Foxfire Village Council ... 4, 5 Seven Lakes West Christmas Party ...8,9

**Busienss Guild Tree Lighting . .10, 11** 

In memory of .... 15 **Opinion** . . . . 22 Classifieds .... 29

Volume 30 Number 3

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

December 12, 2014

## A Royal Holiday Celebration



Seven Lakes Business Guild's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting was well-attended by royalty, including Miss Greater Sandhills Outstanding Little Miss Kenley Grace Smith and Mini Majestic Queen Sophia Gaines. Pageant princesses, song, and dance made the event one of the most lively and well-attended ever. See page 10 for more photos.

## Busy session for SLLA Board

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter

The Times

PO Box 468

West End, NC 27376



Fencing, docks, bocce, security, water quality —

the agenda for the Monday, December 8 Work Session of the The Seven Lakes Landowners Association pool repairs, lake [SLLA] Board of Directors was lengthy and informa-

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tion-packed.

The three hour meeting featured a number of presentations of research conducted by various committees to support their recommendations.

A common thread that ran through many of the discussions was highlighted by Finance Committee Member Jim Allen, who spoke during the public comment period at the top of the meeting.

Allen asked that, before recommendations go to the Work Session, they first be vetted by the Finance Committee. In fact, during the meeting, most of the more costly proposals were sent

(See "SLLA," p. 21)

## Picerno elected **County Chairman**

Times Editor



Nick Picerno of McLendon Hills was elected Chairman of the Moore County Board

of Commissioners during the Board's Monday, December 1 meeting. Otis Ritter will serve as Vice Chair. Both appointments were made by unanimous vote.

Before nominating Picerno, commissioner Randy Saunders asked that his name be removed from consideration for either office. Saunders said his sister's husband had died during the Thanksgiving holiday. Though he expressed confidence that he would be able to fulfill the job of Com-

missioner. Saunders said he would prefer not to take on the extra responsibility of serving as Chair or Vice Chair.

Prior to the election of officers, three newly-elected members took the oath of office: Jerry Daeke of Aberdeen, who fills the seat occupied last term by Jimmy Melton; Katherine Graham of Carthage, who takes Larry Caddell's place on the board: and Otis Ritter of Robbins. who was elected in November to a full term, after having served as an appointed Commissioner for the past eighteen months.

Daeke said he plans to meet with elected officials from each of Moore County's

(See "Commissioners," p. 25)

## Cunningham elected **School Board Chair**

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



After three hours of stalemate at the Monday, December 1 meet-

ing of the Moore County Board of Education, board members finally broke a fourfour tie vote and elected Bruce Cunningham their Chairman for 2015. This will make Cunningham's second time in the Chairman's seat.

When nominations were opened, Charles Lambert put forward Cunningham's name. Laura Lang then nominated Ben Cameron, who has served as the Board's Vice Chairman for the past year.

Under the rules that govern the operations of the eightmember School Board, nom-

inations do not require a second, so both names were placed in contention. Members marked their choice on paper ballots, which they were also required to sign, so the votes could be recorded by the clerk.

Clerk Cathy McRae collected the first round of votes and handed them to Board Attorney Neal Ramee. The result was a tie, with four members voting for Cunningham and four for Cameron.

Records provided by the clerk indicate that Cunningham won the votes of Ed Dennison, Charles Lambert, and Sue Black, as well as voting for himself.

Cameron was supported by Kathy Farren, Laura Lang,

(See "School Board," p. 27)

**Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 **Events** 

## Candlelight vigil for the homeless Dec. 18

St. Joseph of the Pines' annual candlelight vigil for the homeless will be held at Downtown Park in Southern Pines from 5:30 - 6:15 pm on December 18, at the corner of SE Broad Street and Massachusetts Ave.

The purpose of the vigil is to bring attention to the tragedy of homelessness and to remember those who have died while living without a

#### CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

#### Publication Schedule

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Deadline

Deadline	Issue
Thu, Dec 18* Fri, Jan 2 Fri, Jan 16 Fri, Jan 30 Fri, Feb 13 Fri, Feb 27 Fri, Mar 13 Fri, Mar 27 Fri, Apr 10 Fri, Apr 24 Fri, May 8 Fri, May 22 Fri, Jun 5 Fri, Jun 19 Fri, Jul 3 Fri, Jul 31 Fri, Aug 14 Fri, Aug 28 Fri, Sep 11 Fri, Sep 25 Fri, Oct 9 Fri, Oct 23 Fri, Nov 6 Fri, Nov 20 Fri, Dec 4 Fri, Dec 18	Fri, Dec 26 Fri, Jan 9 Fri, Jan 23 Fri, Feb 6 Fri, Feb 20 Fri, Mar 6 Fri, Mar 20 Fri, Apr 3 Fri, Apr 17 Fri, May 15 Fri, May 15 Fri, May 29 Fri, Jun 12 Fri, Jun 26 Fri, Jul 10 Fri, Jul 24 Fri, Aug 7 Fri, Aug 7 Fri, Aug 21 Fri, Sep 4 Fri, Sep 18 Fri, Oct 2 Fri, Oct 16 Fri, Oct 30 Fri, Nov 13 Fri, Nov 27 Fri, Dec 11 Fri, Dec 25

\*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

permanent home. Since 1990, the National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH) has sponsored National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day every year on (or around) the first day of winter, the longest night of the year.

St. Joseph of the Pines has participated by hosting a candlelight vigil for the last four years.

The program will consist of prayer and music and be led by Reverend Carl Matthews, Director of Mission and Ministry, St. Joseph of the Pines. Hot chocolate will be served to all.

St. Joseph asks those who attend the vigil to help homeless neighbors and those in need this winter by bringing new or gently used blankets, coats, mittens, gloves,

scarves, and hats. Students from St. John Paul Catholic School will assist in loading the St. Joseph of the Pines mobile health unit, the

MOORE" semitrailer, with donated items. The items will

"Together We Can Do throughout the cold winter months from the mobile health unit. For more inforbe distributed to the rural mation, contact Susie parts of Moore County Buchanan at 910-246-3125.

## **Blue Christmas Service**

time for some people. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died, or it may be a time that has always been difficult.

The constant refrain on the radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost or

Christmas can be a painful have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation - all these can make someone feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating and spending.

> Everyone needs space and time to acknowledge their sadness and concerns; you need to know that you are not alone.

The Chapel in the Pines

will host a special "Blue Christmas: A Service of Tidings of Comfort and Hope" service on Thursday, December 18 at 4 pm.

Join in prayers, Scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn and for those who struggle. Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Fran Stark at 673-5493.





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People December 12, 2014 Seven Lakes Times

## Pitching in to stop a minor roadway flood

by Janna Ptak Times Reporter

Quick thinking and familiarity with Seven Lakes North's infrastructure helped stop minor flooding on Edgewater Drive on the morning of Saturday, November 29.

"I got a call from a resident who said, 'We've got five inches of water going across the road over here!" former Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] President Bob Darr told a *The Seven Lakes Times* reporter who happened upon the scene.

Darr, who served as the Association's Maintenance Supervisor before joining the Board, enlisted the help of a member of the SLLA Maintenance Department to figure out how the flooding started and what could be done.

An investigation revealed that a drainage valve had been opened to prevent the flooding of Lake Ramapo, because the lake had a higher water level than what was desired. The Maintenance Department had been instructed to completely open up the drainage valve to lower the water level of Lake Ramapo.

Usually, when the valve is opened, the water flows through a catch basin and culvert (a concrete and brick structure) under Edgewater Drive to drain into Lake Echo on the other side.

Unfortunately, the flow from the drainage valve was more than the catch basin could handle. This caused flooding, and, instead of the desired result, the water traveled across Edgewater Drive to drain off the road into Lake Echo.

"By opening this thing wide open. . . it was more than what this catch basin could handle," Darr said.

Darr immediately had the drainage valve closed to stop the flow of water onto Edgewater Drive. He and the maintenance worker believed the flooding had clogged the catch basin.

"We think the catch basin is clogged," Darr said. "The water will finally get to a point where it won't be coming across the road. . . He is going get boots on, get the rake, and get in there to clean that out. That will take care of the rest of this."

"It's not a big disaster," Darr explained.

Darr told The Times his

familiarity with and concern for the community make it tempting to stand again for election to the SLLA Board of Directors.

"I've spent a lot of time on the board taking care of stuff," Darr said. "I may run again."



Northsider Bob Darr surveys an early-morning flood at an outlet of Lake Ramapo



## **Christmas Eve Service**

On Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) at 4 pm, the community is invited to a special service of Carols, Candles, and Communion at the Chapel in the Pines. Come and join your friends and neighbors as the Chapel celebrates the birth of the Jesus who is the focus of the Christmas season.

Hear the words of the psalmist who will encourage everyone to "sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth."

The service will include

the lighting of the Advent Candles of hope, peace, joy and love.

The children will hear the story of Jesus, born in a stable and lying in a manger wrapped in bands of cloth.

The Chapel in the Pines, invites the congregation to share in the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

The Chapel welcomes everyone to this Service of Carols, Candles, and Communion. Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.



\*Closing Subject to Game Time

**Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 News

## Council may disband Appearance Committee

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



the Appearance Committee in Foxfire Village is in danger of be-

ing disbanded.

The Appearance Committee is not functioning at a high level of efficiency," Mayor Steve Durham reported during the FoxfireCouncil's November 25 Work Session.

"Only two or three come to the meeting," he added. "We need to somehow bolster the committee or think about disbanding it and turning its duties over to a different committee."

Village Clerk Lisa Kivett had informed Durham that the committee was often out of compliance with the Village's ordinances. Of the committee's seven seats, only five are filled: and attendance is a problem.

The committee is in violation of our own ordinances," Durham said

He asked Council members whether the committee's responsibilities should be moved to the Village Clerk.

"Do you think this is something that Lisa can do?" he asked. "I hate to see the committee go away. It has the potential to do a lot of things. We could publicly announce Committee reviewing the

that we need people to apply."

"It's very easy to say, have It appears that Lisa do it," Councilwoman Leslie Frusco cautioned. "But it would be adding a significant additional workload."

> One of the Committee's duties is to review construction plans, but pending state legislation would strip municipalities of their authority to regulate home design based on appearance.

"It really is a waste of time," Durham said. "The fact is, the Appearance Commission cannot make that decision under the law. We feel compelled to be cautious basing decisions solely on aesthetic situations."

"I believe that the Appearance Committee should be relieved of those responsibilities," Councilman Mick McCue said. "Legal-wise, they don't have authority to act. Are we putting ourselves at

Councilman Jon Sedlak in turn questioned why an \$800 fee is required to build a house in Foxfire.

"I was specifically told that we are paying Pinehurst to look over the plans," Sedlak said. "That is what the \$800 fee went toward."

Frusco informed Sedlak that Pinehurst no longer makes that service available.

"Then the Appearance

plans is a waste of time," Sedlak said.

Frusco disagreed, "If you are building a custom home, maybe you have a top notch builder. But so many residences are built as spec homes and are not built according to our ordinances. You have front facing garages. There have been times when someone has come in with plans but then built it differently."

Sedlak argued, "That's what you have inspectors for."

Mary Gilroy, who chairs the Planning and Zoning Committee said "Planning and Zoning could probably do it. We could call special meetings to review plans if we needed to."

"I don't know why we need a committee," Sedlak said. "I could back up Lisa. I personally wouldn't mind doing

Durham said he would speak to Village Clerk Kivett about taking on an additional responsibility.

"Then we can continue the discussion." he said.

#### **NC 211 Corridor Plan**

Turning to other matters,

Councilman McCue reported that the new NC Highway 211 Corridor Planning Committee had held an organizational meeting. The Committee includes members appointed by Foxfire Village, the Village of Pinehurst, and Moore County.

"We had our first organizational meeting in Pinehurst," McCue said. "Some people are extremely concerned about regulating land use. That is not the intent of any of the officials that met."

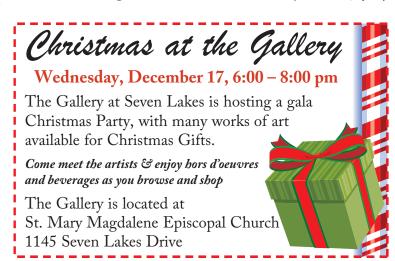
"What we are talking about is aesthetics, appearance, and access on and off of 211. We are not trying to tell anyone what they can or can't do with their land."

#### Swimming pool questions settled

During the past several work sessions the Council has discussed whether or not to reduce non-resident use of the Village swimming pool by eliminating the option for walk-in customers to pay a one-day fee at the gate to swim. Instead, swimmers would be required to purchase a season pass.

During their November 25 Work Session, Council members agreed to abandon that discussion.

(See "Pool," p. 5)











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News December 12, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 5

## Foxfire Council approves ETJ solar farm

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Solar energy generation will soon be the newest business in Foxfire's Extrater-

ritorial Jurisdiction.

During their Tuesday, December 9 regular meeting, the Foxfire Village Council

### **Pool**

(Continued from page 4)

During the October Work Session, Councilwoman Frusco was asked to discuss the matter with Village Clerk Kivett, who is also the Pool Manager.

"You asked me to talk with Lisa and get her opinions and reasons," Frusco said. "She thinks that the last two years have been the best she has experienced. With the exception several holiday weekends, there was no overcrowding. I don't think overcrowding is the true issue here."

"At this point, with her feedback, I am leaning toward continuing with allowing walk-ins," Frusco said.

Councilman McCue disagreed: "I will say do away with walk-ins. And require a membership. None of my feelings are based on whether someone misbehaved. I want people to be members and to have to pay a yearly fee to come and use the pool."

The Council, with the exception of McCue, agreed to remove the item from the table.

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unanimously approved a conditional use permit that will allow Strata Solar to construct a fifty acre solar farm on David Wilson's property at the intersection of NC Highway 211 and Hoffman Road.

"We have worked on this for a few months now," Planning and Zoning Chair Mary Gilroy reported. "We had our public hearing in October to accept solar farms as a conditional use."

"An independent engineering firm [McGill Associates] has since had a chance to review the site plan and application. Strata Solar was happy to make all minor suggestions, and Planning and Zoning are satisfied that they

have done exactly what was recommended. Strata also met the conditions of our ordinance to put a solar farm on that property."

Louis Iannone and Rich Kirkland of Strata attended the meeting to answer any questions. Iannone gave a brief summary of the construction process.

## No Shooting or Hunting in City Limits

During the public comment portion of the meeting, resident Barbara Yearby reported hearing gunfire on the large acreage adjacent to the Forest Ridge subdivision. The properties fall within Foxfire's corporate limits. She said that Foxfire Village Police Chief Chad Shue had investigated the gunshots, but was unable to locate the shooter.

Neighbor Jim Stoneman asked if it would be possible for the Council to post no hunting signs.

Village Mayor Steve Durham assured the residents, "I think we have enough information to do some meaningful investigation."

#### **New Fire Trucks**

Mike Cole, Assistant Fire Chief for West End Fire and Rescue, reported that the department has three new trucks. A third of the money that paid for the trucks was bequeathed to the department by the late Alverna L. Specht.

Specht had experienced tragedy due to fire when her own home burned.

"We were able to purchase a truck with her gift," Cole said. "We have put all three trucks in the memory of her name."

#### **New Police Chief**

"Chad Shue has been made Chief of Police as a permanent appointment," Councilman Mick McCue reported. "At our January 13th Council Meeting, we will recognize the official retirement of outgoing Chief of Police Mike Campbell."





**Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 **Business** 

## Polished Nails offers an organic alternative

by Greg Hankins Times Editor

For Teri Vo, it's all about customer comfort.

The owner of Polished Nails & Facial, a new salon located in the Seven Lakes Food Lion shopping center, Vo offers customers a shoulder warmer to help them relax during manicure and pedicures.

Customers are also offered a glass of wine — and snacks for those receiving pedicures.

Vo and her husband Thomas Phan opened the new salon on November 1, and their attention to customer comforts are already paying off.

"We have built a really good clientele already." Vo told The Times. "We've had clients come in for the first time, and then post about us on Facebook.'

"I believe, if you do a really good job, then people will refer their family and friends."

Vo and Phan extend "doing a good job" to every aspect of the business, from the neat and welcoming salon Pinehurst, are originally from decor to their choice of product lines and their close attention to safety and cleanliness.

Signature Nail Systems [SNS] she was ten years old and line of nail products — an odorless, organic product.

"This doesn't have the heavy, fake feeling of acrylics," Vo explained. "It includes vitamins that actually help your nails grow."

"It also lasts longer than the acrylics," she said, adding that there is no need for UV lights during the drying peri-

Similarly, the facial mask offered at Polished Nails & Facial is an organic preparation that helps prevent wrinkles.

The pedicure tubs at Polished nails feature disposal plastic liners that are discarded after each use, Vo said. The same goes for all the tools used in pedicures; they are discarded after each customer.

"I would rather give out a little more for clients, so that they feel safe here," Vo said. "Everyone wants to take care of themselves."

Vo and Phan, who live in Vietnam. They have two sons, aged two years and five months.

Vo told The Times that she Polished Nails features the first came to the US when has lived all over the country, from New York to California.

She moved back to the Sandhills area from Atlanta.

"I like the pace and the people here," she said. "I have family here, and I feel more safe here. I feel like this area offers a better future for my children."

Vo's extended family has played an important role in encouraging her to open Polished Nails & Facial, she said. One of her brothers owns a salon in Aberdeen: another owns a salon in Fuguay-Varina.

"The local business community has been very welcoming," she told The Times, noting that they have been welcomed by both Leslie Rose of Sandhills Winery and the staff from Blush Salon.

Polished Nails & Facial can be reached at 910-673-8090. Appointments are recommended.

"I like to have customers call for an appointment, so that they don't have to wait," Vo said. "I want each customer to have their own time, each person to be taken care of the way they should be."



Teri Vo of Polished Nails & Facial

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\*Items will be distributed this winter from our Mobile Health Unit (semi) to our neighbors in need

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8 **Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 **Events** 

## Waffle cone Christmas Trees and a very

by Leah Thiel Times Reporter

Though Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived at this year's Seven Lakes West Christmas party chauffeured in a fire truck rather than a sleigh

one of the forty-or so children gathered in the West Side Park Community Center seemed to mind.

Westside resident Dr. Helen Mantila coordinated the Sat-

pulled by tiny reindeer, not urday, December 6 event, from arranging Santa's visit to stocking a buffet with Christmas treats and goodies. The children built edible Christmas trees out of waffle cones, decorating them with

colorful icing and gumdrops, while adults mingled and urged nervous toddlers toward their meeting with the Jolly Old Elf.

Madison Kirst took a long moment to summon up the

courage to talk to St. Nick, but quickly lost all fear when she discovered him to be the joyful and big hearted Santa



Ainsley Atkins decorates a waffle cone Christmas tree



Ryan Martin with her son Jack





## Need a Friend?



Chester is a handsome white kitten with orange tabby patches. When he arrived at the Animal Center he and his littermates were frightened and shy, but Chester decided quickly he wanted to make friends. He is about eight weeks old and is ready to make the move to a forever home. Please come visit Chester and give him a family of his own this holiday Season!

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**Events** December 12, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 

## jolly Santa are a hit at the Westside party

of legend. After briefing Santa on exactly how good she had been this year, Madison presented her Christmas wishes. Departing with a hug from Santa and a candy cane from Mrs. Claus, Madison told The Times that she asked for stuffed animals, books on animals, and an outfit like Elsa's in the movie *Frozen*.

Georgia and John Orr posed in front of the Christmas tree for photos. John, a bit shy and reserved, allowed his older sister to talk for him. She explained that John wanted toy cars and that she wanted a "Frozen" guitar. Her parents were not too sure how Santa would build a guitar like that, but they seemed certain that Santa would find something to make her happy.

Ava Mantila was proud of her fetching Christmas jumper, with its Christmas tree and ruffles — and of her courage in talking to Santa. Ava said she wanted a unicorn for Christmas. Whether helpers, Rusty and Kathy that would be a real unicorn or a toy unicorn was not immediately clear.

The party ended when Santa left to meet with other children and prepare for Christmas Day. The Claus'

Disney, work hard to make sure Santa can meet all the children and adults that need him. The Disneys can be contacted at (910) 944-9231.



Georgia and John Orr enjoy the Christmas tree

for all ages



Ava Mantila dreams of unicorns

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Helen Mantila spends some quality time with Santa



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10 **Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 **Events** 

## Beauty queens, princesses, and plenty of



Ava Grguerevic and Lexie Keyser of Seven Lakes Dance compare Christmas wish lists



**Outstanding Teen Megan** 



Miss Moore County's **Outstanding Teen Morgan** Hendrix





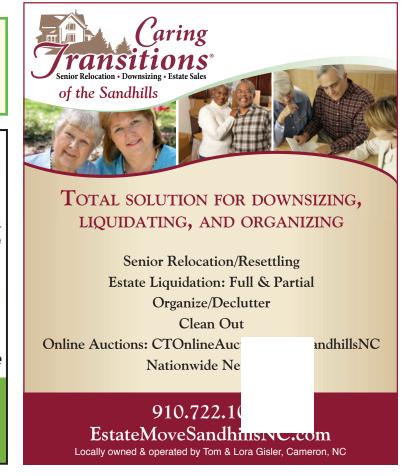
The outstanding dance performances inspired some younger folks who are sure to ask Santa for dance lessons



Dancers from L Mace Studios enjoy holiday cupcakes

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**Events** December 12, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 11

portation logistics for Santa

and a host of organizations

provided entertainment,

## dancers at Business Guild Holiday Party

by Greg Hankins Times Editor

The weather was perfect for an entertaining holiday party and Christmas Tree lighting hosted by the Seven Lakes Business Guild on Sunday, November 30.

A long list of folks contributed to making the event a success.

BB&T sent elves to assist Santa and provided candy canes for the children.

and tea; hot chocolate was provided by Ana Edwards of Wells Fargo Advisors. L Mace Studios brought along cupcakes, and Lisa Quinlan of Pampered Chef provided Christmas cookies. Food Lion brought still more cookies, and 7 Lakes Barbell had cookies, energy bites, and coffee. Casa Garcia provided chips & salsa.

Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire

Miss Moore County Rachel Jackson sings "Taylor the Latte Boy"

McDonalds provided coffee Department handled trans- including the Miss Moore Carolina Organization, Miss County Organization, Miss Noel Organization, Miss Greater Sandhills & Greater

North Carolina Jr. High, High School & Collegiate Organi-(See "Guild," p. 13)



Lilyana & Leila Halstead enjoy being part of Seven Lakes Dance's big holiday number



Girl Party — Micaila Frye, Tanna Stafford, Kate Gilpin, & Victoria Thomson of L Mace Studios entertain the crowd

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12 Seven Lakes Times December 12, 2014 People

## Kiwanis and WEE team up for food drive

**by George Norman** Seven Lakes Kiwanis

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club challenged the students at West End Elementary brought in a little over 600 School to hold a food drive for the Food Bank. brought in a little over 600 pounds of canned and dried food. This year the challenge

Last year, the students

pounds of canned and dried food. This year the challenge to the students was that the class that brought in the most food would win a Pizza Party.

That really motivated the

students. Over a couple of weeks the students brought in 1,432 pounds of food to help others who are hungry. That was a great effort from the students. There was so much food the Kiwanis needed a pick up truck to deliver it to the food bank.

There has never been a school in the county that has donated this much food to the food bank. This was a great accomplishment by the

students of West End Elementary School.

As a reward there will be two Pizza Parties, one for the class that donated the most in grades K-2 and one for the class that donated the most in grades 3 through 5.

Congratulations to all the students and their families to stepping up to help others in need.



Principal Leigh Ann McClendon and WEE staffers help pack food from the WEE-Kiwanis Food Drive



Merry Christmas to you,
To you and your kin –
And many thanks for dropping in.
For one thing that we know is true,
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People December 12, 2014 Seven Lakes Times 13

## United Way at Kiwanis

**by George Norman** Seven Lakes Kiwanis

On Tuesday, October 14, Linda Pearson, Executive Director of United Way of Moore County was the guest speaker at Seven Lakes Kiwanis.

Ms. Pearson enlightened the Kiwanis membership on the purpose and needs of the United Way. She reviewed the changes in the focus of the fundraising process.

United Way previously relied mainly on funds raised through annual workplace campaigns, but new paths have led them to diversify their funding resources.

United Way asks for continued support from the community. They help fund seventeen partner agencies in

### Guild

(Continued from page 12)
zation, Seven Lakes Dance,
L Mace Studios Dance &
Cheer, and Zoopendous
Show Chorus.

Lisa Mace of L Mace Studios served as master of ceremonies and kept the show running smoothly. Mace, Daryl Bender, Deanna Sharp, and Randy Merritt decorated the tree, which was obtained by Guild President Ed Hill of Edward Jones and erected by Danny and Will Bowers of Lake House Bar & Grill. Merrit also provided the sound system for the event.

"We are very happy about how the last two years have gone and the amazing turn out we have had," Mace said. "We also feel very excited that the tree lighting is happening again and can hopefully be a tradition that the families of Seven Lakes look forward to going to every year, just as so many did in years past!"

Organizations or businesses that missed the chance to participate this year can make sure they are notified prior to next year's event by contacting either Lisa or Gayle Mace at (910)673-0093 or (910)673-5678 or lisa@lmacestudios.com

the community.

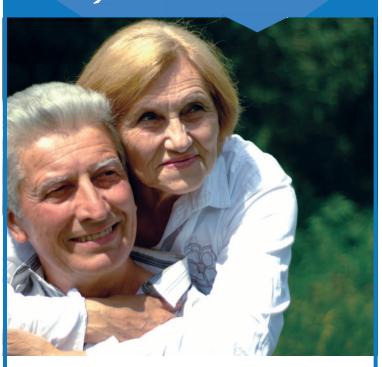
Pearson said the United Way of Moore County helps provide local children with a safe place to go after school, creates a safe shelter for battered women, gives a person with a disability the same opportunities for growth and well-being as a person without a disability, and helps supply the elderly and those needing assistance with their most basic needs.



United Way's Linda Pearson and Seven Lakes Kiwanis President Bud Sales



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14 **Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 **Events** 

## **Shaw House** Holiday **Open House**

A Holiday Open House will be held at the historic 1820s era Shaw House in Southern Pines.

The event is a cherished custom to commemorate Christmas and other heart warming traditions of Moore County.

The Shaw House is decorated with natural decorations. Also at the Shaw House site, the Garner House and the Sanders

Cabin, both built and lived in by settlers in northern Moore County in the late 1700s will be open for tours, demonstrations, holiday music and Yuletide cheer.

The Open House is free

on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, December 12-14, from 1-4 pm daily.

For more information visit www.moorehistory.com or call (910) 692-2051.



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UPDATED 3/2, CAROLINA RM -\$159,000



News December 12, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 15

## In memory of . . .

Radia Pearl Welch, age Burns Ritter. 88, of West End, died Tuesday, December 8.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 pm on Thursday, December 11, at Boles Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm on Friday, December 12, at Beulah Hill Baptist Church with Rev. Eugene Ussery officiating. Burial will follow in the Church Cemetery.

She was a lifelong worker at J.P. Stevens in the sample department.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lennie Davis Welch: three brothers. Neil. Earnest and Bill Black and her parents, Walter and Minnie Black.

Survivors include her daughters, Vanessa Gore and husband Mikel of West End; Shelia Leviner of West End: two sisters, Advila Millikan of Rockingham; and Ethel Monroe and husband Richard of Aberdeen; five grandchildren; nine great grandchildren, and five great-greatgrandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made in the memory of Pearl Welch to FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Boles Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Charles A. Ritter, 99, died November 30, at Carrington Place in Matthews. He was born in West End the son to the late Charles W. and Ida

**Red Cross** 

Mr. Ritter attended UNC at Chapel Hill and became an avid and loyal UNC sports fan. He also was an enthusiastic golfer and worked in and around golf courses wherever he lived.

He was preceded in death by his wife Doris Perkins Ritter, granddaughter Kimberly Craft, two brothers and seven

Survivors include his daughters; Carol Craft of Charlotte, Dianne Greene and husband Thomas of Hampton, VA; Lynda Brewer and husband Gordon (Smoky) of Athens, AL; sister, Eva Clark of West End; five grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, December 5 at West End Presbyterian Church. The Reverend Larry Lyons officiated, burial followed at West End Cemetery.

Memorials donations may be made to West End Presbyterian Church or Multiple Myeloma Foundation.

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

Staff Sgt. William G. Plowman, Jr., U.S. Army Ret., 85, of West End, died Thursdav. November 27, at FirstHealth Hospice House, Pinehurst

Graveside services were held Thursday, December 4 with full military honors at Plyler Baptist Church Ceme-

Give the gift of life!

tery in Albemarle.

A native of Stanly County, he was the son of the late William G. and Emma Bass Plowman.

He served his country for over twenty years in the U.S. Army. He completed one tour of duty during Vietnam and was a recipient of the Bronze Star. While in the service he worked as a cook.

After retiring from the Army he worked for a short time as a truck driver and also worked as a cook in many local restaurants in Moore and Recycling.

He was preceded in death by two grandchildren and a great grandson.

Survivors include his daughters, Sylvia Currie and boyfriend Randy Luellen of Pinebluff,; Wanda Moran of Asheboro; sons David Plow-

man and wife Darlene of West End; Will Plowman of Lilesville; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Memorials may be made to: The Wounded Warrior Project, at WoundedWarrior-Project.org.



#### **Lafferty Plumbing**

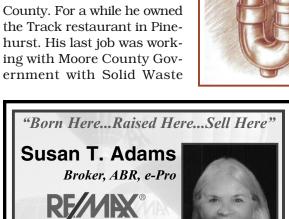
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#### 109 Pleasantview **Seven Lakes North**

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#### 103 Pineneedle Seven Lakes North

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#### 7 LAKES COMMERCIAL VILLAGE

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#### SEVEN LAKES NORTH

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16 December 12, 2014 What's When **Seven Lakes Times** 

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

- · Shaw House Holiday Open House - 1 to 4 pm, decorated with natural decorations, also visit the Garner House and the Sanders Cabin. Buildings will be open for tours, demonstrations, holiday music and Yuletide cheer. www.moorehistory.com (910) 692-2051. Moore County Historical Association will host.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise -7:30 pm, The Theory of Everything. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

- "Pancakes with Santa" 8 am - 11 am, at Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church Breakfast includes pancakes, bacon or sausage, juice, coffee. Plates are \$7 each. Children 3 vears old and under are free. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available from 9 am - 11 am to visit with the children for photos. Drawing held for pre-paid VISA gift cards. Raffle tickets. Doubs Chapel UMC, 1444 Doubs Chapel Road, West End.
- Met Opera at the Sunrise - at noon, Wagner's Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- Shaw House Holiday Open House - 1 to 4 pm, decorated with natural decorations, also visit the Garner House and the Sanders Cabin. Demonstrations, holiday music and cheer. www.moorehistory.com (910) 692-2051
- Paint for the Pantry 2 to 4 pm, West End United

Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Come out and attend this fundraiser. Proceeds benefit WEUMC Food Pantry. Go home with a completed "Angel" painting. Cost to attend is \$35 per person (includes supplies and light refreshments). Register at www.sociableart.com or contact Elizabeth Anne

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SunFlix at the Sunrise -

7:30 pm, The Theory of

Everything. Sunrise The-

ater, 250 NW Broad Street,

4468 or 910-638-1921.

• Turkey Shoot – 7 pm, Alec

What's

- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church - 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Shaw House Holiday Open House** – 1 to 4 pm, decorated with natural decorations, also visit the Garner House and the Sanders Cabin. Tours, demonstrations, holiday music, Yuletide cheer. www.moorehistory.com (910)

692-2051.

Moore County Historical Association will host.

 Murphy Family Christmas Concert at

the Sunrise - 3 pm, a delightful evening of music. Murphy family will share their renditions of beloved Christmas tunes. Adults: \$15 Children (12 and under): \$10 VIP (First six rows): \$20. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street. Southern Pines.

- West End United **Methodist Church Explorers** -5 pm - 6:30 pm, for children grades K-5. Learning, crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth from 6 - 6:30pm. West End United Methodist Church, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.
- West End United **Methodist Church Youth Group** -6 - 7:30 pm in

the Youth Room at the church. 4015 NC Highway 73. West End.

SunFlix at the Sunrise -7:30 pm, The Theory of Everything. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

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

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

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

harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. All are welcome.

- Seven Lakes Kiwanis **Club** – lunch at 11:30, meeting begins at 12:05, Seven Lakes Country Club Restaurant. Visitors are always welcome.
- Women's Volleyball at Seven Lakes Baptist **Church** – 6 pm to 8 pm, open gym for Women's Volleyball. Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 910-673-4656.
- Moore County Shrine **Club Meeting and Ladies night** – 6 pm, Table on the Green Restaurant, Midland Golf Course. All Shriners invited to attend this Christmas meeting. Call Bill Loeser 910-693-3306 for more information or reservations.
- Seven Lakes West **Landowners Association** – 7 pm, meeting. West Side Park Community Center.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise -7:30 pm, The Theory of



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### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

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#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- First Day of Hanukkah
- Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- Gallery at Seven Lakes Gala Christmas Party 6 to 8 pm. Art will be available to purchase as Christmas Gifts. Meet the artists and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages as you browse and shop. Seven Lakes Gallery, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church Building, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- AWANA Youth Group 6:30 to 8 pm, in the Hankins Family Life Center. Children age 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 673-4656.
- Rosary at Chapel in the Pines 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- Seven Lakes Landowners Association – 7 pm, General meeting. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *The Theory of Everything*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.

#### <u>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18</u>

• Bread of Life Ministry – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship, devotion and a meal provided at \$5.

- Gallery at Seven Lakes 1 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- Chapel in the Pines 4 pm, "Blue Christmas: A Service of Tidings of Comfort and Hope" service. Come join in for prayers, Scripture, and music. Everyone welcome. Fran Stark 673-5493.
- Sandhills Memory Care Open House – 5 to 7 pm. Light refreshments, door prizes, and a free wine tasting provided by Sandhills Winery. Everyone is invited to celebrate the sights and sounds of the season. Sandhills Memory Care, 292 Macdougall Drive, Seven Lakes.
- St. Joseph of the Pines Candlelight Vigil for the Homeless 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm at the Downtown Park, Southern Pines. Please bring contributions of new or gently used blankets, hats, mitten, coats and scarves. All items will be distributed throughout the winter to neighbors in need from the "Together We Can Do More" semitrailer provided by St. Joseph of the Pines.
- Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- 7:30 pm, The Theory of Everything. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

• Chatham County Line Electric Holiday Tour – 7:30 pm, show will be opened by the eclectic and multi-talented singer and songwriter Johnny Irion. Following Irion's performance, Chatham County Line will take the stage. Tickets \$20, can be purchased online at www.sunrisetheater.com or call the theater office 910-692-3611.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

• Turkey Shoot – 7 pm, Alec Creek Farm, Jackson Springs, every Saturday night, (weather permitting) through January 24. 12 Gauge Shot Guns only. Win prizes. Proceeds benefit Sandhills Animal Rescue League. Support the animals. Alec Creek Farm, 396 Thomas Road, Jackson Springs. 910-974-4468 or 910-638-1921.

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

- Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church – 8:00 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- Chapel in the Pines Christmas Litany Cantata
   9 am. Come worship with word and song, telling the

- story of God's plan to send his Son. Hear scripture, voices of both the Carthage United Methodist and Chapel in the Pines choirs, along with a string quartet. Everyone welcome. 581 Seven Lakes Drive.
- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **McDonalds Chapel Music** Circle - 4 to 6 pm, McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church fellowship hall. Join the group for Christmas carols and songs, along with regular old time and folk music offerings. All traditional acoustic musicians are welcome to come and play with them. Listeners welcome. Refreshments. McDonalds Chapel, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen (off Linden Road from Pinehurst, on the way to Foxfire Village). Jill McCloy at 692-5094.
- West End United Methodist Church Explorers 5 pm 6:30 pm, for children grades K-5. Learning, crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth from 6 6:30 pm. West End United Methodist Church, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.

• West End United Methodist Church Youth Group - 6 - 7:30 pm, Youth Room. 4015 NC Highway 73, West End, 673-1371.

17

- Seven Lakes Baptist Church – 6:30 pm, Special Christmas Communion and Song Service. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 673-4656.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *The Theory of Everything*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

- Weight Watchers Meeting

   5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary
   Magdalene Episcopal
   Church, 1145 Seven Lakes
   Drive, Seven Lakes. Group
   leader Armecia Medlock.
- SunFlix at the Sunrise 7:30 pm, *The Theory of Everything*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines .

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

• 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. All are welcome.





18 **Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014 People

## St. Joseph of the Pines offers medical and

by Janna Ptak Times Reporter

It's a big, long tractor trailer with the faces of ordinary folks on the side — and in big letters "Together we can do MOORE."

Using that fifty-three foot long truck, St. Joseph of the Pines, a continuing care retirement community in Southern Pines, offers free dental and medical services to those in need in Moore County and surrounding counties.

Drawing on funds from both public and private sources — including support from the Southern Pines Rotary Club — St. Joseph of the Pines purchased the truck in 2010 and coverted it into a mobile health clinic. The trailer holds two exam rooms, a private office, and storage.

Susie Buchanan, St. Joseph's Director of Community Relations, said many county residents are unable to travel to or afford the health care they need.

"So, we bring services to them," she said.

The Moore Free Care Clinic was an early user of the Mobile Unit, booking patients through their clinic in Southern Pines and then bringing the health care workers to the patients, rather than asking the patents to travel to Southern Pines.

The mobile clinic has been used to provide free flu shots, most recently this November, to residents of the Robbins

#### Offering dental service

Looking to expand the services offered by the mobile clinic, in 2012, St. Joseph of the Pines began exploring offering dental services.

Marlena Booth, with more than forty years of experience in dentistry, heard that St. Joseph of the Pines was interested in offering free dentistry to those who couldn't afford it in Moore County. Booth teamed up with dentists John Ceraso and Gary Jones to write résumés. form what eventually became the Mobile Unit Dental Program, providing free emergency dental services.

"Marlena did a lot of the leg work," Ceraso explained, "and I kind of told her what we needed to make it more efficient. It keeps improving each time."

After St. Joseph of the Pines received a grant for oral equipment, the Mobile Unit provided its first dental service in August 2012. The services provided include teeth cleanings, fillings, and extractions.

Not only does the Mobile Unit offer these services, but the staff also teaches patients how to care for themselves.

Students at St. John Paul II Catholic School recently mounted a drive to donate toothpaste and floss to the Mobile Unit Dental Clinic.

The Mobile Unit has also been used to host job fairs, in which volunteers teach community members how to

"You just can't help but be touched by the goodness," Buchanan said.

Booth, whose title is Community Relations Liaison, makes sure there are enough

volunteers to get the job done — whatever services the Mobile Unit is tasked with providing.

Although the Mobile Unit is in great need of dentists (Continued on page 19)

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News December 12, 2014 **Seven Lakes Times** 19

## dental care in a clinic on eighteen wheels

(Continued from page 18)

and hygienists, those without experience in dentistry may also help out with check-in in the office.

"If somebody wants to volunteer and help me, I'll find something for them to do," Booth said.

"We are always looking for professionals to volunteer their time. . ." Buchanan explained. "We can only provide this service if we have the professionals to help us"

The Mobile Unit Dental Program currently has six dentists who volunteer from month to month, as well as hygienist students from Central Carolina Community College who offer their assistance under the care of the dentists.

Visits to the Mobile Unit are by appointment only and are first come, first serve. Many patients are faced with a four-to-five month wait before having their chance to be seen by a professional - a wait that could be shortened by having more professionals volunteer.

Every Mobile Dental Unit visit to Moore County brings care to about sixteen patients. The dentists and hygienists work to make patients comfortable and provide a friendly, family-like setting.

"We have fun," Booth said. On Saturday, December 6,

the Mobile Unit visited Carthage, staffed by dentists Ceraso and Jones, Booth, hygienist student Kimberly Raines, and Nurse Tammy Leviner.

One patient was relieved that she was finally able to receive the dental work she desperately needed.

"I thank God for people who do this for people who can't afford to go out and go to the dentist," she told *The* Times

On this day, after waiting, she was finally able to receive much-needed dentures.

"I think they're doing a really good deed here," said a friend who waited with her.

The dentists who volunteer thank you. with the clinic recognize the impact they have on the lives of the patients who have no other way to pay for dentistry and no insurance.

"There's definitely a need," Ceraso said. "After working here, I'm amazed at the need there is, and the lists [of patients] that come up are endless.'

"We're very happy to come out and help, he said. "These are some great people; they're some of the most appreciative people."

One of Ceraso's best memories is when a woman gave him tomatoes from her home garden as her way of saying

"Kind of brings tears to your eyes how appreciative they are," he said.

Jones, who is the only oral surgeon on the Mobile Unit, is also touched by the sincerity of patients.

"I got involved because John [Ceraso] asked me to help him with this," Jones said, "and it's extremely fulfilling to be able to help people who can't afford dental care."

Booth, who has managed twelve dental offices in her career, said that she definitely prefers working on the Mobile

"I started as a dental assistant and worked my way up and managed twelve dental offices . . ." she said, "So I

(See "St. Joseph," p. 26)





yours, warm wishes for a happy holiday season, and heartfelt thanks for your friendship and goodwill.

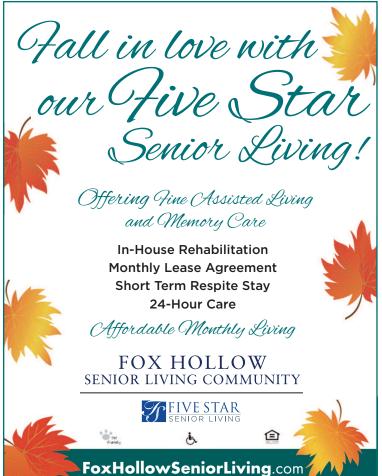
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Dr. Gary Jones, Dr. John Ceraso, and dental hygienist in training Kimberly Raines





20 Seven Lakes Times December 12, 2014 People

## Kiwanis host car-building clinic at WEE

**by George Norman** Seven Lakes Kiwanis

On Tuesday, November 18, the Seven Lakes Kiwanis held The Great Cars For Kids Assembly Line. Don Gerhardt one of the Kiwanis long time members takes on this project each year and manufactures all the car parts, with help

from others.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis like to spread a little joy to the ninety-nine kindergarten students at West End Elementary School.

It was a lot fun helping the children build a little wooden car by nailing and gluing a few parts together. The joy on their faces when they finished the toy would make you think they just received a sports car.

The Kiwanis have many volunteers for this project. As Ken Jenkins said, "you

ran an assembly line that Henry Ford and Roger Penske would be proud of, ninetynine race cars in less than an hour. I saw a great deal of smiles on small faces and even a few on some big ones

as well."

Visitors at the event included kindergarten father (Ed Hill) with his son, along with grandfather (Bob Racine) and his grandson sharing in the experience.



Few things warm the heart of a young man more than building his very own automobile



Seven Lakes Business Guild President Ed Hill helps his son and Seven Lakes Landowners Association President Bob Racine helps his grandson build wooden cars at West End Elementary

### Girl Scout Sock Drive

Moore County Girl Scouts are working on a county wide service project collecting socks for the Sandhills Moore Coalition.

The socks can be new or very gently used. Socks are vital to keep feet warm, dry and healthy. Donations are being taken until March 1 at the following locations: Shellie's Party Supply, Whispering Pines; NC Self Storage; Gulley's Garden Center and The Toy Shop, Southern Pines and Macs Breakfast Anytime, Aberdeen.



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### **SLLA Work Session**

(Continued from front page)
to the Finance Committee
for evaluation.

## Pool repairs need quick approval

The most expensive project on the agenda was swimming pool updates and repairs, at an estimated cost of nearly \$84,000.

Manager Ray Sohl emphasized the need to begin work sooner than later, if the pool is to be ready to open in May 2015. He asked to have approval moved onto the agenda of the December 17 Open Meeting.

"We need to decide today to move this forward," Sohl said. "It's a tight timeline getting this through the board and committees. It needs to be reviewed by the finance committee."

The cost estimates available to the Board were based on a visual inspection of the pool, Sohl explained. But, when work begins and the tile is removed, new problems could be uncovered and additional work might be required.

"There may be possible changes in the orders," Sohl said. "There are several unknowns, for example, whether to replace both covers — and another possible change order would be removing the coping. We need to do that on a per hour rate. We need to call a special meeting and have committees to meet with the contractor at our first opportunity."

"My concern is part of the project's cost — we don't know what it will be," Allen said. "There is also a timing issue. Are they going to be done before the pool opens?"

"We went out and for bids and received four different proposals," Sohl replied. "We have done our due diligence. The Facilities Committee made their recommendation to accept that bid. The pool is thirty-five years old and is looking at some major renovations."

SLLA President Bob Racine echoed Allen's concerns: "I am curious about the figures. Maybe I will understand better after the Finance Committee has reviewed it."

Several different proposals for pool repairs have been put forward over the last few years.

"There are so many different proposals and each takes a different tack," Sohl said. "The project has been redefined three different times. Under the coping tile, there is a lot of cracking and pulling away. The original contract that was submitted by Pool Professionals did not include coping and the others did."

"I am all for doing it right, and I am not surprised that the cost has gone up," Finance Committee Member George Temple said. "The Board should be aware that there are unknown expenses. We have got to get going on this."

"Ray [Sohl], would you be kind enough to facilitate the process of financial review by emailing us the RFP and all of the bids today?" Temple asked. "We are meeting the Monday of open session, and I need to see that before the meeting. I think we need that

information before we can make our recommendation."

"We [the Finance Committee] are working in a vacuum and have no idea how it fits into what the pool might demand later on," Allen said.

The Board agreed that the bids and recommendation would be reviewed by the (See "SLLA," p. 23)









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**Seven Lakes Times** December 12, 2014

# **OPINION**

## Jesus, the most influential person in history

Israel of Roman oppression.

of the chaos that is in our world today in Ferguson and New York, with Isis and Ebola - and, as I look at what is going on. I couldn't help but see the similarities in our world and the world that Jesus was born into.

Jesus was born a Palestinian Jew. He would have grown up with stories of conquest and oppression. These stories would recount many foreign invasions that subjugated the Jewish people. The Roman occupation of Israel had just happened in 63 BC. It was the latest in a long line of invasions that started with the Babylonians in 539 BC

The identity of the Jews of that day must have been completely wrapped up in the stories of the Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Moses must have been a hero, because he liberated Israel from the Egyptians in the great Exodus. They must have dreamed of the days of Saul and David and Solomon, who ruled their own nation. Or, perhaps the hope was gone, after so many years of oppression.

By the time that Jesus was born, the Romans were in full control and their government was a two-tiered system consisting of Romans overseers and Jewish leaders

I have been watching all who exercised control in the name of Rome. The current problem was that the half-Jewish Herodian family was in power, and they were hated by the Jewish people because of their tyrannical rule and

for selling out Jewish heritage

Palestine was a hotbed of

divergent social, political and

religious ideologies. Sound

In general, there were four

The Zealot movement took

the revolutionary option. It

advocated outward violence,

distinct movements that were

on the scene at that time.

to a foreign power.

familiar?

They didn't see any other option. They were looked at as freedom fighters or terrorists. I can't help but think of the rioters and looters that we see today, or the Irish Republican Bound by-

Army in Northern Ireland. Jesus would have some of these folks follow Him later (Simon the

Zealot).

Rev. Chris Hrabosky

The Sadducees were the great pragmatists of the day. Wealthy lay-nobles, priests, and aristocrats, they sought to conserve their wealth and power by compromise with Rome. They seem to me like many of our mainstream politicians of today. Politically speaking, this was the most realistic option, and most of

even armed rebellion, to rid the members of the Sanhedrin were from the Sadducee group. They were the least religious group of all of the Jews.

> The Pharisees were in many ways the idealists of Jewish society. I look at them as being like many of our conservative Christian groups of today. They were the Scribes (the theologians of the day). Despite their bad press in the Gospels, the Pharisees sought to live a life of spiritual purity by a meticulous following of the Torah (Jewish Law.)

> They didn't compromise like the Sadducees and they were not revolutionary like the Zealots. But they became so legalistic that many missed the truth when Jesus came.

> The finale group were the Hipsters of the day: the Essenes. They solved the problem of Jewish identity by completely opting out of mainstream Jewish society. This seems to be what many young people want to do

today. The Essenes followed an ethic of Asceticism (denying the self all pleasure).

I can't help but think that Jesus came because they all had it wrong. There was a better way.

God sent His own Son that the world could be saved through Him.

Rioting and hatred wouldn't save anyone, politics and politicians will never save anyone. Church or religion will not even save anyone from the current situation. Trying to isolate yourself from a situation will not help either.

How was God going to change the world? He sent His Son to show us a better way. Perhaps, this Christmas vou should read about why Jesus is the most influential person in history.

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





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

Greg Hankins & Tom Hankins, Publishers Greg Hankins, Editor • Marcy Hankins, Layout & Copy Editing Ellen Marcus, Janna Ptak, & Leah Thiel, Reporters 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



A Very Merry Christmas to You and Yours from All of Us at The Seven Lakes Times

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## **SLLA Work Session**

(Continued from page 21)

Finance Committee before proceeding to the regular meeting.

#### Pasture fence options reviewed

In September, the Recreation Committee recommended installing new electric fencing for the SLLA pasture to better secure the horses. Failures of the existing split rail fence had resulted in some recent escapes.

Both the Facilities Committee and the Architectural Review Board expressed concern about the appearance of an electric fence — particularly along Seven Lakes Drive. The current pasture fence is a split rail fence with an electric wire running along the upper rail.

During the December 8 Work Session, Facilities Director Chuck Leach presented his committee's recommendation of a round pole and post fence.

"Based on my research, it is evident that there is no perfect fence that meets all feet," Temple said. "The presthe criteria for safety, durability, affordability, and aesthetics," Leach said. "The strongest of the wood fences last thirty-plus years with no maintenance — and electricity may not be required."

"The total price to fence the entire parameter is \$41,685," he said. "Compared over 35 years we are looking at \$1,191 a year for a capital improvement."

"I would like to thank Chuck for taking all of the time to research fences," Director Steve Ritter said. "A

resident recently asked me if we had considered replacing the old post with new and adding a third rail on top?"

"Many of the posts are crumbling," Leach replied. "Not all of the posts are placed ten feet apart, and now we are having problems finding the right length of slats."

During the November Open Meeting, Director Mary Farley had presented the Recreation Committee's recommendation to install an electric rope fence behind the existing fence at an estimated cost of \$12,000 to \$15,000.

"It would save significant money in future," Farley said during the Work Session. "Every fifth post would be directly in front of the current post. This would ensure the [electric] fence is hidden from viewers on the street."

George Temple clarified that the Facilities Committee recommendation did not include fences dividing the paddocks that are internal to the pasture.

"The total length is 6,080 entation does not include the additional distance — or sales tax, cost of delivery, or the labor required for removing the old fence."

The question I raise," Jim Allen said: "Has an RFP ever been sent out and has it been sent to the Finance Committee for their recommenda-

After additional board discussion regarding aesthetics and expense, Racine encouraged moving the proposals forward to the Finance Committee

"We need to get some estimates," Allen said. "My suggestion is that both proposals be sent out to bid."

Ultimately, the Directors agreed to have Finance evaluate both proposals, though Leach, Ritter, and Sackman opposed additional consideration of the electric fence proposed by the Recreation Committee.

#### **Foster Lakes contract** ready for approval

The Board voted unanimously to move the lakes management contract with Foster Lakes to the December Open Meeting for approval.

'Seventy-five percent of the bulk of the cost is materials," Sohl noted, "including the chemicals to treat the lakes. It is dependent on what plant [aquatic weed] they are trying to address."

Director Leach, who had opposed renewal of the contract, explained that additional information had caused him to reconsider his posi-

"What has occurred since we discussed this at last meeting is that I have learned that the cost of the chemicals is \$13,000," Leach said. "That is a significant price."

The cost of the renewal contract is \$18,360, which does not include the purchase of additional weed-eating sterile carp.

"I think it's a no-brainer at this point to continue with Foster," Leach said. "What I would like to do is continue the contract for another year and make a reasonable (See "SLLA," p. 24)

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Feeling low, stressed, or overwhelmed this Christmas Holiday Season? One of my personal best ways to reset and recharge my mind body heart and spirit is meditation.

As one of my favorite mentor's, Deepak Chopra says, "The activity in your mind is communicated to every cell in your body. When your mind is turbulent, your messenger molecules communicate turbulence to your cells, tissues and organs. If you can quiet your mind, you can send messages of peace and harmony to every cell in your body."

As Sue Patton Thoele writes, "The simplest meditation practice is Returning to Breath. Breath is the bridge between mind and body and the gateway to the present moment. Breathing is the first thing we do after birth and the last thing we do before death. Breath is life. Using your breath consciously and constructively enhances your vitality, increases daily joy, opens you more fully to love, and brings you richly and deeply into the practice of mindful-

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— 2 Peter 1:2

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## **SLLA Work Session**

(Continued from page 23)

request that they provide the name of the chemical, the amount, and the price of each application, so we know exactly what we are paying for.'

Member Audrey Baker said that information on combatting the spread of Hydrilla should be shared with the community. One way to contaminate the lakes is by pouring out aquarium water, she

"Don't dump aquariums out on the lawn," Baker urged, "because the spores will make their way to the lakes."

#### **Bocce court remodel**

The Facilities Committee recommended that two new bocce courts be constructed on the eastmost tennis court, leaving a five foot alley between the playing surfaces.

Director Leach reported that the estimated cost would be between \$7,000 and \$8.000.

"The process would be grinding all of the various cracks under the tiles on the whole tennis court and filling them with epoxy," he explained." "For the courts, cement board will be placed

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on top and the carpet will be glued to the top of this."

Ritter asked what would happen to the current bocce ball court. He was told it would be removed.

Resident Bob Darr noted that it cost only \$1800 to build the existing court.

"Obviously, these two courts are going to have some poured concrete, and it is almost doubling the price for these two courts." Darr said. "It is including the building of courts plus painting the area around it."

#### Security begets compliance

The Board agreed to move renewal of the existing security contract with Universal Protection Service to the December Open Meeting for a vote. They will also consider increasing boat patrol service for the 2015-2016 season.

Director Leach questioned the need and expense for additional security on the lakes and said that the money should be directed to stop vandalism occurring in the community.

"Last year we spent \$3,000, and three citations were given out," Leach noted. "We are being asked to increase \$1,150 for what? Writing two more citations?"

Director Ritter, a retired law enforcement officer and chair of the Safety and Security Committee said, "I don't think you can take bean counter mentality to security. The number of citations written is not the issue. The issue is safety and visibility of enforcement. It has been proven that having security is a deterrent and causes people to comply with rules and regulations, which is measurable."

"I am trying to calm myself down right now," former Director Don Fentzlaff said. "Chuck, if you are going to compare vandalism with possibility of loss of life . . . if you are comparing those two then you have no business sitting there. This is a safety issue initiated to get more training and give security patrol a little more instruction to make sure we don't have any accidents out there."

George Temple reported that there used to be more security coverage on the

"Four years ago we had over 400 hours of coverage on the lakes," he said. "It has been cut and cut and cut. We are not asking to go

910-576-0042

back to 400; we are asking for 372."

"I wasn't aware that we used to have a lot more hours out on the lake four years ago," Leach said.

#### ARB dock & fence **quidelines**

Also during the December 8 Work Session, the Architectural Review Board [ARB] presented a recommendation to tighten architectural and building standards.

"We would first like to try to get people to recognize property lines, setbacks, and driveways before they apply for building a dock or fence," ARB member Jane Leach explained. "We also want to better define placement of docks. The total square footage allowed for a dock is

President Racine asked that both the Judicial and Lakes & Dams Committee review the proposal before further consideration by the Board.

Jane Leach reported that ARB had also worked to better regulate fences.

"We are trying to be critical under the fence application and want homeowners to be very well aware of their property lines," she said.

"The rules specify that no chain-link fences be allowed and no fences in the front yard. We also better defined height of gates and that they be constructed of the same

(See "SLLA," p. 25)



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### **Commissioners**

(Continued from front page)

municipalities in order to foster closer cooperation between the towns and coun-

Graham, who has served as both Moore County Clerk of Superior Court and as a Carthage Town Commissioner, paraphrased Winston Churchill, saying it is wise to know when to stand up and speak but also wise to know when to sit and listen. "I hope that I will be able to do both," she said.

"I will work for you, the whole county," Ritter said, "Not just the northern end. . . Public safety is my forte, and I will carry forward with that," he added.

The Commissioners agreed to set Monday and Tuesday, January 5 and 6 as the dates for their annual planning retreat.

#### Progress on more water for Seven Lakes

At the request of Public Utilities Director Randy Gould, the Commissioners extended a contract with McGill & Associates to allow the engineering firm to provide construction contract administration and full time inspection services on the installation of a water line on NC Highway 73 that will bring Harnett County water from the East Moore Water District to Seven Lakes.

Once that line is in place, the county will have two options for bringing water to the Seven Lakes area, rather than relying solely on the existing line that runs along NC Highway 211 from Pinehurst.

The county currently contracts with Harnett County for up to two million gallons

of water per day, but can only use half of that. The new line will allow better utilization of that resource and of an additional million gallons per day that will be available to Moore County once Harnett County completes construction of an expansion of its water treatment facility.

Moore County has purchased a three million gallon per day stake in that expan-

The new line down NC Highway 73 "is a big step toward meeting the needs of the county," Chairman Picerno said.

Gould told The Times that the contractor may begin work on the project this month.

#### **Animal Operations criticized**

Two citizens spoke during

the public comment portion of the meeting, questioning what they called a lack of progress under the administration of Animal Operations Director Brenda Sears.

Jennifer Chopping, who heads an animal rescue organization and has been a frequent critic of Moore County Animal Operations and its Director, Brenda Sears, urged the Commissioners to find a way to encourage communication between Animal Operations and outside rescue groups.

"I feel that there is a wall, and I can't climb that wall," she said.

Celeste Watson said great progress was being made at the Animal Center until Sears arrived.

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TEMPCONTROLING.

"I am not here to attack, but to push for progress," Watson said. "Three months ago, we had the roadmap," she added. "We were heading down the right road; then she put the gears in park . .

. . How long will we continue to fail?"

County Manager Wayne Vest recommended that Sears make a presentation to the Commissioners in January, to brief them on the progress being made at the Animal Center.

#### Other business

In other business during their December 1 regular meeting, the Moore County **Board of Commissioners:** 

· Approved the hiring of (See "Commissioners," p. 26)

### **SLLA Work Session**

(Continued from page 24)

material. If you drive around you will see quite an assortment of gate designs, and we are hoping to pin that down a little bit more."

"The thing we are most concerned about is that we are all seeing so many dilapidated fences," she said. "We also defined maintenance of a fence. The fence should be in good condition with no missing rails and no broken posts."

The board agreed that the fence recommendations would be moved forward to the Community Standards Committee as well as the Lakes & Dam Committee.

#### **SLLA Board Candidates**

Director Sandy Sackman reported that, currently, five members have indicated their

on the Board in March. They include sitting Board members Dave Hill and Bob Racine, as well as Greg Lishawa, Mark Gyre, and Joy Smith.





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## St. Joseph of the Pines

(Continued from page 19)

have a lot of experience to be able to do this program."

"I enjoy helping people . . . It's not all about the money," Booth explained. "These people are really grateful."

"She has a heart of gold," Buchanan said.

Booth also has experience in the medical field.

"Even though my background is dentistry, I know a lot about the medical," she

Booth is planning Moore County dates for the Mobile Unit in January and February to offer free flu shots for

those who cannot afford them. She also plans to distribute winter coats and blankets to homeless and lowincome families.

St. Joseph of the Pines is currently collecting coats and blankets to be distributed this winter. On Thursday, December 18, the Mobile Unit will be located in Downtown Park in Southern Pines from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm for a Candlelight Vigil for the homeless. [See page 2 for details.]

Donations are being accepted to keep the Mobile Unit up and running, as preparation takes place for the upcoming year. The operations and grants.

Donations will be accepted in the form of a check and may be made out to St. Joseph of the Pines' Mobile Unit Program with attention to Booth or Buchanan. The mailing address is 100 Waters Drive, Southern Pines, NC 28387.

To volunteer or to schedule an appointment, contact Marlena Booth at (910)246-3126.

### tions of the Mobile Unit are funded entirely from dona-

## **Toothbrush Drive**



To help St. Joseph of the Pines Free Adult Dental Program for the second year, the student body of St. John Paul Catholic School conducted a drive to collect dental supplies for Moore County neighbors in need of free dental care.

The middle school students in Mrs. Barbara Lamblin's class presented the supplies to Marlena Booth, St. Joseph of the Pines on-site dental coordinator for the free dental program.

The program serves people with no dental insurance and no means to pay for services.

### **Commissioners**

(Continued from page 26)

Brian Godfrey, son of Sheriff Neil Godfrey, as a Deputy Sheriff. State law gives County Sheriff's the exclusive right to manage their own hiring practices, but requires approval of the county board of commissioners when a close relative is hired.

- Approved minor revision to the rules governing the new fire commission; and, at the request of Commissioner Picerno, appointed Mark Stewart of Pinewild as a citizen representative on that panel.
- Released performance bonds submitted by the contractor who built the new EMS base on Carthage-Glen-
- · Approved a revised agreement with the company that handles electronic patient

care reporting for the Health Department.

- · Approved changes to rules governing the number of rides offered by Moore County Transportation Services under the state Rural Operating Assistance Program. The new rules create a standard procedure for determining the number of rides offered each month, rather than requiring quarterly approval from the commissioners.
- At the request of the Town of Carthage and Moore County Partners in Progress, approved a resolution asking that the NC Department of Transportation add NC Highway 24/27 to the NC Strategic Corridor Plan. Partners CEO Pat Corso explained that inclusion in the plan is critical to the economic devel-

opment in the county, and, particularly, to the success of the Heart of Carolina Mega-

- Appointed Jonathan Scott and Diana Barton to the RSVP Avdisory Council.
- Reappointed Shannon Cagle as the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction representative on the Whispering Pines Planning and Zoning Board.
- Appointed Commissioner Saunders the Board's voting delegate for the 2015 Legislative Goals Conference of the NC Association of County Commissioners, which will be held in Pinehurst in Jan-

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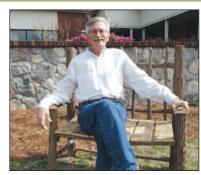
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### **School Board**

(Continued from front page) and Becky Carlson, and voted for himself.

And so it continued, for total of 78 votes, 624 individual slips of paper.

#### Conflict of interest?

Early in the voting Lang asked whether she could comment. Ramee said that the rules allow for comments, and that the floor would be open for any member who would like to speak.

"We have two very good candidates before us today," Lang said. "I think Ben offers a completely unbiased opinion. Mr. Cunningham has a spouse who is employee in our system, and I think that makes it hard on the superintendent to be working with a chairman when the largest high school has some issues."

Cunningham's wife, Ann Petersen, is an award-winning English teacher at Pinecrest High School.

"That would put Bruce in a bad position to have to keep things away and secret from his wife," Lang said. "I think the old saying is 'If it looks like a duck, quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck.' I think we want things to appear completely above board; and, with Ben, things will look completely above board."

#### **Experienced leader**

Board Member Sue Black, though newly-elected, has

## **Chapel in the Pines Christmas Cantata**

The Chapel in the Pines welcomes the community to a Christmas Litany Cantata at 9:00 am, Sunday, December 21.

Come and be a part, as the Chapel worships with word and song. Hear scripture, and voices of both the Carthage United Methodist and Chapel in the Pines choirs, along with a string quartet and keyboard.

Everyone is welcome. Come and experience this special worship service. previously served on the Moore County Board of Education for eighteen years. She spoke of Cunningham's experience. "I would like say that Mr. Cunningham has been leading the way for the Facilities Plan for quite some time now," Black said. "This is the most important thing and issue before this Board that has to be accomplished in a very short period of time. We do not have time to spend another four years trying to get something built in Moore County."

"Mr. Cunningham is above (See "School," p. 28)



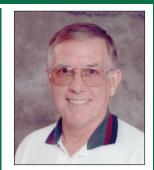
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## SEVEN LAKES & FOXFIRE LOTS

Waterfront from \$135,000 Water View from \$28,000 Golf Front from \$15,000 Interior from \$1200 28 Seven Lakes Times December 12, 2014 News

### **School Board**

(Continued from page 27)

reproach," Black continued.
"His conduct has never been questioned. Many board members have had spouses working in the school system, and it has never been a problem, to my knowledge. He would make an excellent Chair."

Kathy Farren, who chaired the Board during the past year, agreed that either man would make a good chairman.

"When I talked to Bruce he said he had been thinking about this," Farren said. "When I talked to Ben he said he also had been thinking about this. I do worry a bit about Bruce's time. They both work, but Ben does have flexibility of his own schedule a little bit better. I do think both would do a good job."

After the seventeenth tie ballot, board members took an extended break to visit with family and friends who had attended the meeting to witness the swearing in of newly-elected members, including Lambert, Black, and Carlson.

The Board of deadlocked. If the nominees on their own both declined After several Cunningham like to speak.

#### Time commitment

The meeting resumed and the voting continued. Lang asked if she could speak again.

"The other issue that I have with Bruce's chairmanship," Lang said, "is that he has been an excellent board member, but his court schedule does not allow him to fulfill his legal obligation to get in his twelve hours of continuing education every year."

Cunningham is an attorney in private practice.

"Fortunately, that law has no teeth in it," Lang continued, "so he still gets to maintain being a board member — which we are very grateful for. But I think it's not a great message for our leadership to not fulfill their obligations."

Sue Black agreed with Lang that the position requires a large time commitment. She said she had known Cunningham for many years.

"Anyone who has served knows that there is a lot of time involved, and it is more than sitting behind this desk," Black said. "One of the most important attributes of a school board member is integrity, and to have the public's confidence."

"When the Chair goes before the public to ask for support," Black continued, "the Board needs a person that the community looks up to. We have that in Bruce Cunningham."

#### Co-Chairs ruled out

The voting continued, with every set of slips collected bearing the same news: a four-four tie. Farren asked the Board's attorney if it would be possible for the two nominees to serve as cochairmen.

flexibility of his own schedule Ramee replied that the a little bit better. I do think rules would not allow for both would do a good job."

The Board continued to be deadlocked. Lang asked if the nominees should speak on their own behalf; however, both declined.

After several more votes, Cunningham said he would like to speak. "Following up on Kathy [Farren]'s question about cochair, if I am elected as Chair of the Board, I pledge to do everything I can do to include the Vice Chair, whoever that might be, into as much of the responsibility as possible, and to focus our efforts to move Moore County Schools forward."

"That's not a co-chair, but I think it is as close to it as Mr. Ramee will let us come," Cunningham said.

"I would agree with that completely," Cameron said. "This year Kathy and I have worked very well together as Chair and Vice Chair. I think it is good to have two people involved. It is much better that way, than to have the Vice Chair be in name only."

The Board took another brief break and returned to continue voting.

After one more round ending in a tie, on the 78th ballot, Cameron moved his vote to Cunningham, breaking the tie.

#### **Vote for Vice Chair**

Though exhausted Board members no doubt hoped for a speedy conclusion to the meeting once the tie was broken, there remained the need to elected a Vice Chair. And even that hit a bump in the road. Kathy Farren, who chaired the board last year, and Ed Dennison, who served

as Chair in 2013, were nominated

The first ballot resulted in a four-to-three vote for Farren, with one abstention. But Attorney Ramee could find nothing in the rules governing board operations that allows an abstention in elections.

A second ballot gave Farren a clear five-to-two majority.

## Pancakes with Santa

Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church will hold a "Pancakes with Santa" breakfast on Saturday, December 13, from 8 am - 11 am that includes pancakes, bacon or sausage, juice, coffee. Plates are \$7 each.

Children 3 years old and under are free. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available from 9 am - 11 am to visit with the children. This is a great photo opportunity so bring your cameras.

At 11 am, a drawing will be held for pre-paid VISA gift cards. 1st prize \$500, 2nd prize \$300 and 3rd prize \$200. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. Tickets may be purchased prior to December 13 or at the breakfast. Doubs Chapel UMC, 1444 Doubs Chapel Road, West



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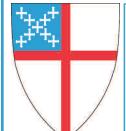
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