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Volume 29 Number 18

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

June 27, 2014

#### Keeping swimmers safe



The Foxfire lifeguard crew — Blake Dees, Kacey Liles, Andrew McLester, Karlie Tighe, Brea Hamlin, and Klaudia Rush, along with Village Clerk Lisa Kivett participated in a training session on Sunday, June 22. [See page 6 for our story.]

#### Kirk seeks seat on Village Council

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



Helen Kirk has thrown her hat in the ring to fill the Village Council seat vacated by

Mayor George Erickson, who announced his resignation during the council's Tuesday, June 10 regular meeting.

No other applications had been submitted by the time this edition of *The Times* went to press on Wednesday afternoon. Foxfire citizens may apply at the Village Hall. The remaining members of the Council will make the appointment, which is serve out Erickson's term, which expires in November 2015.

The Council has not announced a timeframe for

filling the position, but the topic was on the agenda for a Thursday, June 26 counil work session, and a vote could come as early as the panel's regular meeting on Tuesday, July 8.

The Times plans to interview any other applicants who step forward.

"I am compelled to serve," Kirk told The Times. "I just feel the need to serve, especially in our small community. I would like to be part of a team that helps keeps our wonderful community the way it is."

Kirk and her husband William both worked at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania when they began vacationing in Moore County in the 1990s. Kirk served as

(See "Foxfire," p. 28)

#### Crossing closures planned County sets SCC

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



Two closures of Lakeway Drive at the front entrance of Seven Lakes West will take

place in July, to allow the completion of the front Association. [SLWLA] entrance project.

President Bruce Keyser and Entrance Committee Chairman Mick Herdrich shared the task of bringing the Board of Directors and membership up to date on those plans during the Tuesday, June 24 meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners

The exit lane of Lakeway

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Drive will be closed for ten days, from Tuesday July 8 through Friday July 18, to allow for curb installation, grading, and installation of a base layer. Herdrich explained that the concrete curbing requires a week to

The area will remain graveled, rather than paved, until later in the month, when the Aberdeen Carolina & Western Railway [ACWR] will be repaying the Lakeway Drive railroad crossing and installing infrastructure to support new signals and crossing arms.

The railway company will completely close the NC Highway 211 side of the crossing at 4:00 pm on Thursday, July 24. But, SLWLA will close both the entrance and exit sides of Lakeway Drive

(See "Westside," p. 18)

## funding formula

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



You could call it "the six percent solution "

A new funding formula for Sandhills

Community College [SCC], approved by the Moore County Board of Commissioners during their regular Tuesday, June 17 meeting, is designed make local funding for the college more predictable.

It allocates six percent of county tax revenues to SCC's operating expenses and six percent of county capital reserves to the construction and maintenance of the college's physical plant.

The Commissioners are working with Moore County

Schools [MCS] on a similar formula which is expected to be implemented in FY2016.

MCS, however takes up a much larger percentage of the county budget. Instead of six percent, the MCS formula is likely to consume 35-45 percent of county resources.

The funding formula the Commissioners approved for SCC has two main parts: Funding for operations the everyday, ongoing cost of operating the college - and funding for capital expenditures — constructing and maintaining buildings and other infrastructure.

In both cases, the magic number is six percent.

(See "Formula," p. 20)

**Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 News

#### Army Band to perform at SCC June 30

perform a free concert on Monday, June 30 at 7 pm, at Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College.

The 440th Army Band has served as the State's National designations since the early 1900's.

The Band was activated in World War II as the 30th Infantry Division Band along with the rest of the North

The 440th Army Band will Guard Band under several Carolina National Guard as the "Old Hickory Division." The Band served with distinction landing on the beach at Normandy and fighting in the Battle of the Bulge for which the band carries hon-

ors awarded by France and Army Band. In her civilian Belgium.

The Band was re-designated the 440th Army Band in 1973, and performs for troops and their families and for the citizens of North Carolina at ceremonies, public concerts, and parades.

The 440th Army Band is comprised of citizen soldiers who in civilian life are college students, educators, business men and women, and professional people.

The 440th currently has 34 members and is commanded by Chief Warrant Officer/CW2 Linda R. Horton. CW2 Horton is the first Female and African-American commander of the 440th

life, she is supervisor for the North Carolina National Guard's Human Resource

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#### Hunt is on for escaped dog

from Seven Lakes West

The Moore County Animal Shelter is asking for help locating a dog that scaled the shelter fence to escape — and may be headed home to Seven Lakes West.

On Sunday morning, Alma, a six to seven year old Australian Shepherd Mix, climbed over a fence topped with barbed wire, and then climbed over the gate at

Shelter searching for dog entrance to the shelter park- 947-2858. They were hoping ing lot. Volunteers and staff ran after her down the driveway to NC Highway 15/501, and then searched for her, to no avail.

> Alma was turned over to the shelter when her Seven Lakes West owner died.

> The shelter staff report that she was despondent and clearly grieving for the loss of her owner.

> Because her home was in Seven Lakes West, Animal Center staff believe she could be headed back in the direction of Seven Lakes.

> If you find a dog fitting Alma's description, contact The Animal Center at 910

to place her with a foster family.



Lost dog Alma







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SEVEN LAKES WEST MLS# 157568 - 237 Longleaf Dr., 1/2 acre \$19,500

MLS# 147533 - 410 Morganwood, Lot 40 is 9 acres \$119,000

MCLENDON HILLS - Horses Permitted MLS# 144117 - 120 Broken Ridge Trail, 3.13 acres \$100,000

MLS# 144417 - 121 Trailcrest , 1.3 acres \$39,000

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MLS# 159029 - 8 N Shamrock Dr., 2400SF, 3BR/2BA \$220,000

MLS# 158696 - 83 Richmond Road, 2400SF, 4BR/3.5BA \$245,000

MLS# 158346 - 5 Vineyard Place, 2100SF, 3BR/2BA \$250,000

MLS# 158516 - 290 Weather Branch Lane, 3200SF, 3BR/3BA



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Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

#### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline Issue Thu, Jul 3\* Fri, Jul 11 Fri, Jul 18 Fri, Jul 25 Fri, Aug 1 Fri, Aug 8 Fri, Aug 15 Fri, Aug 22 Thu, Aug 28\* Fri, Sep 5 Fri, Sep 19 Fri, Sep 12 Fri, Sep 26 Fri, Oct 3 Fri, Oct 10 Fri, Oct 17 Fri, Oct 24 Fri, Oct 31 Fri, Nov 7 Fri, Nov 14 Thu, Nov 20\* Fri, Nov 28 Fri, Dec 5 Fri, Dec 12 Thu, Dec 18\* Fri, Dec 26

\*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

News June 27, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 3

#### County judicial facility work to cost \$3 million

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



Remodeling the Moore County Courthouse and the Currie Building in down-

town Carthage are expected to cost just under \$3 mil-

The Moore County Board of Commissioners approved preliminary architect's budgets in that amount during their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 13.

County Manager Wayne Vest said the costs would be covered by using \$550,000 in unspent funds from the budget for the Rick Rhyne **Public Safety and Detention** Center and \$2.44 million drown from the county's capital reserve funds.

The county is under pressure from the state judiciary to improve conditions in the courthouse, which was built in 1979, as well as to increase the space available to the Clerk of Court.

In October of last year, NC Supreme Court Chief Justice Sarah Parker appointed Superior Court Judge Michael Beale to investigate conditions in the county's judicial facil-

After meeting with County officials and reviewing plans already in the works to improve conditions, Beale expressed support for the County's efforts, and urged speedy action to put those plans into effect.

"This is in response to a letter that this board received from Chief Justice Sarah Parker." Commissioner Nick Picerno said the board voted to approve the architect's budget. "While we would rather not spend this money, it is probably necessary."

With the completion of the Rhyne Center, the Sheriff's office moved from the basement of the Courthouse. which will be reconfigured for use by the Clerk of Court and for probation services. The upper floors of the facility will also receive significant upgrades, providing additional courtroom space, better

security for judges and jury inally budgeted. members, and more private meeting space for attorneys and their clients. An elevator will be added to the front of the building.

The Currie Building is being renovated to provide space for the District Attorney's office, which currently occupies leased space.

Vest indicated that bids on the project would be taken during the remainder of the month of June, with contractor selection in July.

#### **Final Change Order Approved for Rhyne Center**

The commissioners approved a \$20,000 change order — number 14 — for the Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center. County Manager Vest said that would be the last change order on the project.

The original construction contract for the public safety and detention center was valued at \$27,224,000, Vest reported. Including change order 14, the total cost of construction

#### Other Business

In other business during their Tuesday, June 12 Meeting, The Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- · Heard a presentation on progress toward crafting an interlocal agreement to foster a cooperative approach to road naming between the county and its municipalities. GIS Coordinator Chris Butts explained that cooperation in street naming is particularly important to support a countywide 911 dispatching system.
- Granted a conditional use permit for a 250-foot wireless communications tower east of Robbins on NC Highway 24/27. The tower is one of several that American Tower plans to erect to support and expansion of AT&T's cellular telephone service in the county.
- Rezoned a sixty acre parcel near the intersection of Juniper Lake and Mur-

minimum lot size from five acres to about one acre. allowing the land to be developed as a residential subdivision. David Upchurch and partners have already won approval for a 58 lot subdivision on an adjacent 59 acre parcel.

- Rezoned from RA-40 Residential and Agricultural to B-2 Highway Commercial District a 6.8 acre portion of an 89 acre tract on the South side of NC Highway 211 New the West Pine Schools. The change will allow owner Angus McDonald to develop or sell the property for commercial use.
  - Accepted a \$723,000

Agricultural, reducing the Home and Community Care Block Grant from the state that is a primary source of funding for the Department of Aging, supporting its transportation, nutrition, and inhome aide services, as well as senior center operations.

- Approved an increase in the county's contract with its consultant on wireless communications facilities from \$50,000 to \$57,000 to accommodate additional applications.
- Approved a contract with the Town of Robbins under which the town provides water to Westmoore School and Davis Community Center at a cost of \$4.00 per thou-

(See "Commissioners," p. 26)



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**Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 News

#### Commissioners okay budget with no tax hike

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



With little discussion and only a few minor adjustments, Moore County's

Board of Commissioners approved, during their Tuesday, June 17 regular meeting, the \$120.8 million FY2015 budget submitted by County Manager Wayne Vest and his budget team.

The budget leaves the county property tax rate untouched at 46.5 cents per hundred dollars of valuation and holds the Advanced Life Support levy, which funds paramedic services, at two cents per hundred.

district taxes will remain the same as in FY2014. The exception is the West End Fire District, where the tax rate will increase from 5.9 to 6.9 cents to pay for new equipment.

The only change to the original budget Vest presented was the addition of four new capital reserve funds, which will be used to set aside money for construction projects and debt service for Sandhills Community College and Moore County Public Schools. Those funds are tied to new level funding formulas approved for the college [See story on page 1] and under negotiation for the schools.

The budget provides Moore

With one exception, fire County Schools with a \$450,000 increase, short of the \$2.3 million increase requested.

> "This budget does what we set out and intended to do." Commissioner Nick Picerno, a member of the budget team, said. "It places education as our number one spending priority, followed by public safety."

#### Implementing the details

The FY2015 budget included a two percent cost of living pay increase for county employees, which, Human Resources Director Denise Brook explained, required

the upward adjustment of a number of salary ranges and the reclassification of some positions, all of which were approved unanimously by the board.

Also approved was the county's annual submission of a salary plan reporting

form to the Office of State Human Resources, as well as an increase in the county's stop loss insurance premium and a revision to the personnel policy manual based on provisions of the Affordable Care Act.

#### Sandhills Photography Club

The Sandhills Photography Club will meet on Monday, July 14 at 7 pm.

The program will be: "Image Retouching For Travel Photographers" by speaker Joel Collins.

Guests welcome. Held at Hannah Center Theatre Center at the O'Neal School, 3300 Airport Road, Southern Pines. For information on the club www.sandhillsphotoclub.org

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#### On a mission to simplify education funding

**by Greg Hankins**Time Editor



The top problem with state funding of education in North Carolina is complexity

— complexity that micromanages how money can be used in the local school district — complexity that creates a larger bureaucracy in Raleigh and more work on the local level.

It was a big spreadsheet that led Moore County Commissioner Nick Picerno to that conclusion — and it's a problem that he wants to fix, with the help of Moore County Schools [MCS] and, possibly, the NC Association of County Commissioners [NCACC].

The spreadsheet is one created by the NC Department of Public Instruction, which oversees the state's schools. It lays out, in rows and columns, the amount of money that passes from the state to each school district to fund education.

The rows are local school districts — all 115 of them in the state.

The columns are the various streams of money into which state funding is divided. There are thirty-three different columns. Printed out, the spreadsheet covers most of a kitchen table.

"Here's what happens," Picerno told *The Times* in a June 23 interview. "If you send one dollar to Washington or to Raleigh, by the time it gets sliced and diced, you have to hire people to look after all those little streams of money, and, when it gets to the classroom, how much of that dollar is left?"

In other words, every revenue stream brings with it its own little bureaucracy, its own array of people and processes to make sure that stream of money is allocated correctly and is being correctly used at the local level.

"That is gunking up the system," Picerno said. "We need to get back to an allocation based just on per pupil spending. What does it cost

to educate a child properly? We should find some school systems that are excelling and use them as a model."

"Local control is the best control — and I believe Moore County is proof," he added, pointing to the careful stewardship that carried MCS through the recent recession.

The slicing and dicing of state funding into dozens of different streams as it passes down to local school districts, in Picerno's view, creates bureaucracy, wastes money that should be going into the classroom, and reduces flexibility at the local level.

#### **Moore County left out**

But, for Moore County, it gets worse. MCS is left out

of two or three of the revenue streams the state has created for funneling money to local districts.

Moore is not considered a small county, and small counties get extra funding. Because of higher income and property values in Southern Moore County, MCS misses out on funds directed to "low-wealth" districts, as well.

Smaller, poorer districts are also given more flexibility in reallocating state funds based on their needs, Picerno said.

In the the end, Moore County Schools is one of only ten counties that are left out of the extra funding and flexibility.

"Mike's hands are tied,"

Picerno said, referring to MCS Director of Budget Mike Griffin.

Nor does Picerno buy into the often heard complaint that local school districts spend too much on central office staff.

"I hear it all the time: 'We are overloading central office.' I don't think we are wasting money on the central office," Picerno said. "We have so much regulation, we may have to have that person in the office to make sure we get the proper funding. It might be costing you millions

if you don't have that person."

"Why should we have to have grant writers?" he asked. "The system is so complex we have to pay people to go after money."

#### Block grants for education

The answer is simplification, in Picerno's view. And he thinks folks at the state level should be listening to their own rhetoric.

"If the states are hollering that the federal government needs to give them a block

(See "Picerno," p. 26)



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**Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 People

### Continual training in rescue and first aid

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter

Tucked away within the Village of Foxfire is a refreshing oasis. There are only a handful of public pools in Moore County. On any given summer Saturday, eighty or more patrons find their way to the cool waters of the Foxfire Village Pool.

Village Clerk Lisa Kivett, who manages the pool, staffs busy days with maximum coverage.

"A public pool is required to have lifeguards," Kivett said. "Our lifeguards work as a team. This morning they are prepping for the expected crowds on July 4th and Labor Day. They are all trained, certified, and have taken classes."

The preparation requires getting both wet and physical. The guards take turns practicing first aide procedures on each other. They walk

through a step by step process from raising the "victim" above the water line, securing her to a water gurney, pulling her out of the pool, and administering CPR. They then go through different choking scenarios of choking and practice the Heimlich maneuver. From there they move to the restrooms to cover slipping and falling.

Kacey Liles encourages the routine practices.

"These practices are very beneficial," she explained. "When I worked for the Watauga County Swim Complex, our boss had us research CPR four times a

Liles began lifeguarding when she was 16, at the Pinehurst Marina. She continued lifeguarding while at Appalachian State, where she earned a degree in Exercise Science. She put the

Foxfire lifeguards through to safety. their paces in a training session on Saturday, June 22.

There is always a risk of drowning when children get near water. Over the years, Liles has pulled six children

"Adults tend to be more careless and misinterpret our job title," she said. "We are here to enforce the pool rules babysitters."

Flotation devices can give a false sense of security, she noted.

"Parents rely too heavily on floaties, wings and life and to protect. We are not jackets," Liles said. She gives (Continued on page 7)



Lifeguards secure the 'victim' to a gurney before lifting her out of the water.





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**People** June 27, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 

#### is part of the job for Foxfire lifeguards

(Continued from page 6)

an example of recently watching a toddler in floaties. The tot was too weak to keep her face out of the water and the floaties on her arms kept flipping her forward.

"I think parents should enroll their kids in swimming lessons as soon as possible," she said, "at least by the age of two and a half."

Lifeguarding is more than sitting pretty, Liles explained.

"It can be fun," she said. "But it also is a whole lot of responsibility and should be taken seriously."

Kivett agrees that the staff is professional, mature, and experienced. She has had the pleasure of watching many of the young adults on the lifeguard squad grow up, go off to college, and return home. They maintain their certifications and juggle their schedules so they can lifeguard. Liles is currently enrolled in nursing school

and lifeguards on the week-

"They work hard," Kivett said. "The staff includes nine lifeguards — all part-time positions. They do more than lifeguard. They keep the pool and surrounding areas clean."

Kivett leads by example. She is responsible for the pool opening and closing each season and has her national certification to manage the pool. One of her top priorities is staffing.

Liles has praise for Kivett. "She keeps things well organized and puts a lot of trust in her staff," Liles said. "She hires good people."

The Foxfire Pool is opened seven days a week through Labor Day. At \$5 per person per visit, it is very affordable. Membership plans are available. Contact the Village office at 910-295-5107 or visit the village website at www.foxfirenc.com for information.

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**Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 News

#### West End Class of 1969 holds 45th reunion



### Daisies earning petals



Foxfire Village Police Sgt. Chad Shue and his canine partner Bu gave a talk and demonstration to Daisies from Troop 759, Sponsored by West End United Methodist Church.

The exercise helped the scouts earn their "respecting authority" petal.

At left are Daisies LilyAnah Halstead, AnaBelle Chomic, Ireland Roberts, guest Hannah Bish, and Sydney Thomas, along with leaders Mary Anne Lauer and Erin Thomas.

Celebrating 11 Years Serving Seven Lakes Families! Bright Meadow Christian Preschool

#### Preschool - Summer Camp Regis!

Ages 2-4, June 10 - August 14 3 days/wk: Tue-Wed-Thu, 7:45-1 1:45am \$55/wk. Registration \$35/Family Non-refundable Reserve 10 wks for discount rate \$48/wk!

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The West End High School class of 1969 held their 45th Class Reunion at the Inn in Eagle Springs on May 17.

Members of the class included: Seated: Gilbert Bowman, Margaret Siler, Carolyn (Brower) Jackson. Standing: Wayne Blake, Michael

McInnis, Sherrell Dunn, Willie Caddell, Jerel Laton, Gail (Carter) McBride, Marshall Caddell, Monnie (Garrison) Cagle, Horace Simmons, Mary (Chisholm) Ray, Phyllis (Spencer) Blyther, Christine (Simmons) Stone

#### **Literacy Tutors Needed**

The Moore County Literacy Council is in need of tutors for their site at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Seven Lakes. Tutors provide one-on-one tutoring for adults who are learning to read, read better and/or speak English. Sessions are held in Seven Lakes on Tuesday evenings between 5 to 7 pm. If you are interested or would like more information, please call Pam or Marian at 692-5954.





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Events June 27, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 9

#### **Sports Club hosts Spring Bass Tourney**



Don Smith with tournament's largest bass

**by Dave Lamon** Lake Auman Sports Club

A good turnout for the annual Lake Auman Sports Club Spring Team Bass Tournament, held on Lake Auman on Saturday, May 31, made for a very successful event despite the rainy weather at the start.

Nineteen anglers made up the eight teams that competed in a four hour catch and release event with prizes awarded to teams for heaviest total weights for the day and to individuals for largest bass overall.

First place team honors went to Jason Lovett, Rich Lovett and Don Smith with a total weight of 17 pounds 10 ounces. In second place on the leader board was the team of Denny Penrod and Bill Gross who finished with a five fish limit totaling 15 pounds 2 ounces. Finishing in third place with a total weight of 11 pounds 5 ounces was the team of Jim Pierman,

John Freeman and Mark the luncheon and was assist-Baldwin. ed this year by Don Smith

The big bass prize went to Don Smith for catching a 5 pound 10 ounce bass. Denny Penrod received the prize for the second largest bass weighing 5 pounds 5 ounces and Evan Chappell for the third largest, 5 pounds 4 ounces.

Participating anglers always enjoy the picnic luncheon at Johnson Point following the bass tournament events and this time was no exception.

Charlie Flinchum organized

the luncheon and was assisted this year by Don Smith who helped with the shopping for the event and set up. Charlie's brother Russell did most of the grilling and Don's wife Kathy and daughter Michelle Lovett pitched in to help with the entire event.

Thanks everyone, excellent job!

For questions and additional information regarding the annual Lake Auman Sports Club bass tournaments, contact Don Smith, LASC President.

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10 **Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 People



#### Elvis & Chagall?

What do a famous artist and the King of Rock and Roll have in common?

Vivian R. Jacobson, noted lecturer on the life and art of Marc Chagall, will demonstrate how Chagall's and Presley's great passion for their art gave these two artists a profound commonality.

Their artistic passion was grounded in a deep respect for religion. They both insisted on total control of their art. Both Presley and Cha-

gall needed women in their lives for inspiration and to sustain their sense of creativity.

The free multi-media lecture on Saturday, August 16 at 7 pm in the Owens Auditorium of Sandhills Community College will feature a presentation of paintings by Marc Chagall and musical background by Elvis Presley. Tickets will be available at SCC's Boyd Library, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst, after July 1.



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#### A hidden jewel in McLendon Hills

Lake Troy Douglas for a late spring evening bors.

McLendon Hills residents gathered on of fun and socializing with friends and neigh-





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Grads June 27, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 11

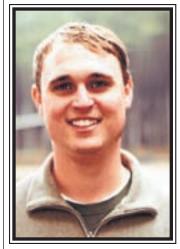
#### Congratulations, Class of 2014



Holden Bradley Cheek

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Holden is the son of David & Jerry Cheek of Seven Lakes North and the grandson of Jackie Ingram of Seven Lakes North and Pete & Beckie Cheek of West End. He earned a degree in Civil Engineering and is employed at Tower Engineering Professionals in Raleigh.

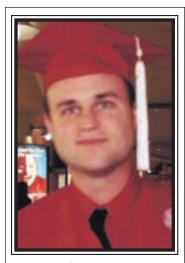


#### Benjamin Patt Williams

Appalachian State University Boone, NC

Ben is married to Kaitlin Leach Williams and is the son of Jan and Art Williams of Eagle Springs. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management.

Ben and Kaitlin will be living in Seven Lakes North and managing Kalawi Farm in Eagle Springs.



#### Will Arthur Williams

NC State University Raleigh, NC

Will is the son of Jan and Art Williams of Eagle Springs. Will received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business Management.

He will be managing Kalawi Farm in Eagle Springs.



#### Catherine Margaret Messina

Villa Joseph Marie High School Holland, PA

Catherine is the daughter of Mary and Roger Messina of New Hope, PA. She is the granddaughter of Jo and Ralph Messina of Seven Lakes South. A National Honor student, she will attend Emory University with a Liberal Arts Scholarship and Emory Achievement Award.

#### Lunch and Learn – Gulley Shares His Secrets

Join the Sandhills Horticultural Society and Pete Gulley on Monday, June 30 from 12 to 1 pm for a free program – "What we need to do in the garden at this time of year?"

Gulley's Garden Center of Southern Pines has been the go to place for gardening questions in the Sandhills for many, many years.

Gulley will share his experience and answer questions on how to enjoy a bountiful and beautiful garden during our hot and humid summer days.

Bring your lunch to the Ball Visitors Center at the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens.

The Gardens will provide drinks

Register by email: landscapegardening@sandhills.edu

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12 **Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 People

#### **Creative spark** spawned the new shop Eloise

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter

Most mothers begin their day at the kitchen counter: making breakfast, packing lunches, signing permission slips, sorting mail, and making schedules. Day in and day out, there is little space left for creativity.

Eastwood resident Louise Lucas has found a way to carve out that space — and start a successful business to boot.

Lucas and her family moved from Pinehurst to Eastwood several years ago.

"I love living in Eastwood," she said. "I like the land and the privacy. I am most happy doing anything outside. I love to garden."

But it was a 2013 shopping trip to Sea Island with her friend Elizabeth (Betsy) Fulton Saye that lit the creative spark.

We went into this cute, unique, dress shop," Lucas said. "We thought we could start our own clothing store — that we could totally do it. Weeks later we went to market and bought everything. We opened in May."

The friends share a similar can-do spirit and strong work ethic. "Once we decide to try it, then we do it," Lucas said.

#### A team effort

To name the shop, they combined their own names, marrying "Elizabeth" and "Louise" to create "Eloise."

Lucas decided an elephant would be the logo — and not just for the cute alliteration. She really likes elephants.

"They are emotionally intelligent, funny, loyal, and stay together for life. I just love them," she said.

Bright, vibrant hues might be Eloise's signature.

"Betsy and I really love color," Lucas said. "But we immediately agreed that we were not going to do it all pink and green — that we would keep it simple."

"The next thing we knew, our business cards were pink and green," Louise laughs.

#### New shop in a vintage space

Eloise found its space on the top floor of the building at 111 Main Street in Aberdeen, owned by Saye and her husband, Steve.

The Sayes bought the building, which once housed Aberdeen Hardware, in 2005, seeing opportunity in the old dusty store, with its original tin ceilings, vintage wood (Continued on page 13)



Betsy Fulton Saye & Louise Lucas of Eloise



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Pinehurst, NC 910-692-6185 www.sandhills.edu News June 27, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 13

#### **Eloise**

(Continued from page 12)

floors, and the oldest handoperated elevator in the county.

They initially leased the space to a variety of shops, but Betsy opened her own shop "One Eleven Main" in 2009, focusing on gifts, tabletop, and home items. Julie Moore and Erin ReVille are her partners in that venture.

"After leasing to other retail stores for four years, I was ready to open one of my own," Saye said.

That made 111 Main Street the perfect location to test Lucas and Saye's idea for a new dress shop and denim bar.

#### Clothes that make you happy

"Honestly, the whole idea, truly, was that we wanted to come in and just feel happy," Lucas said. "We wanted everyone to find something that they liked. Everyone certainly isn't a size two. We buy things for different body types and different ages."

They combed apparel markets to find unique items.

"We try to find new stuff all the time," Lucas said. "We have gone to some of the smaller markets and make an effort to find newer lines by up and coming designers. The Katherine White dress line was just two years old when we discovered her. White is a middle-aged lady and her designs are made in America with great fabric. You don't see them everywhere — and that's our goal: to have something you don't see everywhere."

Eloise was an instant hit and it wasn't long before Louise needed more space than 111 Main could provide. There was an available storefront at the corner of Main St, and Eloise moved in.

Her different clothing lines have one thing in common: they are classic pieces that are meant for play. Throwing mom jeans out the window, Lucas and Saye rounded up colorful, well-cut, machinewashable tops — and found jeans that would flatter various body shapes to stock

their denim bar.

The fun smart designs appeals to all ages.

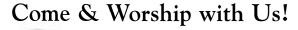
"I've gotten some clothes

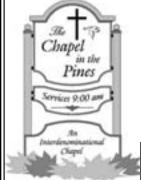
at the shop," says Pinecrest graduate Savannah Kittrell, who is happy to work at Eloise during summer break

HAN THE STATE OF T

**Savannah Kittrell** shows off some of the bright hues that are *Eloise's trademark.* 







June 29th Fifth Sunday Celebration Glenda Clendenin, Soloist

July 6th
"Don't Blame Me"
(Romans 7:15-25)
Guest Soloist

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from Elon University.

Lucas and Saye "are a lot of fun to work for," she adds. "They are both great."

If they ever doubted whether Eloise was a good idea, all Saye and Lucas have to do is take a walk around town. Seeing someone wearing a garment from their store gives them an instant sense of success.

#### Capitalizing on the US Opens

Taking advantage of the recent US Opens, the pair had the bright idea to rent space for a pop-up shop in Pinehurst.

"It was a really good thing for us," Lucas said. "Not only did we do well and moved a ton of merchandise, but it was great way to promote Eloise. We are getting ready to launch our website, and this helped us to get our name out there."

Even though it was both fun and successful, both entrepreneurs are glad the Pinehurst shop is a temporary thing.

"Between the two of us we have six kids, two husbands and I don't know how many dogs."

At the end of the day, after the kids are fed and in bed, the entrepreneur-homemakers wipe their countertops, leaving a clean slate for the next creative spark.

Eloise is at 100 West Main Street in Aberdeen, The phone number is 910-944-0711



14 **Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 News

#### In memory of

Dale P. Clemens, 82, of spent more than 20 years in West End, died at his home Monday, 9 June, after battling an illness for two years.

He was born and was raised in Reading, Pennsylvania, where he attended Mt. Penn High School and graduated from Reading High School. He worked his way through college at Pennsylvania State University playing drums in jazz bands, having had the fun of performing with notables like Rosemary Clooney. Mr. Clemens was also active in the Alpha Chi chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity. After graduation with a commission as a 2nd lieutenant, he joined the Air Force and trained as a pilot in the mid-1950s, marrying his college sweetheart.

Mr. Clemens became a manager for Connecticut General Life Insurance, taking over the Allentown, PA, office and making it an award-winning branch. He and his wife

#### How about **Girl Scout** Camp this summer?

Girls can have fun, gain new skills and make great memories at three Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines resident camps located in central and eastern North Carolina: Camp Mary Atkinson in Johnston County, Camp Graham in Vance County, and Camp Hardee in Beaufort County.

Camp is open to all girls ages five to seventeen, and girls do not have to be a Girl Scout to register. A typical week-long, resident camp session costs \$275; girls who are not members of Girl Scouts will be charged an additional \$50

To learn more, download the 2014 Summer Fun Guide, or register for a summer session, visit www.nccoastalpines.org/ca mps or call (800)284-4475.

Allentown, where they raised three children.

the first book on building fiberglass fishing rods, and the success led him to begin a top-line mail-order company specializing in rod-building supplies, based out of Wescosville, PA. He also founded the country's first

rod-building guild Rod-

He was preceded in death An avid fisherman, he wrote by two sons, Gary Stephen and Brian Douglas.

> Survivors include his widow Donna, daughter Anne Holway, son-in-law Matthew Holway, step-grandson Kevin and his wife Amy, and two great grandsons Dominic and

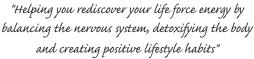
Memorial services were held at West End Presbyterian, on Saturday, June 21.

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

#### Windhorse Wellness Center

— Dr. Renee Cowan –

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#### **Garden Tour Prizes**



Garden Club shows off two gift baskets that were raffled off as part of the 22nd Annual Seven Lakes Garden Tour.

The beautiful, unique gardens were a big hit and all proceeds from raffle tickets will purchase two picnic tables for the West End Elementary School garden.

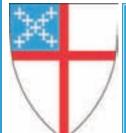
Terry-Jo Rudziensky, President of the Seven Lakes

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Children's Chapel - 9:45 am Adult Christian Education - 10:45 am

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160 SIMMONS DR Lake Auman Waterfront \$499,000



120 CALLIS CIRCLE Appealing 3BR/3BA \$279,000



117 SIMMONS DR Quality Built 3 BR/2.5BA \$244,500



**154 E DEVONSHIRE Golf Front** \$149,000



116 EAST DEVONSHIRE 3BR/2BA - Golf Front \$210,000



119 WINSFORD CIRCLE 3BR/2BA \$144,500



117 SANDHAM CT 3 BR / 2 BA Townhouse \$150,000



118 WINSFORD CT **Golf Front & Waterfront** \$179,000



150 SIMMONS DRIVE **Lake Auman Waterfront** \$598,000



122 LAKEVIEW PT Lake Sequoia Waterfront \$269,000



215 BIG ROCK 7 Acres Near Pinehurst \$144,500

#### JUNE ACTION

111 Juniper Ct. - SOLD! 106 Firetree - Under Contract 105 Tiverton - SOLD! 112 Barberry - Under Contract in Seven Days 164 Dogwood - Under Contract 128 Winsford Cr. - Under Contract 156 Cardinal - New Listing 154 E Devonshire - New Listing 108 Swan Run - Under Contract Lot #4007 - New Listing Lot #2341 - New Listing



132 FIRETREE LN **Big Juniper Lake Waterfront** \$162,500



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LOT #3553R (DOUBLE)

- \$35,000

LOT #5348 - \$35,000

LOT #5436 - \$35,000 5 LOTS SLS - \$49,900

- GOLF FRONT -

LOT #2396 - \$15,000

LOT #2187 - \$20,000

LOT #2237 - \$20,000

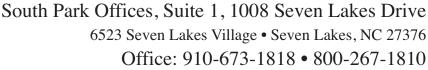
LOT #2341 - (DOUBLE) - \$24,500

LOT #2352R (DOUBLE) - \$25,000

LOT #6146 - \$59,500

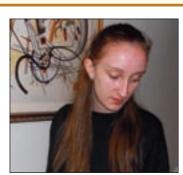
LOT #2399 - \$23,500

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Alexandra Whelan

16 Seven Lakes Times June 27, 2014 What's When

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 27

- SLCC Casual Friday at the Tufts Bar & Grill. Celebrate the end of the U.S. Open with cocktails at 5 pm and a buffet dinner featuring Chicken Diane with angel hair pasta and sauce, and more. Special pricing for children 6 – 11. Children 5 & under Free. 673-1100.
- Eagle Springs Baptist Church – 6 pm, summer movie for the family, dinner provided. Showing tonight: Frozen. A great night for everyone.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *Chef* with Jon Favreau, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 28

- **Zumba Class** 9:30 to 10:30 am, *free* class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 673-4656
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *Chef.* Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 29

- First Day of Ramadan
- 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.

- SunFlix at the Sunrise 2:30 & 7:30 pm, Chef with Jon Favreau, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.
- "Picture Perfect" 3 pm, It's Camera Day! Visitors

#### MONDAY, JUNE 30

• Lunch and Learn Gardening – 12 to 1 pm, Join the Sandhills Horticultural Society and Pete Gulley for a free program – "What we need to do in the garden at this time of year?" Gulley will share his experience and answer

> questions. Bring your lunch to the Ball Visitors Center, and Sandhills Horticultural Gardens. Gardens will provide

drinks. Register by email: landscapegardening@sandhills.edu

- Weight Watchers Meeting

   5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary
   Magdalene Episcopal
   Church, 1145 Seven Lakes
   Drive, Seven Lakes.
- 440th Army Band Performance 7 pm, a free concert at Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College. The 440th Army Band has served as the State's National Guard Band since early 1900s.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *Chef* with Jon Favreau, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### TUESDAY, JULY 1

- Healing Service 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. Reverend Carol Burgess.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *Chef*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

- Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- Gallery at Seven Lakes 1 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *Chef*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- Rosary at Chapel in the Pines 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- The Truth Project 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Bible study will offer an in-depth Christian World View Experience. Lecture led by Dr & Rev. Won Namkoong and Larry McCune, 673-1371

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**Monday** 

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- Celebrate America Concert 4 pm, West End United Methodist Church is Celebrating America through song. Everyone will enjoy guest musicians, patriotic songs, readings, and conclude the evening with a slice of apple pie and a scoop of ice cream. Enjoy a great celebration.
- The Rooster's Wife 6:45 pm, doors open 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Musical guest: Chaise Lounge. The Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org



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#### THURSDAY, JULY 3

- 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.
- Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- SunFlix Summer Classic Movie - 7:30 pm, Cabaret. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### FRIDAY, JULY 4

- Independence Day
- **Boat Parade** Seven Lakes West – 10 am. Boaters meet behind Pine Island.
- SLLA Boat Parade 11 am, Parade starts at the Sequoia Light House Island. A full dress flotilla to "Salute to the Red, White and Blue" Community Celebration.
- Moore County Concert Band – 2 pm, Independence Day concert in the Grand Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst. Concert is open to the public, no

charge. www.moorecountyband.com, 910-235-5229.

- First Friday at the Sunrise – 5 to 8:30 pm. Musical Guest: Stooges Brass Band in the Sunrise Theater Green Space. Free Admission. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- **Fireworks** Seven Lakes West. Begin after dark.
- SLLA Celebrates July 4th
   9 pm, "Sparks in the Park" at Sequoia Point with fireworks lighting up the sky over the water. For safety boaters and spectators need to maintain a 400' radius from the launch zone at Sequoia Point.

#### SATURDAY, JULY 5

- **Zumba Class** 9:30 to 10:30 am, *free* class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive
- Children's Parade Seven Lakes West. 10am-Noon. West Side Park Community Center.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise Words and Pictures, 2:30 & 7:30 pm. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.

#### SUNDAY, JULY 6

 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.
- Grace Church VBS at 10:00 am (during church service). VBS held at Grace Church Seven Lakes, Seven Lakes Plaza. Children ages 3 5th grade will enjoy music, games, stories, and snacks, during VBS. melissajones@gracechurchsp.org
- SunFlix at the Sunrise Words and Pictures, 2:30 & 7:30 pm. Stars: Clive Owen, Juliette Binoche, and Bruce Davison. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.
- Bensalem Presbyterian Church VBS – July 6 -July 10, 6:15 pm to 8:45 pm each night, 2891 Bensalem Church Road, Eagle Springs. Theme for VBS Gangway to Galilee, Amazing Grace Adventures. July 10 will includes a hot dot dinner. 910-528-1733.
- The Rooster's Wife 6:45 pm, doors open 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Musical guest: Deb Callahan. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org

#### MONDAY, JULY 7

- Weight Watchers Meeting
   5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary
  Magdalene Episcopal
  Church, 1145 Seven Lakes
  Drive, Seven Lakes.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise Words and Pictures, 7:30 pm. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines

#### TUESDAY, JULY 8

- Healing Service 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.
- Foxfire Village Council –
   7 pm, meeting. at Foxfire Village Hall.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise Words and Pictures, 7:30 pm. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

- Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- Gallery at Seven Lakes 1 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.

The Sandhills Area's Only

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

17

- The Truth Project 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Bible study will offer an in-depth Christian World View Experience. Lecture led by Dr & Rev. Won Namkoong and Larry McCune, 673-1371.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise Words and Pictures, 2:30 & 7:30 pm. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 10

- Bread of Life Ministry West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors. Fellowship, devotion and a meal provided at \$5.
- Gallery at Seven Lakes 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- Covenant Preparatory School Open House – 7 pm, serving K-12th grades on campus. www.covenantprep.com for details.







160 Pinehurst Ave.

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#### Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

a day earlier — beginning on Wednesday morning, July 23 — to prepare for the final paving of Association-owned portions of Lakeway near the crossing.

Both the ACWR and Association projects are expected to be completed and the crossing and Lakeway Drive reopened by Monday morning, July 27. The railway company will install the actual signals and gate arms in the few days following, but that work will not require closing the road.

Herdrich said the Board will need to decide whether to man the back gate during the front gate construction. Because a temporary guard shack and porta-jon will be required, Herdrich said the cost of that option could reach \$10,000.

Keyser promised that the Board would use the SLWLA website and eblasts to keep the community informed about construction plans and road closures.

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#### Beacon Ridge Ambassador Council created

During Tuesday's meeting the SLWLA Board dissolved an ad hoc committee created last year to assist Beacon Ridge Country Club as it transitioned from management by Barton Tuck's Wingfield Golf to renewed control by owner Don Billings.

Taking its place will be an Ambassador Council that aims to "support on-going member retention and seek out new members for the club."

Both actions were taken at the recommendation of the ad hoc committee and approved unanimously by the board; member Ed Silberhorn delivered the committee's report.

Silberhorn said the committee had developed a strong working relationship with club management and with Mr. & Mrs. Billings. He cited a long list of improvements that the Billings have made since resuming control of the club in August 2013, among them:

 Repainting of the clubhouse and freshening the dining room and bar area, as well as the locker rooms, • Renovating and reopening the upstairs bar and sports room,

- Installing new air conditioning,
- · Renovating the pool,
- Creating new membership categories,
- Improving dining and social opportunities, and
- Hiring a new manager and chef.

Silberhorn asked that the board appoint Mark Lindstrom, an active member of the ad hoc committee, to head up the new Ambassador Council, and to appoint himself and George Ellis as the Board's liaisons to the new group. He also provided the Board with a confidential list of other members recommended for the Ambassador Council.

The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Lindstrom, Silberhorn, and Ellis

#### **Financial report**

Treasurer Mercedes Herdrich reported that, one month into the new fiscal year, the Association is ahead of budget on revenues and behind on expenses, yielding a positive variance of more

than \$550,000.

But, she explained, revenues tend to be front loaded in the year, and both revenues and expenses are expected to naturally move more in line with the monthly budgeted figures as the year progresses.

Herdrich said progress is being made to collect past due receivables — unpaid dues and associated fees — but perhaps less progress than the Finance Committee had hoped. A new \$20 late payment fee has yet to show the desired effect.

The Association currently has \$61,449 in accounts over ninety days in arrears.

Herdrich advertised for additional Finance Committee

members using the SLWLA eblasts, yielding four new members — Dennis Sheridan, Mike Thomas, Diane Krauss, and Stan Makson — who were appointed by the board during Tuesday's meeting.

#### New "Strategic Initiatives" Committee forming

The Board also appointed three members to a new Community Strategic Initiatives Committee authorized, at Herdrich's request, during the Board's special June 3 work session.

John Goodman, Parks Cobb, and Ron Shepard were named as the committee's first members.

Jack Lattin and John Hoff-(See "Westside," p. 19)









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#### Westside meeting

(Continued from page 18)

mann both asked for more information on the purpose and function of the committee.

Herdrich referred them to the minutes of the June 3 board meeting, which describe the mission of the new committee as to "Identify specific strategic initiatives of the benefit of the entire SLW Community. Evaluate costs, advantages, disadvantages, and feasibility of implementation. Recommend said initiatives to Board of Directors and, if approved and funded, implement."

Both the minutes and Herdrich's response to Hoffman during the June 24 meeting indicate that CSI Committee members will be responsible for recruiting other SLWLA members with special expertise to assist with the planning and implementation of any projects undertaken.

#### Architectural Review Committee [ARC]

The pace of construction in Seven Lakes West continues to pick up, Architectural Review Director Dan Blue reported, with fourteen new homes currently under construction and four or five more "in the pipeline." Fiftyseven smaller remodeling or enhancement projects are also underway.

In other related action, the Board:

• Appointed Don Pollard to the ARC.

tion of lots 6132 & 6133 on Banbridge Drive.

- Approved on second reading an amendment to the ARC standards that discourages driveway designs that involve having the owner back out into the street, and instead encourages driveway designs, where feasible, that include a back out or turnaround area.
- Approved on first reading a standards amendment that will define "premium vinyl" of the type preferred by ARC as "having a minimum thickness of 0.050 inches."
- Approved on first reading some text amendments to the ARC standards making consistent references to the "ARC Submittal Review Fee."

Amendments approved on first reading must be brought back to the board for a second vote before taking effect.

#### Infrastructure

The Board approved on second reading a number of amendments to the paving standards in the rules and regulations, adding another type of asphalt that is acceptable for use on Westside roads

#### Lake & Dam

New Lake and Dam Director Bob Fewkes reported that recent in-house testing of Lake Auman water for e.coli bacteria in several locations detected no problems.

CAS staff continues to pursue boat owners who have not obtained new stickers for their boats. Manager Mendence reported that only three problem cases remain.

Fewkes said Lake Committee members will be replacing up to ten of the Lake Auman buoys that have deteriorated with age.

He noted that a list of volunteers able to provide nonemergency assistance to boaters having a problem on the lake is being updated. Folks who would like to volunteer may contact the office.

Fewkes said repairs are being made to the shed below Lake Auman Dam after some vandalism.

#### **Communications**

Communications Director Mandy Goodman reported that she has taken charge of the regular SLWLA eblasts and is training on website maintenance with the assistance of Jane Sessler.

She noted that, at the request of resident and Realtor Tom McGinnis, as well as President Keyser, she would be giving members of the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices agency a tour of Westside amenities.

#### Stop abusing the guards

Community Manager Jeanette Mendence urged landowners and their guests to refrain from using foul language, yelling, or screaming at guards on patrol and at the gate.

"They are just doing the job that you have asked them to do," Mendence said, noting several recent reports of mistreatment of security staff.

She noted that roving patrol would be paying special attention to the swimming pool area in the evenings.

Mendence thanked volunteer Bill Carl for rebuilding the ramp to the pool office.

#### **Independence Day events**

Mendence reported that the traditional Fourth of July Boat Parade will begin behind Pine Island at 10:00 am on July 4. Fireworks will begin after dark that evening.

A childrens' parade will be held at the Community Center on the morning of July 5; a Johnson Point concert featuring the Red Line Band will take place that evening.







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#### **Formula**

(Continued from front page)

#### Part 1: Paying for operations

Beginning in July, the county will, each year, allocate six percent of its anticipated revenue from property and sales taxes to pay for college operations. That will amount to nearly \$4.27 million in FY 2015, based on projected county tax receipts of \$71 million.

In future years, as county tax receipts rise, the dollar amount provided for college operations will rise at the same rate.

But, if tax receipts fall, the college will continue to receive at least the \$4.27 million budgeted for FY2015.

#### Part 2: Paying for construction & maintenance

The formula on the capital side — to pay for construction and maintenance — is bit more complex, and has two key elements.

**Part 2A:** The county has, in the past borrowed money to support new construction at the college, by selling voterapproved bonds. And the county is still making payments on those loans.

In FY2014, the county made \$1.78 million in payments on SCC-related debt. In FY2015, that payment will drop by about \$48,000. And it will keep dropping in future years.

Under the new funding formula, the county will set aside the money it is saving on college-related debt payments each year in a reserve fund. That money will be used to pay for new SCC construction projects or to make payments on any new loans

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the county has to take out to pay for SCC projects.

As the county pays off the college's older debt, more and more money will be able to be set aside. By FY2018, the county's payments on SCC debt will be nearly \$600,000 less than they are now, and all those savings will be saved in the reserve fund for college capital needs.

**Part 2 B:** The second piece of the capital funding formula for SCC would, each year, set aside six percent of any new money the county transfers to its capital reserves for the construction and maintenance of college facilities.

Every year, Moore County either collects more taxes than it has budgeted, spends less than it has budgeted, or both. The left over cash makes up the County's fund balance.

County policy sets a limit on the size of that fund balance, at fifteen percent of annual expenditures. Any amount over fifteen percent is transferred into a county reserve for future capital projects or debt service.

Under the new SCC funding formula, six percent of that money would be set aside in the capital reserve fund for college construction and maintenance.

Putting both parts of the SCC capital funding formula together, by 2020, the county could have nearly \$3.5 million in an account dedicated to SCC capital projects.

#### Nailing it down in a resolution

That two-part SCC funding formula, covering both operations and capital needs was detailed in a resolution passed unanimously by the commissioners during their June 17 meeting. As part of their approval of the FY2015 budget, they also created new county capital accounts in which to deposit the capital funds for the college.

The current Board of Commissioners lacks the power to bind the budgeting decisions of future boards, so the resolution states that "a funding formula has been developed which hopefully

will remain at the core of the streamlining process for years to come across many Boards as an equitable solution for funding SCC."

#### Meeting the college's immediate capital needs

In addition to the funding formula, the commissioners approved a separate resolution aimed at supporting the college's immediate needs for building maintenance and expansion.

Again, the magic number was six percent.

First, the commissioners took six percent of the County's own capital reserve fund and allocated that to the college. That will provide nearly \$1 million in FY2015 for deferred maintenance costs.

The college has been using money it saved from the most

recent school bond to pay for maintenance of its facilities, but that excess has been exhausted. The County's six percent, \$1 million allocation will replenish that fund.

Second, the commissioners provided the college with a loan of \$1.8 million, to be used for an expansion of the Dempsey Hall Student Center.

The college will repay the loan over four or five years, using the capital funds allocated in the new funding formula described above.

The county invests its cash reserves in the state-managed Cash Management Trust Fund, which currently provides a return of roughly one tenth of one percent. The interest rate on the college

(See "Formula," p. 21)

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#### **Formula**

(Continued from page 21)

loan will be set at one-quarter of one percent above that rate.

Commissioner Nick Picerno told The Times after the June 17 meeting that the \$1.8 million allocation for the student center expansion is a good financial deal for Moore County taxpayers in two ways.

First, SCC will pay back the loan at a higher rate of interest than the County currently receives on its reserve funds. Second, that rate at roughly two-fifths of a percentage point — is far less than the five or six percent rate taxpayers would shave to pay if instead the county sold voter-approved general obligation bonds to pay for the student center expan-

#### Applying the model to MCS

"This is the formula that we are trying to set up with

the Moore County Schools, so that they would know what kind of allocation would be coming," Commissioner Picerno said before the board approved the new funding formula. "It would take a lot of the drama out of trying to figure out how much funding is going to be coming."

"We would set up the same type of construction account for them, and it could follow the same model." he said. "We hope that we can work that percentage out in the near term."

Funding for MCS makes up nearly thirty-six percent of the county's general fund budget.

The alternative for funding construction at both MCS and SCC is to place a referendum before the voters seeking authorization to borrow money by issuing General Obligations bonds. And that takes time, Commissioner

Randy Saunders explained.

Voter approval of school bonds could happen, at the earliest, in November, Saunders noted. And, if approved, the bond offering would have to be designed, authorized, and sold. Saunders said it could easily take two years before any construction would begin.

"Instead, funding this new addition at the college was done now." he said. "And we have committed to the schools that we have funds now. That we are ready to start working on new construction now. But they have to work with us and come on board and get started."

"We don't want to wait two years to get started," Saunders said, noting that talks with MCS will resume in early July, once new Superintendent Robert Grimesey is on board.

#### **Artists League** celebrates 20 years

Sandhills is a strong art organization of over 135 members that share a common bond - ART - and it is more than just an appreciation. For many, creative fine arts have long been a big part of their lives and for others it is just the begin-

Twenty years ago, the two founders of the League, Chuck Lunney and Mike D'Andrea searched for a place where they could join with other artists and pursue their love of art.

The old train warehouse building in Historic Aberdeen needed a "little" work, but with the recruitment and help of other artists, Ann Campbell, Virginia Cowden, Charlotte

The Artists League of the Gaddy, Sara Gray, Betty Hendrix, Ann Marie Parker, Sarah Simpson, Fred Stone and Sheila Sullivan and a lot of hard work, their dream became a reality.

Join the Artists League of the Sandhills as they celebrate their "Reflective" exhibit of the past twenty years on Sunday, July 13, from 3 to 5 pm.

The current Community Outreach Projects will also be on display and include, "Be Smart with Art" at Aberdeen Elementary School, Cancer Art Therapy, and FirstHealth Cancer Infusion Center Ceiling Tiles.

The Exchange Street Gallery of Fine Art, 129 Exchange Street, Aberdeen. www.artistleague.org



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**Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014

## OPINION

#### Falling love with the city of love

When my younger daughter elbows in defense. More than sitting on top of one another; was four, I woke up with her sitting on my chest, her nose pressed to my mine. As soon as my eyes focused, she asked, "Is Paris really the city of love?"

"I don't know," I replied, "I guess it all depends on where you fall in love."

"Well, I am falling in love in Paris," she declared, and slid off the bed and ran out of the room.

My preschooler loved romance. She drew hearts, blew kisses, and clapped and cheered when she saw people kiss. The only thing she loved more than romance was bacon. We have a bumper sticker that says, "I love bacon," in her honor.

My much more proper elder daughter would frown disapprovingly. She did not believe in public spectacles.

I had to agree. I grew up Missionary Baptist in East Texas. There was little outright physical affection. A good, firm, quick handshake said it all. Endearments were exchanged via Hallmark.

Then, horror of horrors, I married into a Jewish family from Up North. They kissed you hello and goodbye complete with hugs. I dodged, slipped, and stuck out my once, a kiss intended for my cheek landed on the back of my head as I fled.

Two weeks ago, sitting in front of Notre Dame — the real one, in Paris — with my now eleven and fourteen yearold daughters, I saw a couple

at the Eiffel Tower, smoothing like no tomorrow; and then at the airport. Dear Lord. they actually kissed both sides of the cheek as a greeting. A young woman had eight relatives sending her off. Seriously — I counted

thirty-two kiss-

It was our last day of sightseeing in Paris. In two days, we had done the story book Madeline tour and

raced through the city, visiting museums, monuments, restaurants, cathedrals, and outdoor markets; climbing the Eiffel Tower, and floating on the Seine.

We stopped to catch our breath and let the girls take a double-decker carousel ride. As a child in East Texas, I couldn't even have dreamed such a magical thing. My rising middle schooler was dressed pretty in a pink sweatshirt, plaid skirt, and glitter leggings. Rosy cheeked from the chilly wind, sparkling eyes, she was all sweetness.

She jumped off the platform and ran to me and hugged me. She could have been four again, sitting on my chest.

She looked at me with her earnest expression and asked, "When are we going to get, like, to the real Paris? You know, downtown, where all the shops are?"

Incredulous, I answered, 'You are here!"

"No really," she replied. Her sister patiently recounted the past forty-eight hours. The open air market where we ate Lebanese fried meat pies, hummus, and chocolate tarts, and drank Coke for breakfast. Shopped for the perfect bright green and pink beaded purse. Eating real chocolate mousse. The six piece folk band playing in the Subway. The beautiful stained glass. The cream of white asparagus soup. The

bridge with the locks engraved with love. Orangina. French bread and butter. The old hotel with the cool fireplace. The subway that could get you anywhere.

One daughter had fallen in love with the city of light, while the other was left ever so slightly disappointed. Just a little crestfallen, we went to supper in front of the Arc de Triomphe.

For the previous week, both girls had eaten anything and everything that had been put in front of them, completely embracing French cuisine.

I was a little surprised when my youngest ordered a hamburger.

She was thrilled when it came on a buttered bun, with an over-easy fried egg and two pieces of thick, crispy bacon on top. She graciously gave me a bite, and it was almost life-changing.

She grinned at me and declared, "I love this place." I leaned over and kissed her greasy, fickle, rosy cheek.

#### Stirring the Pot

Ellen Marcus

making out in the middle of the square. What were they possibly thinking? I'm sure the leering gargoyles perched on the towers of Notre Dame were wondering the same thing.

It was amazing how many intertwined couples managed to photobomb my beautiful shots of statues and cafés. There was no escape! A couple in their forties was sprawled out next to me on the boat, taking up three seats, cuddling. Had they no shame?

At the park, entwined on the grass; on the subway,

#### There's something missing

Dear Editor:

Well, Phase 1 of the front entrance project looks great, but I noticed there is something missing, something near and dear to me and my family — and probably the rest of our great community here in Seven Lakes West.

While reading The Seven Lakes Times today, I learned that there are two more Phases to be completed and thought maybe those work plans would address the "missing something near and

But, as I read on, I found it to be very disappointing. Phase 2 and 3 would be curbing and paving project.

So, I would like to recommend that the front entrance

committee members draft a Phase 4!

The fourth phase would recommend a construction project that would address the installation of a flag pole at the front entrance, so that

the front entrance project can truly be called "complete.'

Something missing indeed.

Jim Bernicken Seven Lakes West

#### What a great place!

I am grateful to live in such a beautiful place. I give my sincere thanks to all those who help keep it looking so

These include the landscape crews, those who take pride in caring for their yards, and those who show respect to all the public areas -

streets, parking, and parks.

I am especially thankful for the many who do not litter or leave their pet poop behind, and those who pick up litter left behind the ones who must not care about living in such a beautiful place.

> Thank You, Robert Allen Seven Lakes North

EVEN TAKES IMES

Published every other Friday for residents & landowners of Seven Lakes, Foxfire, & McLendon Hills, NC P.O. Box 468, West End, NC 27376 910-673-0111 • 888-806-2572 (fax) mail@sevenlakestimes.net www.sevenlakestimes.net

> Greg Hankins & Tom Hankins, Publishers Greg Hankins, Editor Marcy Hankins, Layout & Copy Editing Ellen Marcus, Reporter Sarah Hankins, Ad Layout

Founded in 1985 by Seven Lakes Times, Inc. J. Sherwood Dunham, Alfred C. Gent, William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker **Opinion** June 27, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 23

#### How easily are you offended?

I have been away from the name is derived from the news cycle for the last several weeks due to some family matters, but I was recently driving and listening to satellite sports radio. I was stunned to hear them ranting about the Washington Redskins name.

Some broadcasting commentators were so up in arms about the name that they promised to never use the name on the air again.

I could see their point, I wouldn't want Washington associated with my team either, but then I learned that it was the name Redskins that they were offended

I started to think about all of the team names that could be offensive to someone. Perhaps we should ban them all?

Let me see. I will start with my favorite teams. The Pittsburgh Pirates. Who am I to judge? Maybe there is a pirate out there who is offended because of our name. They do have a funny looking mascot who seems to mock being a pirate.

My children and grandchildren could be offended at the Steeler name. They may even think that it means someone who steals, especially since they don't make steel in Pittsburgh any more.

Some animal rights activists could get angry at the World Champion San Antonio Spurs. After all, the spur is a cruel instrument. My Grandmother was Irish but she never fought (as far as I know), so she may take offense to the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. Those out there who have a logo and mascot of a Crusader should beware, because Muslims may take offense.

Tigers, you are not immune, because Lions may not like it. Cats and Dogs, forget it! Patriots, you offend our British friends, so you are out as well.

Can you imagine those poor schools who are the Black Knights or the Black Panthers?

Let's not forget about the State Oklahoma, the state's

Choctaw word okla and humma, meaning "red people." Look it up. They must be banned from the state name, if we are using this mob logic.

"Happy is the man who is not easily offended" is a quote tics, bad habits, taste in art and the list goes on.

I am not saying that we shouldn't have convictions about these things, but let's not be so easily offended. What if we get to know those who offend us and show them Christ's Love?

> Don't we have better things to do

with our lives than to be offended about a sport's team logo?

Maybe all of this busi-

ness with sports logos is just a distraction to keep us from thinking about the real problems in America.

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



that we like to use. I think that it is derived from Matthew 11, but it is a great quote. I am always suspicious of people who are easily offended.

As a Christian, it bothers me when we are so easily offended. We are offended by language, appearance, poli-

#### Faith Baptist VBS

Faith Baptist is holding their Vacation Bible School program on Monday, July 21 - Friday, July 25, 6:30 pm to 9 pm, at 2180 Carthage Rd, West End.

VBS will be for age 3 years old to 12th Grade.

Registration deadline

is Friday, July 18. Register online at www.faithwestend.org under the Happenings at Faith Tab or call 910-947-3797.

Register to be a part of Weird Animals VBS at Faith Baptist Church, West End.



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A healthy lifestyle is the key to longevity, optimum weight, abundant energy and balance. By using fruit to satisfy our taste for sweetness, we can leave behind the use of chemical, processed and refined sweeteners. Fruits are easy to digest, are cleansing and cooling and are great for those who are overstressed and overheated from excessive mental strain or hot climates. Fruits are filled with fiber and liver stimulants, which act as natural, gentle laxatives. Whenever possible, buy fresh, locally grown fruit as opposed to imported fruits shipped from far-off places. This keeps you eating in season, and more in harmony with your environment and climate.

Eating raw fruit in summer months is highly cooling, while baking it in the winter months neutralizes the cooling effect. Fruit in the form of juice is a great choice for cleansing the body, but be aware that juice rapidly raises blood sugar levels, leading to an energy crash soon after. Frozen, whole, puréed or juiced fruit can make great summertime cool-down treats. Try frozen grapes, banana-coconut smoothie popsicles or lime juice ice-cubes in iced tea!

Whether you are having fresh fruit for a light early morning breakfast, a midday snack or

evening treat, enjoy nature's sweetness and whenever possible buy organic. Here are a few summer fruits and their health

Apricots: Great for lung conditions and asthma; used to help treat anemia due to their high copper and cobalt content.

Bananas: Help to lubricate the intestines, treat ulcers, detoxify the body and manage sugar cravings; are rich in potassium (which helps hypertension).

Cherries: Slightly warming in nature; increase overall body energy, remedy arthritis and rheumatism and are rich in iron, which improves the blood.

Grapefruits: Treat poor digestion, increase appetite during pregnancy, alleviate intestinal gas and reduce mucus conditions of the lungs.

Papayas: Tone the stomach, act as digestive aid, moisten the lungs and alleviate coughing; contain carpaine, an anti-tumor compound.

Raspberries: Benefit the liver and kidneys, cleanse blood of toxins, regulate menstrual cycles, treat anemia and can promote labor at childbirth.



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24 Seven Lakes Times June 27, 2014 Letters

#### Those Seven Lakes road signs? Thank Mary

Dear Editor:

Thank you for publishing my letter regarding Mary Featherston in your last edition. Mary was such a special part of Seven Lakes in the late 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s, that I want to share one more memory.

The road signs that direct people to Seven Lakes are a result of Mary's work. She put Seven Lakes on the map. Some will wonder just how I can make such a statement. Mary decided that we should have road signs giving travelers directions to Seven Lakes.

So, she contacted the Department of Transportation and asked just how that could be done. She was told that real estate developments that were privately owned were not eligible for road signage. She simply, politely refused to take that as the final answer. On further questioning, she was told that if you are not on the official State Map that you could not get directional signs on the highways.

Many people would have decided that was the final answer, and understandably so. Not Mary! Now she had a different avenue to explore. Who would makes the final decision as to what communities are on the official State Map? Soon Mary had the answer to that question and was in contact with that department head.

No way will we put a real estate development privately owned on the official map of the State of North Carolina was the first answer she received. Just a bump in the road for Mary. Soon she had convinced the "map" folks a convenience store, a restaurant, and an insurance office located on NC Highway 211 was not a real estate development. It was not long until the next publication of the official North Carolina Map contained the name of Seven Lakes just west of West End on NC Highway 211.

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For fun, look at the official map of the State of North Carolina and see how many real estate developments that were developed by a single developer are on the map.

Soon, a few directional signs started to appear. First,

they were small arrow type signs. Now, we have major billing on directional signs at all major intersections around the area. Thank you Mary Featherston.

D. Alan Shaw Seven Lakes South





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#### The US Open was a delightful surprise

approached me with a ticket to the US Open, I had no real desire to attend.

However, with much off on a fun-filled day to enjoy

When my daughter first thought and consideration the much-awaited event in feet in the sand, and sip an for every heart seemed filled on what I would otherwise do on my day off, I accepted the invitation and adventured

the pines that would soon be only one more story of Pinehurst to tell.

With that in mind, I loaded up my camera and headed out the door. After all, there had been so much time and money and preparation that had been the focus for so many, for so long. There were new streets and new

highways, new signage, and freshly planted plants and flowers on nearly every street corner in town. There would be shuttles and buses, trollevs and trains and limos that would be in route, transporting passengers like myself from place to place, so as to enjoy all the activities and events.

There would be so many people there, and lots of golfers to see and shops at which to purchase merchandise. Plenty of good food to eat. And last, but not least, leisure time to kick up my

ice cold Coke, and stroll thru with laughter and cheer. the pines and take pictures of the rich and famous.

sider the rejection of such a

sweet and thoughtful gesture.

An opportunity to meet so

many people from all over

the world from all walks of

life in my own backyard.

Soon papers and magazines

and books would be filled

with the history for all the world to see, the U.S. Open

Hats off to a community

of compassion and generosity

and money well spent. I

salute you to a job well done.

Surely some magic must have

been tucked under your hat,

Experience.

Your Turn

Candace Kelly West End

However, frantically and furiously our company will soon

depart and will return back to their own place of businesses and their own little towns. May the little gifts of pleasures and

How could I, possibly con- hospitalities and keepsakes be carried home with them in their hearts.

For all the golfers, spectators and patrons of the 2014 U.S. Open it was a magical delight.

I hope I never forget the experience.

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#### 7 Lakes Stables News



Results of the Seven Lakes Stables horse naming contest: by a majority vote the new horse will be named Joe. "Phoenix" was a very close second. Thanks to all for participating.

The Stables invite the community to meet the new pony girl Dixie, pictured above. She is a six year old Haflinger mare that is trained to ride and drive. She is already hitting the trails. Dixie is a very lovely girl, so make sure to come out and say hi.

The Stable Summer Hours are: Monday: Closed; Tuesday - Saturday 8-3; and Sunday: 8-12 by appointment only.

Please remember Summer rides book quickly, so if you would like a specific date and time be sure to call and reserve your spot 1-2 weeks in advance by stopping by the stables or calling 910-672-4738.

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26 **Seven Lakes Times** June 27, 2014 News

#### **Picerno**

(Continued from page 5)

grant for Medicaid, why can't we ask for the same? We want a block grant for local school districts."

"That's where we need to put our energy. That's just good, common sense thinking."

And that's not just an opinion; it's an action plan. Picerno is working with MCS, his fellow Moore County commissioners, and the NCACC to pressure the state to move in that direction.

He recently carried the message to NC Senator Jerry Tillman, who represents Moore

County in Raleigh and chairs the Senate Education Com-

"That's what I told Senator Tillman," Picerno said. "We need to block grant education funding. I asked him to go make it happen and told him that he would be representing the people of Moore County if he got it done."

That may become a legislative rallying cry for counties statewide. Picerno is Moore County's representative on the NC Association of County Commissioners, and he recently met with the deputy director and general

counsel of that organization, who are interested in making the simplification of education funding one of the association's key legislative priorities for next year.

"They gave us a road map about how our board could pass resolutions to get the ball rolling on that," Picerno said. "I am going to ask our board to take the lead on making it a statewide issue."

"I'm on a mission." he said. "If we could simply the process, we could stretch the dollars more and get more money to the classroom."

"We want to see it simpli-

fied, more locally controlled. Let the county and schools figure it out. Don't force us to spend money where it's not needed."

"If we can pull it off, the taxpayer, the kids, and the teachers would all be better off," Picerno said.

#### Finding the formula

As far as local funding is concerned, Picerno praised MCS's stewardship of taxpayer dollars, and expressed confidence that the district and the county would work

out the details of a stable funding formula for MCS by the time the FY2016 budget rolls around next Spring.

The County and MCS have been working over the past several months to develop a formula that would allocate a fixed percentage of tax revenues to school operations and fixed percentage of capital reserves to school construction every year. The goal is a structure like that already approved for the funding of Sandhills Community College

(See "Picerno," p. 28)

#### **Commissioners**

(Continued from page 3) sand gallons.

- Awarded a \$216,000 contract to McFadden Homes for the replacement of the county's MR-1 sewer pump station, which will be replaced by a gravity feed line.
- Modified the contract under which Moore County sells water to Camp Mackall, raising the price per thousand gallons from \$5.48 to \$5.68.
- Awarded to Polytec Inc. the \$128,000 contract to furnish lime slurry to the county's wastewater treatment plant.
- · Tabled consideration of the county's funding agree-

ment with Moore County Partners in Progress, an economic development agency funded by the county, its municipalities, and private interests. The county plans to provide \$100,000 to Partners in the coming fiscal

- · Appointed Susan Zucchino to the Sandhills Regional Library System Board of Trustees.
- Appointed Dr. Michele Keel to the Moore County Board of Health and tabled appointments to two other vacancy seats pending the receipt of more applications.
- Reappointed Teri Prots and Wendi Russell to the

transportation advisory Board, as well as appointing new members Melissa Watford of FirstHealth, Linda Parsons of the Chamber of Commerce, Rachel Hussey representing Moore County Schools, and Melanie Gayle of Sandhills Childrens Center to the Transportation Advisory Board

- Reappointed Linda Pearson of the United Way to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.
- Reappointed Carol Matuza to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee.

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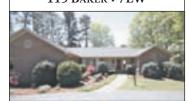


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3/2 Golf Front \$175,000

111 Joseph's Point + 7LW



\$375,000

28 Seven Lakes Times June 27, 2014 News

#### **Foxfire**

(Continued from front page)

Assistant to the Dean for thirty-six years. William was a psychology professor and golf coach.

"During spring break, we would come to Foxfire and play golf," Helen said. "After 15 years of visiting, we decided in 2009 to would find a little condo, so we could live here part-time. In 2012, we moved here full time."

Kirk said she appreciates small town life.

"The Village Park is fantastic," Kirk said. "It has a great walking trail, and wonderful wide open spaces. The pool is affordable and open

to the public. One of the things we like about Foxfire is that it is not a gated, insulated community. It's a little town."

Slippery Rock, PA is itself a borough with fewer than 4,000 full-time residents. But the University has twice that many students.

Kirk said she appreciates the current Foxfire Village council.

"I think they are all doing a good job," she told *The Times*. "If I were selected, I would work where I was needed the most," she said. Kirk's experience is in administration; she holds both bachelors and masters degrees in accounting.

Kirk's higher education began when she took advantage of free college credits offered to university employees.

"I earned my bachelor's degree at the university while I was working," she explained. "I started by taking a little piano class in 1976. Thirteen years later, in 1989, I earned my degree. I then decided to go on to get my masters, and completed it in 1995."

"I spent eighteen years taking classes during the evening and on my lunch hour. I like to think of it as encouragement to other people that they can also continue their education."

A "free" education proved to be hard work.

"I did it for free," Kirk laughed. "When I first started, I could take as many courses as I wanted. I could take three evening classes and one during the day. Gradually the university started to change its policy. I am not sure why; there weren't that many employees taking advantage of it."

With more restrictive class scheduling Kirk jumped at the opportunity to register for a sponsored program in England. With plenty of earned vacation time to spare, she took a three-week scholastic holiday and came home with all the credits required to graduate.

Kirk told *The Times* that she would bring her positive,

can-do spirit to the board.

"I don't throw roadblocks in front of anyone," she said. "If they are trying to do something good, they deserve encouragement."

Kirk said she briefly considered running for a seat on the Council during municipal elections last November, but it took her a little while to warm up to the idea.

"I might have considered it for a nanosecond," Kirk said.

When she read that Erickson's position was open, she decided to apply. If she is selected, Kirk is ready for the commitment, she told *The Times* — and her husband William is encouraging.

"He did say something very practical — that I am going to have to give up a couple things," Kirk laughed. "I wouldn't mind; it would be a great opportunity."

#### **Picerno**

(Continued from page 26)

[See story on page 1.]

The key question is exactly what that percentage should be, within a range of perhaps 35-45 percent. The answer to that question is likely to be worked out over the next few months.

But, already, the negotiations have created a stronger working relationship between the county and MCS.

"Moore County Schools is doing it right," Picerno said. "The board's heart is in the right place. Mike Griffin has been a great steward of our money."

"Scores are up, digital learning is moving in. They are being smart with their dollars."

As for this year's budget, Picerno defends the Commissioners' decision to provide MCS with less than the \$2.7 million increase the School Board requested.

County funding for the schools has been steady throughout the years since the beginning of the recession in 2009. Funds were added for the digital learning initiative last year and \$450,000 was added to operational funding in the just approved FY2015 budget.

But MCS has a fund balance — reserve funds — of \$4-6 million.

Noting that Budget Director Griffin regularly explains to the School Board that MCS uses up its federal and state funding before using county dollars, Picerno points out that the fund balance MCS is carrying are county taxpayer dollars already allocated to the schools.

"If the schools were broke, if they had no money in the bank, if there was a hole, we would have an issue," he

said. "But taxpayers have already given that money."

Exactly how large a fund balance MCS needs to carry is among the issues that are still under negotiation as the county and the schools work out a funding formula.



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\$900 a month. Call 910-9875091.

BUILDING FOR RENT – Candor Shopping Center. \$350 per month. Call Blake Real Estate, Tommy Blake Broker, 910-220-2090

#### FOR RENT REAL ESTATE

OFFICE FOR RENT – SPA-CIOUS – Located in South Park Office Complex \$500 per Month. No Utility Expense. Call John at 673-1818.

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LEARN THE GUITAR THIS SUMMER! – Fun, easy lessons from beginner to advanced. Rock, blues, folk, pop, & more. Learn basic theory, rhythm, technique, and songwriting tips. 1st lesson *FREE*. 17 yrs. experience. Flexible schedule. "I'll come to you". Learn 3 chords, learn 1,000 songs. Call or text Matt at 401-226-4624.

MOBILE COMPUTER SERVICE AND TRAINING — Desktops, laptops, servers, printers, wired and wireless networks and other devices, just ask! 10 plus years' experience. Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer. Special pricing! I come to you! 910-638-0878.

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**POWER WASHING** – Painting, Window Cleaning, Deck Sealing. Call 910-751-8060.

SEVEN LAKES HOME AND LAWN - Contact Ed at 638-2387, sevenlakeshl@yahoo.com

**LOCAL RESIDENT:** I buy used cars and trucks. Call before you trade. Call Kirk 910-690-9299.

**GERITA'S CLEANING SERV-ICE** – Let me do your dirty work. 15 years experience. References available. 910-639-9473. 7/11

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

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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

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Seven Lakes Times June 27, 2014

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NEW & USED PONTOONS AND SKI BOATS – Call Seven Lakes Marine, 673-1440.

TURN YOUR USED BOAT INTO CASH — People are looking to purchase good condition used boats. Let us connect you to the prospective buyers. Call Jeff at 910-673-1440.

#### BOATS NEEDED

DONATE YOUR BOAT TO THE NONPROFIT MATTAMUSKEET FOUNDATION – Tax deduction for market value. Support the organization's educational mission. Contact Lewis Forrest, 252-341-7882.

Advertise in The Times

#### BUYING GOLD & SILVER SERVICE

**BUYING GOLD & SILVER COINS** – Sterling Silver Flatware. *Old Broken Gold* Cash Payments! Call 910-944-0808.

#### HELP THE ANIMALS

SANDHILLS ANIMAL RESCUE

**LEAGUE** – needs some help with the pets they have rescued. The League needs donations of the following items:

Pedigree dry dog food 50 pound bags or Old Roy 50 pound bags. Pedigree or Food Lion canned dog food

Meow Mix Turkey & Salmon dry cat food or Cat Naturals by Purina dry cat food

9 Lives canned cat food Purina canned cat food Raw hide chews, rope chews, and cat treats

Paper Towels

Scoopable cat litter, regular clay cat litter or Regular Fresh Step litter

(2) 50 foot water hoses, (1) 100 foot water hose, 3 metal buckets

Used sheets, pillows, pillow cases, and throw rugs

A box or pedestal fan is also

needed

If anyone can donate these items for the cats and dogs in need, please contact Lou Atkins 910-974-4468 and arrangements will be made for pick up. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

#### Times Classifieds

Classified Ads are \$1 per line.



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Seven Lakes West \$265,000
Elegant custom home w/open floor plan
3 BR / 2 Full & 2 Half BA



Seven Lakes North \$179,000 Cute, renovated home on quiet pond! 3 BR / 2 BA 104 Primrose Circle



Seven Lakes South \$415,000 Completely remodeled & unique golf retreat! 4 BR / 3.5 BA 251 W. Devonshire Avenue



Seven Lakes West \$698,000 Gorgeous lakefront custom home 5 BR / 3.5 BA 129 Shaw Drive



Seven Lakes West \$450,000 Stunning custom waterfront home 3 BR / 2.5 BA 459 Longleaf Drive



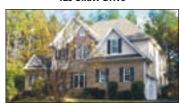
Seven Lakes West \$619,000 Lakefront cottage w/custom upgrades 3 BR / 3.5 BA 103 Featherston Point



Seven Lakes West \$275,000 Lovely traditional home w/open floorplan 4 BR / 3 BA 113 Longleaf Drive



Seven Lakes West \$255,000 Gorgeous custom home with great updates 3 BR / 2 BA 389 Longleaf Drive



Seven Lakes West \$259,900 Great home w/open floor plan 4 BR / 2.5 BA 116 James Drive



Seven Lakes South \$255,000 Immaculate one story golf front home 3 BR / 2 BA 148 E. Devonshire Avenue



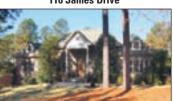
Foxfire \$298,000
Gorgeous new construction w/ open plan
4 BR / 2.5 BA
1 N Wrenn Place



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105 Fox Run Court



Seven Lakes West \$318,000 Spacious brick golf front home! 3 BR / 3 BA 174 Banbridge Drive



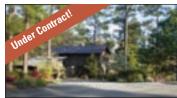
Seven Lakes West \$259,000 Immaculate, cozy golf front cottage 3 BR / 2 BA 214 Longleaf Drive



Foxfire \$359,000 Unique golf front home w/lots of light! 5 BR / 3 BA 19 Ridge Road



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