off and found one hound being held by workers at a house under construction.

Last year, I was told by the Moore County Sheriff's Office that, in order to take action, I would have to contain the dog, so the owner could be identified. This dog had two collars: one regular collar and one with a GPS unit affixed.

I put the leash on the dog,

Animal Control. The Sheriff's deputy was quick to arrive, and called the dog's owner, who was was in the Seven Lakes area rounding up three other dogs that were running property, which is why they through the com-

Your Turn Ann Wooten Kunce Seven Lakes West

munity chasing deer.

A Moore County Animal Control officer told me that some deer hunters starve the dogs for days — sometimes weeks — to make them very hungry, and then set the dogs out to chase the deer from wooded areas back to the hunters where they simply pull the trigger — "boom."

Officer arrived and took possession of the dog until the owner could re-claim it, he proceeded to tell me of all the damage deer inflict on need to be hunt-

As I stood there pointing out the abuse this poor dog was enduring, with cuts, lacerations.

rib cage protruding, and more, the Animal Control Officer proudly stated that this little guy was lucky to have the owner he did, since he was wearing a \$1,000 GPS unit. So his owner was concerned to be able to locate him. Really?

The physical abuse this dog was enduring, in this overshadowed by the impressive \$1,000 GPS collar. He said that I ought to be glad the dog looked as good as his did, since he had seen a lot worse. Again, Really?

Most states have outlawed the use of hunting dogs with only a few still allowing such a barbaric "tradition."

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia are some of the states that still allow hunting white tail deer with dogs.

Individual counties can ban the practice; and for example, Alabama, with its 67 counties, 35 have banned the use of dogs for hunting these

I don't blame the dogs... just the irresponsible owners and the practice of using hunting dogs.

Please contact your elected ly?"

When an Animal Control officer's mind, officer was representatives and voice your concerns. I'm not against hunting for food, but I am against the use of hunting dogs — especially when they seem to be constant trespassers in residential communities, posing a threat to the health and safety of our residents and pets. I am against the abuse these poor hunting dogs endure at the hands of their owners.

> As one reflects on 2013, and all the horror and pain people inflict on one another bombs, terrorism, intentionally set fires intentionally ravishing thousands of acres, our abuse of the environment. pollution, crime, and more.

> . . I had to pause for a moment when the Animal Control Officer reiterated that the white tail deer are destroying our environment.

Again, I must say "Real-

Kudos for the SLLA Board of Directors

Dear Editor:

Seven Lakes North and South residents owe a huge debt of gratitude to recent Board of Director members. They have diligently worked to establish an organization that is competently managed.

There has not been much public discussion recently regarding the problems that this community faced from previous ineffective management. Without the hard work and vision established by recent Boards coupled with

support from the community, Seven Lakes was headed down a road of near destruction as our infrastructure crumbled.

Your last edition of The Seven Lakes Times noted that Conrad Meyer would not be seeking re-election when his current term expires.

Of all of the recent Board Members that deserve our heartfelt appreciation, no one deserves it more than Conrad Meyer. His office of Treasurer was in capable hands for sure, and, his leadership qualities and measured effectiveness were outstanding. He brought to the Board of Directors a great deal of professional experience and coupled that with intelligence and reasoned implementation of ideas to systematically change and fix a very broken operation.

While Conrad will not, nor should he, take full credit for now having a system that works and a community that is on a solid path, he stands tall at the head of the class of those that deserve credit.

Thank you Conrad Meyer for the service you have given

this community. You will be missed, but, you have broken ground that will allow others to serve in your footsteps on a much easier path. Well Done, Conrad, Well Done!

> D. Alan Shaw Seven Lakes South



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welcome!

The Times welcomes letters from our readers, and we print most all we receive. You will

need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached. We prefer letters that are concise and to the point; please make your case in 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters.

We prefer to receive letters via email at mail@sevenlakestimes.net, but we also accept letters delivered by the US Postal Service, or left in our drop box at 1107 Seven Lakes Drive, the Executive Center.

January 10, 2014 **Opinion Seven Lakes Times** 23

Too much advice, too little real information

or ought to be served — with a little side dish of statistics.

Our Christmas and New Year's holidays at the Hankins household were filled with gift-giving, pie-baking, music-making, and plenty of dinner table conviviality.

Flu and cold were also represented, but that was somewhat offset by the presence of two new baby kittens.

We also had some conversation surrounding The China Study, a book recently given new prominence through an endorsement by former President Bill Clinton, who has reportedly taken the book's advocacy of a vegan diet to heart and lost a good bit of weight as a

Vegans, in case you haven't already discovered this, take vegetarianism to the next level, dropping eggs and dairy products from their diet, as well as meat and fish.

The premise of the book is pretty simple: animal protein - meat, milk, cheeses, eggs, etc. — is a chief cause of the primary diseases that kill well-fed Westerners: heart disease and cancer. The author, a scientist specializing in nutrition studies, doesn't

Good advice is served — stop there, but links the consumption of animal-based foods to a host of other ailments as well.

> In the midst of hashing that over around the family dinner table, up comes a neat column in the New York Times written by a woman

she found it, too, linked to hypothyroidism.

What's a body to do?

What's missing in all these revelations and recommendations is a sense of proportion — in other words, statistics.

It's useless to know that fluoride con-

> sumption is linked to hypothyroidism unless you know how strong that link is.

In other words, how

closely does the one correlate with the other? Is that correlation statistically significant? Is there a plausible explanation of how one thing might actually cause the other, as opposed to being simply a coincidence?

Those are the kinds of questions that simple statistical tests can help us answer.

Unfortunately, neither our doctors or the bewildering array of diet and health gurus who populate our magazines and bookstore shelves spend much time trifling with statistics. They're more in the business of broad sweeping prescriptions.

And statistics is one of those chapters in the high school math curriculum that tends to be forgotten soon after the end-of-grade test.

Fortunately, you don't have to be a math whiz to ask the right questions. The next time someone tells you that eating pickled beets has been linked to cancer of the left big toe, before you scratch the beets off your grocery list, stop and ask them "How closely linked? What's your source for that?"

If they don't have an answer, I wouldn't worry about eating the beets. If they do have an answer, check out the source for yourself, and see if it really makes sense.

As for what you eat, I'll leave that up to you. Human beings have, as far as we know, always been omnivores, eating a little bit of pretty much everything: fruits, nuts, grains, green leafy things, roots and tubers, meat and fowl and fish. Eating a little bit of pretty much everything, when you boil it down, is likely to be a pretty

safe strategy.

We humans have also pretty much always had folks trying to improve on that strategy, by dropping meat or dairy or starches or sugars or whatever. But the more things your leave out of the standard omnivorous human diet, the more likely you are to create some kind of deficiency that has health consequences. That doesn't mean you shouldn't try a vegan or paleo, or Atkins, or South Beach, or grapefruit — diet. But it does mean you should educate yourself about which nutrients you are leaving out and how you are going to replace them.

As for me, I'm not big on reading statistics about the food I eat; I'd rather garden or play the accordion. So I try to follow the advice of food writer Michael Pollan. who boils decades of nutritional advice into three simple rules:

- 1. Eat Food (not junk or fast food).
- 2. Not too much.
- 3. Mostly plants.

That's a safe strategy for an omnivore, in my book. Bon appétit!



bewildered by contradictory advice on nutrition. Living a vegan lifestyle, eating lots of fresh green vegetables of all sorts, she developed hypothyroidism, and heard from her doctor that all that leafy green stuff was likely the cause.

Visiting the dentist, she suddenly had the first cavities of her life, and heard that her practice of drinking water with fresh lemon, along with her all-natural toothpaste sans fluoride might be to blame.

But, researching fluoride,

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24 **Seven Lakes Times** January 10, 2014 Letters

Pruning workshop offered

When you live in the Sand- flowering trees and shrubs hills the months of January and February are ideal for pruning trees and shrubs to get them ready for Spring.

The Sandhills Horticultural Society will present one of its most popular programs when Moore County Extension Agent Taylor Williams conducts a workshop and demonstration on how to correctly prune and shape broadleaf evergreens; prune

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for Children

A New Ministry

West End United

Methodist Church is start-

ing a new children's min-

istry on Sunday, January

The Explorers children's

meetings will be held on

Sunday nights for school

age kids, Grades K-5, at

5 pm each Sunday

evening. They will have a time of learning, then crafts

and activities before eating

dinner with the youth.

Bring your children to join

this exciting new children's

ministry and explore God's

Word through scripture,

crafts, games and more.

such as crape myrtles and crabapples to enhance their appearance; and prune fruit trees for maximum yield and

Learn the basics, then go outside for a hands-on demonstration. This free workshop will be held at the

Sandhills Community College Horticultural Gardens, Ball Visitors Center from 10 am until noon on Saturday, January 25.

Contact Tricia Mabe at (910) 695-38892 to make a reservation

Space is limited, so call soon.

Talking with parents about aging issues

During the holidays many people realize that a senior family member needs more help. This is often a difficult situation.

Family members may not be sure how to offer assistance without insulting the person with declining abil-

Elders are reluctant to ask their busy family members for more help. Family members may not agree with plans. In this aging workshop the group will discuss what you can do, how you can start, and how to work as a team with parents and other family mem-

The workshop Talking with Your Parents about Aging Issues will be held on January 21, 6 pm to 7 pm. For more information and to register call Barbara Stender at 673-2230 or Sandhills Memory Care at 673-2045.

Your chance to make a difference!

Seven Lakes Community:

Are you interested in how your \$1,000 Annual Dues are being spent or in becoming involved in how the Seven Landowners Association's \$1.5 million budget is being spent?

There are less than three weeks to sign up to be a candidate for the Board of Directors

We have three openings and only two candidates . . . so this is your last chance to get involved.

Please contact the SLLA office at 673-4931 for information and assistance if you are interested.

> Thank you, Bob Racine, Chairman Nomination Committee

Thanks!

Dear Seven Lakes Community,

I would like to thank everyone for your support and prayers, plus the many cards, letters, flowers and gifts that I received during and after my recent hospitalization and surgery.

My heartfelt thanks goes

out to each and everyone of you. My family and I are eternally grateful and are privileged to know each of

We wish you a Healthy and Happy New Year.

> Mary Farley Seven Lakes North



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Hours 2:30pm-6:00pm. Teacher Work Days 7:30am-6:00pm

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Behind the Veil: Life in Saudi Arabia

Seven Lakes Baptist Church will host Seven Laker Dora Lancaster as their speaker on Tuesday, January 14 at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Come and learn some little-known facts about Saudi Arabia from someone who lived and taught there for seventeen years.

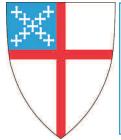
She will share some arabian music, clothing, jewelry, pictures, and a few unusual articles will be part of her presentation. Lancaster will share her experiences of living in the desert kingdom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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Holy Communion - 9:30 am Children's Chapel - 9:45 am

Tuesday Mornings

& Healing Service - 11:00 am

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News January 10, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 25

Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

his committee was skeptical of the guarantee, but would do additional research prior to the Board's next meeting.

The Commissioners approved two contracts related to the installation of twelve additional fire sprinkler system shut-off valves in the detention center: one contract for the valves themselves, at a cost of \$18,000, and another contract for associated wiring and programming, at a cost of \$4,500.

Property Management Director Bobby Lake explained that the additional shut-offs will make it easier for detention center personnel to disable the sprinkler system if it is activated through inmate tampering.

The Board also approved a \$4,800 contract with Carolina Glass for the installation of a store-front-type door in the corridor of the magistrate's area in the new public safety center. The magistrate's office is open twenty-four hours a day, and the door is needed to prevent late night public access to other parts of the building.

County Manager Vest told the Commissioners that the magistrates have asked to have the windows in their area of the building resized. Quotes are being obtained.

date had been set for installation of a uninterruptible power supply for the facility to replace the defective unit initially installed.

Funding for all the improvements approved, as well as the property purchases, will be paid for from funds not yet expended in the construction of the Rhyne Center.

Courthouse improvements requested

Maureen Horansky of Pinehurst addressed the Commissioners during the Public Comment segment of the meeting, recounting her experience attempting to attend the hearing on an animal cruelty case, as well as the experience of others involved or interested in the same

Horansky said the absence of a working water fountain and benches on the second floor of the courthouse meant that two veterinarians scheduled to testify in the trial had to stand for four hours without water, waiting to be called by the bailiff.

She said the absence of convenient elevator access meant that older citizens, and those with health or mobility problems, had to climb three flights of stairs to access the courtroom.

Horansky asked the Board Vest also reported that a to consider remedying some

of these inconveniences, given that the construction of a new courthouse appears unlikely in the near term.

During the Commissioner Comments segment of the meeting, Commissioner Jimmy Melton asked that the Facilities Task Force explore what could be done to address Horansky's concerns

Clean Audit Returned

Marcy Spivey, representing the Accounting Firm Martin Starnes & Associates provided the Commissioners with an overview of Fiscal Year 2013 financial results, as well as the results of the company's

audit of the County's financial records.

The audit produced an "unmodified opinion," which Spivey explained is the new term used for what used to be called a "clean audit." She praised the work of the County's Finance Office.

The County's General Fund revenues totaled \$87.7 million in FY2013, Spivey said, up from \$85.3 million the previous year, an increase of \$2.4 million. But expenses rose only \$150,000 during the same period.

As calculated according to state guidelines, the County has \$23.6 million in available

(See "Commissioners," p. 26)

History of Aberdeen

The Moore County Historical Association is sponsoring a free talk on Sunday, January 26 at 2 pm about a new book of historical photographs just published about the small town of Aberdeen. The author is Robbie Farrell, a third generation Aberdeen resident. member of the elected Town Board of Commissioners and civic leader.

Farrell's talk will be at the Bethesda Presbyterian Church on U.S. 1 in Aberdeen. He is the author of the latest in a series of pictorial historic books under the "Images of America" series published by Arcadia.

For more information call (910) 692-2051.

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Feeling Good is the Fun of It!

Cos Barnes speaks at January Lunch Bunch

All single seniors are invited to attend the Seven Lakes Lunch Bunch at Chapel in the Pines, Joralemon Hall on Wednesday, January 22 at noon. There is no cost. Reservations appreciated. Transportation provided if needed.

Following lunch, a program will be presented by Cos Barnes.

Barnes is a native of Martinsville, Virginia, where she graduated from high school and attended Westhampton College of the University of Richmond, Vir-

ginia. She holds an associate degree in journalism from Sandhills Community College and enjoys freelance writing and writes for the local Pinestraw magazine. She has been a resident of Southern Pines for 43 years. Her late husband, Harry Barnes, ran Stanley Furniture Company in West End for 21 years. She is the mother of three and grandmother of eight.

To make a reservation for lunch or transportation please call the Chapel office at 673-2156.

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 25) fund balance.

Sixty-four percent of County revenues are derived from property taxes, with sales taxes accounting for sixteen percent.

On the spending side, Spivey calculated that thirty-seven percent of County spending goes for education. But Commissioner Nick Picerno noted that roughly \$10 million in County spending is non-discretionary. Leaving that aside, Picerno said, "our commitment to education is a lot higher than thirty-seven percent."

Other business

In other business during the Board of Commissioners' Monday, January 7 regular meeting, the Board:

• Approved a \$749,000 contract for a Home and Community Care Block grant that helps pay for the Aging Department's In-Home Aide, Nutrition, Transportation, and Information and Referral programs, as well as Senior Center Opera-

Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

Seven Lakes Kiwanis will hold their 31st Annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, February 8 from 7 am to 11 am, at West End Elementary School.

Breakfast will include pancakes, sausages, orange juice, coffee and tea. Take-outs will be available. There will also be an opportunity to win a 42" flat screen TV.

Tickets for the breakfast are only \$8 and are available from any Kiwanis member or at the WEE office, Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe, Quality Care Pharmacy, Sandhills Winery, Lakeside Barber Shop or at the door.

Money raised by the Kiwanis Club will be donated to children's charities in Moore County.

- tions. An \$83,000 local match is required.
- Approved a revision to the County's pay plan, creating a category for Master Control Room Operators to work in the control units of the new detention center. Human Resources Director Denise Brook explained that the position required technical skills but not the law enforcement certifications required for officers who work directly with inmates. Salary range for the new position is \$27,291 to \$42,696.
- Voted to permit the County's Planning and Community Development Department to submit an application the the NC Housing Finance Agency for a \$100,000 grant for

- the FY2014 county program that helps make needed repairs to the homes of low-income, dis-
- Awarded a \$150,000 contract to Compendium Contracting for the construction of a EMS housing unit and garage at the County's new fire and EMS substation on Carthage-Glendon Road.
- Awarded a \$68,000 annual contract for obstetric and family planning services at the Health Department to the Southern Pines Women's Health Center.
- Re-appointed Dr. Tim Boyte to the Board of Health.
- Appointed Chief Deputy Sheriff Jerrell Seawell and Billy Marts to serve on the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

abled, elderly citizens.



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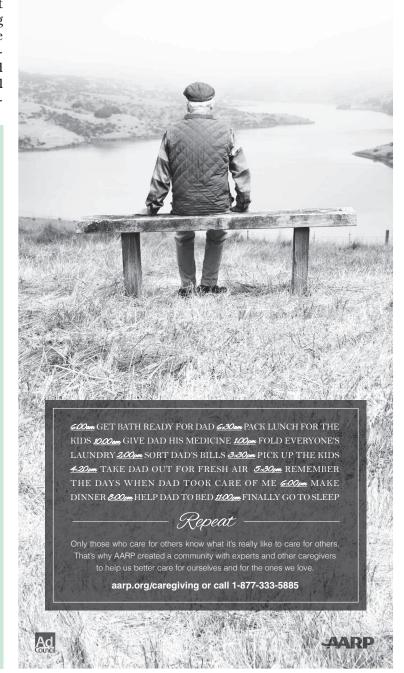
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143 Otter Dr. Lot #4171 \$25,000 Pebble Drive SL West, Seasonal Lake View Call Norma

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Schools January 10, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 27

Schools

(Continued from page 3)

After a Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday night, January 7, Saunders told *The Times* that he expected actual costs to come in on the lower end of the range presented and hoped that, ultimately, the price tag might drop below \$100 million.

Saunders said it is important for the School Board and Commissioners to work together closely in crafting the final package, so that it has the full support of both Boards when it comes before the voters.

Defining the "Concept"

Perhaps as important as determining the final size of the bond issue is defining exactly what will be taught at the new "concept" high school — which Task Force members clearly saw as the centerpiece of any facilities master plan.

"In the people who have talked to me about this," Saunders said, "the most excitement I have heard is the concept high school and the early college. 'Is that high school going to be an early college? I want that. I am excited about that.' That's the feedback I am getting. Ninety percent of the of the positive comments I have gotten have been about that."

"The most exciting idea to me is the concept high school," retired architect Howard Warren said. "The concept high school brings in a whole new program."

Neither the Task Force members nor the MCS staff

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members in attendance seemed entirely in agreement about what that new program might be.

Deputy Superintendent Marc Bergin described the new high school as an early college program, where "students could come for anywhere in the county could come and get a diploma plus an associates degree," adding that "staff has not talked about this as a half-day technical program."

But Upchurch cautioned that "If you have a school that is going to serve a four or five year program, and the students will only be associated with that school, then we might have underestimated the cost factor," noting that gyms and other facilities might be needed."

He clearly saw the "concept" high school as one to which students come from their home schools in order to receive specific training, whether for the full day or for a half day.

Upchurch also cast some doubt that an "early college" program alone could attract 800 students out of the 4,500 total students in the MCS system.

The idea that seemed to gain the most traction was to combine and early college program for some students with high tech training for others.

"You could have early col-

lege students who stay there all day, but you could have other programs that students rotate in and out of," Upchurch said.

Bergin agreed, noting that the facility would have a cafeteria, but not the auditoriums, gymnasiums, and stadiums of a traditional high school.

"It would be mostly classrooms," he said. "It needs to be flexible, because programs might change in a few years."

What the concept high school is not, Upchurch made clear, is something that could later be expanded to a fourth, full-sized high school that would be equipped the expected facilities.

Dropping that idea allowed the staff to cut costs estimates for the school nearly half, lowering the overall cost of the package.

Final thoughts

Wrapping up their January 6 meeting, several members of the task force reflected on concerns raised during the process, but not part of the panel's formal mission.

Noting that a likely site for one new Area III elementary school is on MCS-owned land adjacent to Southern Middle School, Robert Farrell said that the main access road to that campus, Johnson Street, is not equipped to handle additional traffic. Farrell also recommended a turn lane at Union Pines High School.

Reflecting on the County's last school bond issue, Pamela Thompson said she felt it passed with a large approval margin in part because it offered something to every part of the County. The new facilities recommendation, taken as a whole, also offer something to every section of the County, she said.

Dorothy Brower and Jeff Moody both expressed concern that the school buildings being decommissioned should be offered for use by the communities in which they are situated. Brower noted that state law requires the buildings be sold for fair market value rather than simply donated. "But I hope all the communities from Robbins to Aberdeen will be able to experience the use of these buildings."

Hayter alluded to "a mechanism that will allow the passing on of ownership," but did not elaborate.

The inability of MCS or Moore County to donate the former Academy Heights Elementary School for use by the Town of Taylortown has been a longstanding problem.

Education linked to economic growth

Chairman Corso, who arrived late to the meeting after a strategic planning session in Raleigh, said a concern with providing high quality education is central to the state's economic development efforts.

"All across the state, employers are saying, 'I can't find anybody.' I think the idea of this specialized high school . . . When you talk about the things our kids need, our community college wasn't set up for that — for medical technology, and things other sectors of our economy need. The idea of a specialized high school, sitting on that [Sandhills Community College] campus, is something we need."

"If we don't do that, we aren't going to get those companies to come," he added.

Chairman Hayter, noting that decisions about the bond issue and facilities needs would now move in to the hands of "our political leadership," encouraged task force members individually to "have very frank conversations with our Commissioners. I look for you individually to step up to the plate. There is plenty of data to prove need and legitimate public investment."

Help Wanted! Part-Time Reporter

The Seven Lakes Times, a community newspaper serving Seven Lakes, Foxfire, McLendon Hills, and West End, is seeking a part-time reporter to cover local government meetings and write feature stories.

Relevant educational background and experience are required. *The Times* needs someone who writes clearly and concisely and has a passion for accuracy. Excellent computer skills are a must.

The Times commitment averages six to twelve hours per week, but is determined by local government meeting schedules — and thus is not particularly flexible. Morning, afternoon, and night meetings are common.

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SLLA Work Session

(Continued from front page)

pen? Is it on staff's paid time? Does this activity interfere with trail rides and other activities?"

"We presently have young people after school doing all kinds of things," Darr said. "The meeting will be held here in this room one day a month, and it would be scheduled after school."

Discussion of the proposal ranged from American Disabilities Act [ADA] requirements to staff job descriptions and level of involvement.

Resident Greg Lishawa pointed out that there is a big 4-H horse camp in Raleigh, and asked whether the SLLA 4-H Club would be sending kids to camps and competitions.

Darr explained that the level of involvement could be determined by the Board — that the attraction of 4-H specifically is because the program offers options.

"We have some kids that are taking lessons and are training and want to compete," Darr said. "We could compete or host a show in this organization if we wanted to."

Lishawa worried that club activities could interfere with member riding time, but added, "I think it is wonderful program, wonderful leadership, teaches them a lot of good things. We could work this out."

President Ritter suggested more research. "It sounds like a lot of involvement is for kids to own their own horse. I am having a hard time getting my head wrapped around this."

Darr reiterated, "The membership in 4-H does not dictate the fact that we send horses to state finals. I don't see that. We can make our own rules about horses leav-

ing the property. That doesn't impact joining or not joining."

An Easy Solution?

To eliminate the use of staff time to manage the club, Donna Fentzlaff recommended that Darr ask if any parents would be willing to lead the program.

Darr agreed: "In talking with the youth at the stables, there are already seven interested."

"I don't think that [seven children] qualifies," Hirsch said. "We don't want to institute this additional program at the expense of our property owners — an outside organization, open to the public, that consumes pay time of our staff."

Director Rich Faraci pointed out that much of the Board's discussion was becoming speculative. "We seem to be guessing a whole lot here," Faraci said.

The Directors agreed to table the recommendation until it could be further researched and Darr could speak with parents to see whether anyone would be willing to volunteer.

From 4-H to Swim Meets

During the new business portion of the Work Session, Director Hirsch recommended resuming swim competitions within SLLA. In 2012, after much research by the Recreation Committee, the Board determined that new requirements of the Americans with Disabilites Act [ADA] would prohibit charging non-residents for use of the pool.

Meeting ADA requirements would mean costly modifications to make the pool and pool bathrooms handicapped accessible. To avoid extensive and expensive construction, the Board voted to stop host-

ing swim competitions, while continuing to provide competitive swimming for residents.

Hirsch said that he had reviewed the ADA requirements and did not believe that hosting swim meets would be an issue.

"We have a guest swim team, and I don't believe that even comes close to becoming a public facility," he said. "During a swim meet, the other swim team is our guests. They get a pass at (See "SLLA," p. 29)

Candidates Needed!

Despite recruitment efforts by the Nominating Committee and it's Chairman, Director Bob Racine, The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] remains one candidate short of the number needed to replace retiring Board members.

The terms of office of President Steve Ritter, Treasurer Conrad Meyer, and Director Chuck Leach expire in March; only Leach has announced plans to serve

and additional term. In addition to Leach, the Nominating Committee has placed the name of Paul Chavis on the March Annual Meeting ballot.

Prospective candidates will need to make their intentions prior to the Wednesday, January 29 Open Meeting. Those interested may call the Landowners Office for more information.



Correction

The Times reported incorrectly in our December 27 edition the type of light bulbs the Seven Lakes Landowners Association recently installed in the gatehouse carriage lights to reduce consumption and conserve resources.

Energy efficient LED light bulbs were the replacements.

News January 10, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 29

SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 28)

the gate, and all the members of the swim team we have invited as our guests. I think we are over interpreting the requirement."

Sauce for the Goose?

Referring to emails among Board Members, President Ritter said, "I have been reading the exchanges. I think an overriding issue is tied into this. We can't host a swim team internally unless we use our own staff and have coaches and training. It's a different issue, but it is just the same thing we talked about with the stables [that is, the 4-H program]. It would require significant changes to staff job duties."

In the past, swim meets in the past were overseen by volunteers, Director Racine said. "We had volunteers without any cost to Association. If we can't get enough volunteers to have a swim team, it will be a totally different matter."

"It is something that has been a standard part of the community for years," Hirsch said. "It is an amenity that was removed, and that I would like to restore."

Earlier in the session, Hirsch had questioned whether ADA requirements would interfere with allowing non-resident 4-H youth members to ride at the stables.

Recreation Director Darr noted, "I don't see a hell a

lot of difference in this."

The Board agreed to move the reinstatement of swim meets to the Open Meeting for a vote.

Dive and Explore

The SLLA may be charting new waters, becoming the nation's only landowner's association with established guidelines for the use of submarines.

During the Work Session, Northsider Mark Widman, whose son is building a twoman sub as part of his engineering degree from NC State University, agreed with the suggested operating and safety protocol in rules proposed by Community Manager Sohl.

"Safety is the utmost concern," Widman said. "We are going well beyond some of the safety procedures that you have suggested. We will always have another boat as a guide and a scuba diver when we go out to conduct water quality and lake analysis."

Budget Reviewed

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Treasurer Meyer presented to Board with a draft 2014-2015 budget, which generated no controversy.

After feedback from the community concerning last year's \$100 dues increase, Meyer suggested that future dues increases be in smaller increments — he suggested

\$25 — but likely occur more frequently.

The draft FY2014 budge includes a \$25 dues increase.

"I agree with the incremental increase," Director Hirsch said. "It's not like the money is going into a secret fund. It is going to buy necessities each year."

Meyer reported that the Board and the Finance Committee had worked hard to maintain the current expense budget and that there would be no increase in operational expenses budget this year.

Other Business

Other items that will move to the January Work Session included:

• SLLA Employees will be

considered for merit raises of up to 2.5 percent based on performance.

 The Board will consider renovations to the Lake Sequoia boat slips at a cost not to exceed \$38,110.

• Also up for a vote are renovations to the swim platform at a cost of \$4,852.

GOP Reagan Dinner

Moore County Republican Party will host a Ronald Reagan Birthday Dinner on Thursday, February 6.

Social time at 6 pm; dinner served at Pinehurst Country Club. Cost is \$75 per person.

Speakers include Lt. Governor Dan Forest, Republican Party Chairman Claude Pope and Psychologist and Author, Dr. Timothy Daughtry (Waking the Sleeping Giant). Cash bar and music provided by Clarence Levine.

For reservations and details visit Moore County GOP website, www.mcnc-gop.org or call 910-673-4029



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The Council will be offering a volunteer orientation on Tuesday, January 21, from 9-10 am at the Read Moore Center, 575 SE Broad St., Southern Pines as a prerequisite to tutor training on Tuesday, January 28 and Wednesday, January 29 from 9-4 pm. Please bring a lunch.

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Seven Lakes Times January 10, 2014

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