

Big Time at the Book Fair



West End Elementary students Katie Harris, Charlie Hill, and Jayla Skipper browse the vast selection of great books at the Spring Book Fair, held in the media center March 23-26. The sale raised \$2,800 that will be used to purchase new books for the library.

New grading policy proposed

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Big changes may be coming to the way Moore County students are graded in the public schools;

and Moore County Schools [MCS] administrators want to hear from teachers, students, and the public on the proposed changes.

Associate Superintendent Dr. Eric Porter and Research Director Mike Metcalf briefed

School Board members during their Monday, March 30 Work Session on the proposed changes to the district's grading policies.

Porter said a grading task force has been working for more than two years to develop policy in three areas: grading practices; graduation policies; and honors and recognitions.

Metcalf, who chaired the grading practices subcommittee, said as many as thirty-five MCS staffers were involved in the work, reviewing current state and MCS policies, conducting research, reviewing policies in other districts, and developing a new policy through multiple drafts, each of which was

(See "School Board," p. 28)

Four elected to SLLA Board

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Members of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] elected three new directors and returned one incumbent to the Board in balloting that concluded at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 22.

Bob Racine was elected to a third two-year term. New members include Joy Smith, Mark Gyure, and Greg Lishawa. David Hill, who was appointed in September to fill a vacant seat, did not secure enough votes to remain on the Board, and petition candidate Lawton Baker failed in his bid to

secure a seat.

Smith led the vote count, with 292, followed by Gyure, at 290. Racine collected 276 votes; and Lishawa, 269. Baker garnered 193; Hill, 171.

The membership turned down a \$25 dues increase recommended by the Board, with 234 voting against the increase and 201 in favor. Board members then approved the proposed FY2016 budget, without the additional revenue the dues increase would have provided.

Assuming that every landowner who cast a ballot voted yes or no on the dues increase, turnout for the election

(See "SLLA Annual," p. 21)

Westside buys Longleaf buffer

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Seven Lakes West has acquired a nearly six acre buffer bordering the outside of Longleaf Drive, stretching from near Douglas Drive to near Callis Circle.

Treasurer Mercedes Herdrich told *The Times* that the acquisition is part of an ongoing effort, lead by the CSI Team, to secure and beautify the community's borders. That committee recently negotiated the donation of a one acre parcel that includes one of the Longleaf Pond dams.

The newly acquired Longleaf buffer totals 5.896 acres, according to a deed filed with

the Moore County Register of Deeds on Thursday, March 26. The purchase price was \$45,500.

The 100-foot wide strip was carved out of a larger, 96 acre parcel that was clear-cut for timber harvesting last year, leaving an open and not particularly attractive vista from Longleaf Drive to the West End Presbyterian Church and Cemetery.

Herdrich said it is her understanding that the entire property has been replanted with pine seedlings, but how Seven Lakes West can best landscape or otherwise make use of the buffer strip will be a matter for future community discussions.

The potential purchase of the buffer had not been discussed

(See "Buffer," p. 26)

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PTA raising funds for parking lot repairs

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Too many potholes make for treacherous parking in the gravel lot between Cedar Grove Baptist Church and West End Elementary School — and the West End PTA hopes to fix the problem.

PTA President Casey Givens told *The Times* that the gravel lot, which belongs to the church, is used by parents dropping off their students in the morning — and for overflow parking for special events at the school.

"With the rain and the constant coming and going of cars, it's taken a beating over the years," she said of the lot. "We have talked about

it for a while now, but there's always been some need more pressing."

Givens said PTA members Lou Greiner, Sarabeth Atkins, and Lori Lefler brought the issue to the table recently, and suggested using a crowd funding site to solicit contributions.

An initial estimate put the

price at \$2,000, and the church's pastor agreed that the work could be done.

The PTA has created a funding site on [youcaring.com](http://www.youcaring.com) to raise the \$2,000 needed. Pledges so far total \$735.

Once funding is in hand, Givens said, the PTA will solicit competing bids from local contractors in order to

get the best price.

You don't need to be a PTA member or a WEE parent to contribute to the cause.

The full web address of the

funding site is: <http://www.youcaring.com/help-a-neighbor/west-end-elementary-parent-parking-lot/321371>



West End Elementary PTA President Casey Givens stands in one of the massive potholes that afflict the gravel parking lot beside the school.

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Fri, Apr 10	Fri, Apr 17
Fri, Apr 24	Fri, May 1
Fri, May 8	Fri, May 15
Thu, May 21*	Fri, May 29
Fri, Jun 5	Fri, Jun 12
Fri, Jun 19	Fri, Jun 26
Thu, Jul 2*	Fri, Jul 10
Fri, Jul 17	Fri, Jul 24
Fri, Jul 31	Fri, Aug 7
Fri, Aug 14	Fri, Aug 21
Fri, Aug 28	Fri, Sep 4
Fri, Sep 11	Fri, Sep 18
Fri, Sep 25	Fri, Oct 2
Fri, Oct 9	Fri, Oct 16
Fri, Oct 23	Fri, Oct 30
Fri, Nov 6	Fri, Nov 13
Thu, Nov 19*	Fri, Nov 27
Fri, Dec 4	Fri, Dec 11
Thu, Dec 17*	Fri, Dec 25

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All single seniors are invited to attend the Seven Lakes Lunch Bunch at the Chapel in the Pines, Joralemon Hall on Wednesday, April 8 at noon.

The program this month will feature The Sandhills Community College Story-Telling Scat Band.

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ues. As they say about themselves, "we get together for fun, fellowship and a lot of laughs . . . but every musician wants an audience!"

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Westside passing prohibition draws fire

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Do double yellow lines ever allow for passing?

Seven Lakes West member

Robert Horn asked that question of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Directors at the Tuesday, March 24 Board Meeting. Earlier in the meeting, the Board had unanimously passed a motion to remove wording from Section 3.3.2 of the rules and regulations section: "or passing another vehicle in an unsafe manner."

New double-striping on Longleaf Drive makes passing illegal under North Carolina law.

"I am concerned with the no passing rule on Longleaf," Horn said. "Now that it is a double line, what do we do when there are pedestrians, bicycles, and golf carts?"

"It doesn't say pedestrians, bikes or golf carts," former Director Mick Herdrich replied. "It says specifically vehicles. We are going to try to do a campaign and encourage those walking, biking, or in golf carts to move over to the right and allow people to pass at a safe speed."

Horn said he had spoken with the Landowners Office

and was told that passing was not allowed.

"My office is not going to tell anyone to pass," Community Manager Jeanette Mendence said. "We will put out information to encourage golf carts to move over."

The move to double-line striping was made due to excessive speeding on Longleaf Drive.

"There was a lot of speeding," Herdrich explained. "Cars passing other cars already going 35 miles per hour. Most tickets given out have been in excess of 55 miles per hour."

Board member John Shaughnessy made the comparison, "It similar to going around bailers or tractors if you have a clear line of site."

"But you can't do that with the motion passed tonight," Horn argued. "You could prior to double line. This applies to all vehicles."

[The North Carolina Driver's handbook states: "When sharing the road with farm equipment, you must obey the rules of the road. It is illegal and very dangerous to pass farm equipment in a no passing zone." – GH]

Member Max Foley agreed with Horn that the double yellow lines no longer allows for crossing over the yellow line to pass.

"I would like to add my two cents about the double yellow line," Foley said. "I had always tried to give walkers as much space as I could when going around them. But I can't do that anymore."

"What it is eliminating is passing another vehicle," Director Mercedes Herdrich explained. "It is not referring to passing a runner or going around a golf cart. I slow down to pass them or to go around them in a manner as safely as possible."

"When someone passes a car they are speeding up. It is a matter of using common sense when we are out there. You normally do not have to go completely into the other lane to go around them safely."

"The law says you can't pass on a double line," Foley replied. "All vehicles must remain on right side of road."

Rule on payment options approved

In other business, the Board approved an addition to the rules and regulations

that describes the Board's authority to specify the methods by which dues may be paid.

Director Bernadette York voted against the motion.

The amended rule gives the Board the authority to set annual and monthly payment options: "Assessments (dues) must be paid in full at the commencement of each new fiscal year, using only the payment methodology approved by the Board. Or The Association, through action of its Board of Directors, may offer the option of monthly payment of dues as

an accommodation to the Membership. Such monthly dues payments shall be made only in accordance with the payment methodology approved by the Board.

The Board decided earlier in the year that only a lump sum annual payment or monthly payment by automatic draft would be allowed.

"The delinquent dues of aged owner balances is the lowest it has been in twelve months," Herdrich reported.

"Eighteen names have come off. However, twelve new names went on. We continue

(See "Westside," p. 27)

Spring Art Sale

Wednesday, April 8, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

The Gallery at Seven Lakes is hosting an opening gala featuring new works of art by area artists.

Everyone is invited to join the festivities, and to meet the Artists.

The Gallery is located at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 1145 Seven Lakes Drive



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Elizabeth Batchelor makes painting a

by Janna Ptak
Times Reporter

To find out whether you're an artist, you have to start by putting a brush in your hand.

And putting brushes in the hands of not-yet-artists is the whole idea behind Sociable Art, Elizabeth Batchelor's new calling.

A recent Saturday found a group of ten women working on their own masterpieces in the fellowship hall of West End United Methodist Church.

The group included Glenda Clendenin, Courtney Burton, Judy Seldomridge, Judy Laut, Jenny Mabry, Joanne Gunther, Cynthia Leach, Nancy

Weinstroth, Cathy Sheffield, and Lydia Conard.

The painting session, led by Batchelor, was all about camaraderie and having fun trying something new. The women were excited to each have their own painting of a singing snowman after just a couple of hours of dedication.

Batchelor has had a passion for art since her college years. "I knew that I was going to do something with art, I just didn't know exactly what," she said.

She wound up double majoring at East Carolina University in K-12 education

and interior design.

"In interior design, we had to do a lot of water color, because you'd have to do the room, you know, so you'd have to do it in watercolor for a presentation, with all the fabrics and everything," she explained. "So I ended up loving painting."

After graduating, Batchelor taught kindergarten near her home in Laurinburg.

"A job came open [for teaching] kindergarten. . . so I went home and took that kindergarten job," she said. "I loved it because I could do a lot of art with the little ones, too."

Batchelor taught kindergarten for twenty-one years before deciding it was time to move on.

"I left kindergarten, and got a job in Moore County," she explained. "So, I drove back and forth down here until my husband retired, and then we moved."

Batchelor taught at Sandhills Farm Life Elementary for nine years and then at Pope John Paul II Catholic School for six years.

After thirty-six years of teaching, Batchelor retired.

She loves her new hobby of teaching art classes for

(Continued on page 5)



Nancy Weinstroth mixes shades of orange and yellow to create the perfect snowman nose

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Elizabeth Batchelor's years in the classroom make her a fun and engaging art teacher



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'Sociable' affair

(Continued from page 7)

adults and children in the community who are looking for an afternoon of fun.

Batchelor said the best thing about painting is the freedom of knowing it's your own picture and that it can be unique.

"There's not a right or wrong way to do it," she said.

"It's not like you have to get the correct answer or you have to get it looking like everyone else. It's just, it's yours. You know, It's your personal style. It's just a relaxing thing to do."

Batchelor said there is nothing more rewarding than when someone, for the very first time, finishes a painting that they are proud of.

"It's when somebody that's never painted at all comes

in, and they leave with a picture, and they're just so excited about it," she said. "They just really couldn't believe they did it, you know. They doubted it the whole time; and, by the time they've finished it, they're shocked it looks so good."

Elizabeth Batchelor isn't the only one in her family involved with the art sessions.

"I help her set up and take down," her husband, Dean Batchelor chuckled. "I'm the CEO of this outfit!"

He is also excited when someone finishes a painting for the first time. "Most people come in here saying 'I've never painted a thing!' but look!" he said.

Elizabeth Batchelor is associated with Sociable Art in

Raleigh. Although she has the option to use painting provided by the organization in her classes, the majority of her sessions are based on her own work.

"It's kind of just, it's one of those things where anybody can do it," she said. "They just have the mindset that they can't. You know, people think they can't draw or paint, but everybody can. But you just can't be afraid of it. You have to go for it."

Batchelor's painting sessions (See "Art," p. 26)



Glenda Clendenin is just about to give her snowman some coal-black eyes



Cathy Sheffield stands for a different perspective



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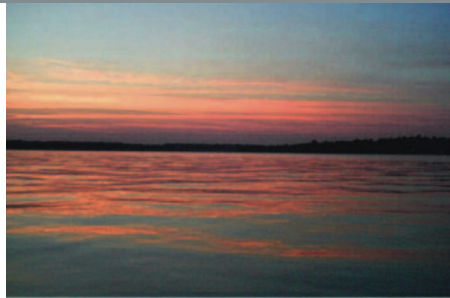
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The sale Friday, April 24 will be 1 pm to 5 pm, and the Saturday sale from 10 am until 2 pm, both at the SCC Landscape Gardening Building (Steed Hall).

Annuals, herbs, tomatoes, pepper plants and

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Order forms are available at the Ball Visitors Center or order by phone at (910) 695-3882 or (910) 695-3885 or mail SCC-Landscape Gardening Dept., 3395 Airport Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374. Email: johnsond@sandhills.edu or fax: (910) 695-3894. Pre-orders are recommended to get the best selection.



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Board approves study of Ramapo Dam

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



After much discussion about the need for the expense, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board, during the March 18 Open Meeting, voted in favor of an engineering study of Ramapo Dam that is expected to cost at least \$7,000, as well as a survey that will add an estimated \$1,000 to \$1,500 to the project cost.

"I would like to add that the motion should include funds for a survey," Community Manager Ray Sohl said. "This has been discussed in the past. We don't have a fixed number for the survey. We are estimating \$1,000 to 1,500 for a survey. We cannot nail down the cost until the engineer provides us with requirements after the assessment."

"Then we are looking at a total of \$8,000 or \$9,000," Member Les Sommers noted.

Second thoughts

The Lakes and Dams Committee had originally voted unanimously in favor of the

assessment.

"Originally, it was unanimous," Lakes and Dams Committee Chair Dave Hill, informed the board. Since then it has changed."

"I was one of those," Lakes and Dam Committee Member Ed Nuti said, referring to members who had changed their mind about the study.

"I was opposed from beginning, but felt our vote should reflect a sense of unity. But I do have a strong concern, and I have a series of questions. It started at \$7,000, and now we see it is \$8,500. I can see this blossoming into a lot of money. That dam has stood there for many years."

Nuti then asked how many board members had been out to look at the dam.

Director Chuck Leach said that he had visited the dam and reviewed an earlier engineering report on the structure, but added "What do I know? I am not an engineer."

All of the board members agreed that they were not engineers nor experts regarding dams, but all indicated that they had looked the dam over and reviewed the available information.

"I think at the very least a visit should be made to look at the dam and [emergency] spillway with the 18" pipes," Nuti said.

"I don't know if they have ever been used. If we have two other dams classified the same as Ramapo — and they are not high risk — then the engineers could come and say here is another dam that

needs an assessment."

"Last year was a very wet season," Nuti said. "Then there was an instance of the valve being manually shut off. Since that, it has been locked to prevent it from happening again. There has been no problem and I don't see any reason to rush."

The engineers agreed

Referring to a previous engineer's report from 2007, Sohl said, "This is not tied to just one assessment. The primary reason they are recommending a risk evaluation report is that Ramapo has a known

risk. Two independent firms have recommended this survey. Jewel has been our designated dam engineer."

The dam's primary spillway was replaced in 2013 with a new siphon design developed by former Director Bill Hirsch based on standard industry designs.

In reviewing the plans for that project, Racine said, "I did notice in the sketch that there were no valves. I don't know where the valves came from."

"The board member that helped designed the work

(See "SLLA," p. 20)

SLLA Easter Egg Hunt

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 4 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

In addition to the egg hunt there will be pony rides, a bounce castle, refreshments and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

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Revaluation expected to lower Village revenues

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County's ongoing reassessment of property values for tax purposes gives residents an opportunity to discover how much impact the Great Recession and subsequent recovery have had on the value of their personal real estate.

For folks who live in the average \$200,000 home, the answer is probably "Not much."

But for folks who own golf courses, or large swaths of land slated for residential and golf course development, the answer may be very different.

For Foxfire Village, that poses a bit of a revenue problem.

"If I look at the valuations from 2014 and 2015," Councilwoman Leslie Frusco said, during a recent Village Council budget work session, "our residential property value went down less than one percent."

"But that doesn't mean our property tax revenue isn't taking a hit."

The "hit" is largely due to much lower valuation for Foxfire Resort and Golf and for the yet-to-be developed Stonehill Pines.

"The two biggest elements that took a huge hit on our property values," Frusco said, "were the country club and Stonehill. The country club's valuation went down 32 percent. Stonehill's went down

12 percent."

County records put the club's current value at \$3,223,290. The more than one dozen parcels owned by Stonehill Pines, LLC are valued at just under \$7 million. Taken together, the two represent nearly seven percent of the Village's \$150 million tax base.

The final impact of the revaluation on Foxfire's tax base won't be known until June, when landowners have finished pursuing their various appeal options.

"Ad valorem revenue is going to depend upon how many people from Foxfire went and appealed the property taxes, and how many were successful," Frusco said. "We are probably going to be down \$11,000 to \$12,000 in revenue."

Council members spent the bulk of their March 24 Work Session working through spreadsheets of next year's budget, department by department, finding few major changes from the FY2015 budget.

New Patrol Car Needed

The most extensive discussion — and the largest single line item change — was the addition of \$30,000 to Councilman Mick McCue's public safety budget for the purchase of a new patrol car.

"I understand why Chad needs to take a vehicle home," Frusco said. Police Chief Chad Shue is the handler for the Department's K-9 officer, and the dog must be transported to Shue's home when off duty.

"But, why not share a vehicle between the part time officer and the full time officer?" Frusco asked.

"In Chad's opinion, sharing doesn't work," McCue, replied.

When full time officer Scott Carpenter is off-duty but on-call, McCue explained, he must respond to incidents at speed, in a marked police vehicle, with his equipment immediately available.

"Not that we have a lot of calls we have to come out for," Shue said, "but, when we do, we need to get there

as quick as we can . . . It may not seem like a lot, but when you've just had your door kicked in or your relative is lying on the floor, every minute counts."

He explained that an officer responding to a call in a personal vehicle is subject to the same traffic laws as any other motorist, and cannot exceed the speed limit.

"And believe it or not, it really boosts morale," Shue said, of providing officers with their own patrol vehicle. Noting that he shared a vehicle with another office while on the Aberdeen police force, Shue said that was a frustrating experience.

He also noted that sharing a vehicle doubles the amount and cost of maintenance of

that unit.

McCue said the current Crown Victoria patrol unit that would be replaced by the new vehicle is eleven years old. Most departments replace vehicles after four of five years, he explained.

The department also has a 2009 Dodge Charger that would be a candidates for replacement in 2018. And Chief Shue's Tahoe would be replaced in 2021.

McCue said it would be reasonable to expect to replace a vehicle every three years, which would mean using each vehicle for nine years.

He noted that the public safety budget he is requesting for FY2016 is lower than the

(See "Foxfire," p. 9)

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Time to register your child for Kindergarten



Friday, April 17 is Registration Day for new Kindergarten students in Moore County Public Schools.

Any child who will be entering kindergarten must be five years of age on or before August 31, 2015.

Parents and children are asked to come to school together on Registration Day.

Each school has planned a series of special activities to allow students an opportunity to interact with teachers, administrators and other school personnel while parents participate in the orientation and registration process.

West End Elementary asks that parents call 910-673-6691 in advance to make an appointment.

West Pine Elementary School asks that parents of new Kindergarten students drop by the office and pick up a registration packet. They can schedule an appointment at that time. Questions? Call 910-673-2004.

Parents who are unsure as to the attendance area in which they reside should call Charles McDowell, Director

of Transportation for Moore County Schools, at (910) 947-5481.

Though students usually attend the school in the community where they live, parents may request that a child attend another school provided there is room available. For more information on Moore County Schools' transfer policy, contact Dr. Lisa Troutman, Associate Superintendent at (910) 947-2976.

Parents or guardians should bring with them the following:

- Birth certificate or other proof of age.

- Immunization record. In order for a child to enter kindergarten the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Health and Human Services require that every child have a physical exam and specific immunizations in order to enter kindergarten. Please call your child's healthcare provider or the local Health Department to schedule an appointment. The North Carolina Kindergarten Health Assessment Report form is to be completed by your child's healthcare provider at the time of the physical exam and is to be

returned to your child's school prior to your child beginning school in August.

- Proof of residence (such

as, but not limited to, a Moore County property tax statement or a current lease/rental agreement, cur-

rent closing statement for property purchase).

- Proof of legal custody or guardianship.



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Packet pickup is Friday, April 17, from 5-7 p.m. across the street from Discovery Place KIDS-Rockingham – or 7 a.m. race day at the registration tent. Cost of the 5K is \$30 through April 14 (add \$5 after April 14), and the 1K is \$15 through race day. Registration is available at www.active.com. For details and updated information, visit www.firsthealth.org/ribbons, visit our Facebook page, or call (910) 695-7500.



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Sandhills Natural History Society

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

Dr. Linda Carnes-McNaughton, Program Archaeologist for Fort Bragg, will present "Stewards of the Sandhills," highlighting settlement history of the region (prehistory to historic) and elements of the Ft. Bragg cultural resource management program. Visitors are welcome. Call 910-692-2167 for more information or www.sandhillsnature.org

Foxfire

(Continued from page 8)

FY2015 budget overall, despite adding a part-time officer and purchasing a new patrol car.

"Chad has done a lot to avoid some other costs," McCue said, noting that Shue had obtained grants for the purchase of ballistic vests and had obtained rifles for

the department at no charge through a military program.

After discussing the details of other department's proposed budgets, Frusco asked Council members to submit revised figures in two weeks. The Council plans to revisit the budget during its April 30 Work Session.

Western connector to US 1 doesn't work

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



There was good news for Foxfire Village in a Monday, March 23 presentation that North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] planners gave to a group of town and county leaders.

The good news? The "Western Connector" doesn't work.

Creating a bypass that would carry traffic from the Seven Lakes area to the shopping areas on US 1 and NC Highway 15/501 in Southern Moore County has long been on NCDOT's wish list — and on the wish list of many Pinehurst residents, who believe such a bypass would reduce traffic on NC Highway 5 and at the traffic circle.

Much to the dismay of Foxfire Village officials, the most commonly proposed route for that bypass is down Hoffman and Roseland Roads.

"A four lane highway down Hoffman Road will literally destroy this community," Foxfire Councilman Mick McCue said, during a recent meeting of the Village Council.

McCue and his fellow Villagers can now breathe a little easier, because the Hoffman Road-Roseland Road bypass won't pull enough traffic off NC 211 to make a difference.

When NCDOT gathered public opinion in 2011 on the need for a bypass, "58 percent felt widening Hoffman and Roseland Roads would be the solution for this area," planning engineer Scott Walston explained during the

March 23 presentation. "But when we put the data into the traffic demand model, it didn't work . . . It just doesn't pull enough traffic to make it a feasible solution."

Good news

"That's good news for us," Foxfire Mayor Steve Durham told *The Times* after the meeting.

"Foxfire Village is really just a neighborhood," Durham said. "To have a road of that magnitude go right through the middle of the Village would devastate us. So, we're pleased to hear that news."

Durham said he had met with Walston prior to the presentation.

"He told me informally that the amount of money, time, and expense that would go into widening Hoffman and Roseland Roads wouldn't be sufficient for the amount of traffic it would divert."

Traffic on NC Highway 5, which runs from the Olmsted Village area through Pinehurst to Aberdeen, is expected to increase substantially in the next 25 years.

At the railroad overpass in Pinehurst, it currently carries 19,000 vehicles per day. That is expected to jump to 26,600

by 2040 — a 40 percent increase. But NCDOT's traffic demand model indicates that at Hoffman-Roseland bypass would reduce that by only 1300 vehicles per day — not enough to justify a major road-widening project.

Still, there's still a bit of troubling news for Foxfire Village in the results of the traffic demand model.

Even without widening Hoffman and Roseland, NCDOT expects the daily traffic on Hoffman Road, in the center of Foxfire Village, to jump from 2012's 2,700 vehicle per day to 7,200 vehicles per day in 2040.

And the congestion on NC 5 is real, Walston said. But he was fresh out of ideas for addressing the problem.

He said NCDOT planners

hoped that citizens would come forward with alternatives to the Hoffman-Roseland bypass. He told *The Times* that some of the other western bypass alternatives that were originally suggested were now impossible because of development in the area.

Comprehensive traffic plan

The travel demand model that NCDOT is using to project traffic flows in 2040 is a computer simulation created by the engineering firm Parsons Brinkerhoff. The model incorporated population projections and expectations for future residential and commercial development provided by county and municipal planning departments, as well as the locations of indus-

(See "NCDOT," p. 24)

Input sought on future transportation options

NCDOT hosted three public information and input sessions in Moore County on March 23 and 24 to gather public input.

Documents and maps presented at those session are available online at

<http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/moorechoices>.

Additional comments may be emailed by April 7 to Scott Walston at swalston@ncdot.gov. An online survey can be found at tinyurl.com/moore2015

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The Sandhills Horticultural Society will hold its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, April 11, from 8 am to Noon.

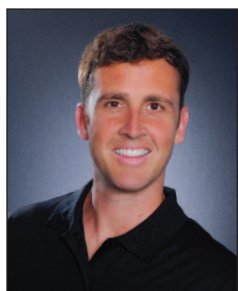
Perennials, woody plants and bulbs will be for sale at the horticultural building area (Steed Hall) of Sandhills Community College.

This is a chance to pick up some great plants

at real bargains, as gardeners move into planting season in the Sandhills.

Proceeds from the sale are used to support the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens and the students of the SCC Horticultural Program.

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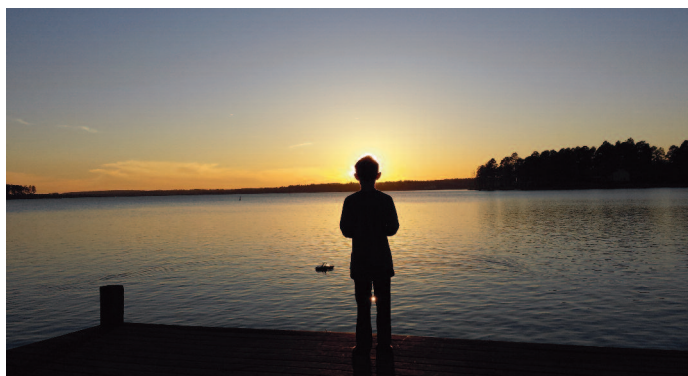
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Club stocks bream & minnows in Auman

Don Smith

Lake Auman Sports Club

Lake Auman became the new home for more than

13,000 bream and approximately 20,000 minnows on Friday, March 6, when the Seven Lakes West Landown-

ers Association used Lake Auman Sports Club volunteers to stock the fish and minnows in the lake.

The bream that were stocked included over 12,000 two to four inch Bluegills and 1,000 four to six inch Bluegills.

The Fathead minnows, which are often sold as bait, were stocked as feeder fish for the bream and other fish in Lake Auman. The minnows will grow up to three inches in length and will reproduce two to four times during their twelve to fifteen month life span.

All of the fish were purchased from and delivered by Carolina Fish Hatchery in Turkey, NC and were certified non-invasive species.

The fish and minnows were placed in the lake at twelve different locations that provided good cover and were

spread around the lake.

Five Sports Club members included in the stocking effort were Bruce Keyser, Ed Cockman, Larry D'Amico, Charlie Finchum and Don Smith, who organized and supervised the stocking.

The stocking of these fish and minnows by the SLW Landowners Association with help from the Lake Auman Sports Club addresses the primary recommendation for Lake Auman identified in a professional lake study of the lake conducted in 2012. Other initiatives to ensure and maintain the overall good health of Lake Auman are taking place on an ongoing basis throughout the year by the Lake Auman Sports Club.



Ed Cockman, Larry D'Amico, Phil Kaylor, Charlie Flinchum, Bruce Keyser and Don Smith



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In memory of . . .

Cora Rose Imars, 83, of Foxfire Village, died Saturday, March 28, at her home.

She was born in Utica, NY, the daughter to the late Nicholas Annatto and Rosella Lasher Annatto.

Mrs. Imars is survived by her husband Robert Wayne Imars of Foxfire Village; daughter Linda Luciano and husband Tony of Freeville, NY; sons Robert Imars of Remsen, NY; and Thomas Imars of Foxfire Village; her grandchildren Matthew Luciano and Sara Luciano both of Freeville, NY.

Memorial services were held on Wednesday, April 1, at McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen. The Dr. Rev. Robert Whitehouse officiated.

Memorial contributions may be made to McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, 1374 Foxfire Rd, Aberdeen, NC 28315.

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

Philip C. Castaldi, 76, of Seven Lakes West, died Friday, March 27.

Mr. Castaldi was born in Dover, NJ.

Survivors include his high school sweetheart and wife, Gale; three daughters, Kim, Karen, and Kristen, four granddaughters, and two great-grandchildren.

There will be no public memorial; the memory of Mr.

Castaldi will endure in the hearts and minds of his loving family and friends.

Memorial donations may be made to West End United Methodist Church, PO Box 276, West End NC 27376 designated to the WEUMC Food Pantry.

Boles Funeral Home assisted the family.

Alan A. McLeod, 93, of Palm Harbor, FL, formerly of Seven Lakes, died Sunday,

March 8.

Mr. McLeod was born in Montclair, NJ. He graduated from Mount St. Marcy College and served in the Navy during WWII. He married his wife Trudy in 1949. In 1980, they retired in Seven Lakes. They were married for 55 years until her death in 2004.

Mr. McLeod was employed by Prudential Insurance Company in NJ, Chicago and Minneapolis rising to assistant director of group pension

sales. He retired as senior vice president of Alexander & Alexander in Detroit.

Survivors include daughters Judith Walker of Mexico; Patricia (Robert) Pizzuti of Lachine, MI; Susan (Kurt) of

Marietta, GA; and son Lanny (Carolyn) McLeod of Golden, CO; twelve grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Services will be private.

Need a wheelchair?

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Outreach Ministry has medical equipment that any person of the community can borrow for short term recovery. This service is available at no cost.

Some of the available items are: walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, commodes and canes. The equipment can be borrowed on a

monthly basis. It is possible to extend the time if necessary.

To make arrangements for equipment contact Rev. Fran Stark, Associate Pastor 673-5493.

The Chapel also welcomes donations of medical equipment to help maintain and increase their inventory of equipment.

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Price family has another Eagle in the nest

Kyle Flynn, grandson of Bill and Mary Price of Seven Lakes West, added another Eagle to their nest of fourth generation Eagle Scouts.

Kyle is the great grandson of Eagle Scout Clarence Price, who attended the first Scout Jamboree held in England

in 1920 as a member of the Denver Boy Scout Band, he is the grandson of Clarence William (Bill) Price of Seven Lakes and the son of Kevin Flynn of Novato, California.

Bill Price received his Eagle award in Lombard, Illinois and Kevin Flynn's award was

earned in Queens, New York.

Kyle is a freshman at San Diego State University. He attended Novato High School, where he swam and played soccer on the varsity teams. Kyle did his Eagle Scout project at the Presbyterian Church of Novato where he put in a concrete walkway and brick area. His favorite scouting memory is going to summer camp as an older scout where he able to work with the younger scouts and help them grow.



Eagle Scout Kyle Flynn

Clenny Creek Day

The 10th annual Clenny Creek Day will be held Saturday, April 18 from 10 am to 5 pm, at the Bryant House and McLendon Cabin.

Both of these historical house museums are owned and maintained by Moore County Historical Association.

The Friends of the Bryant House is planning a fun day for visitors that includes vendors, food, items for sale, tours of the 1820s era Bryant House, and McLendon cabin.

The buildings are located at 3361 Mt. Carmel Road, Carthage. Admission is free.

Spelman receives award



Chuck Spelman and State VVA Vice President Ronnie Williams

Seven Lakes West resident Charles "Chuck" Spelman received the prestigious Linwood Lang Award from the North Carolina State Vietnam Veteran's Association Council.

The award is given to one individual each year who demonstrates remarkable service to Veteran's and their families.

Spelman is a member and past President of Moore County VVA Chapter 966.



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Girl Scout Troop #759 works to help pets

Dr. Rebecca Vassallo, MD from the Moore County Humane Society gave Girl Scout Troop #759 of West End a presentation on Monday, March 30 at West End United Methodist Church about animals and the shelter.

Dr. Vassallo brought an adoptable Golden Retriever

with her named Belle, who was very kind and gentle with the twenty girls who were so excited to see and meet her.

Troop #759 is currently working on two badges "Pets" and "Making the World A Better Place" along with starting their annual service project with the Moore County

Humane Society.

The troop will be collecting donations and supplies for the Humane Society's Moore

Than Shelter located in Carthage, throughout the month of April.

If anyone would like to help

the girls with donations for the shelter, please call Erin Thomas, Troop Leader at 910-639-0104.



Girl Scout Troop #759 members: Emily Wittenrich, Anna Cormier, Journey Hardy, Caragh Garry, Ava Brown, Aidan Waters, Clara Kaemba, Lexi Brown, Sydney Thomas, Macey Jackson, Maggie Bowman, Ally Garry, Zoe Cormier, Harmony Allred, LeAsia Cook, Leaders Meghan Cormier, and Erin Thomas with Belle from the shelter. (Not available for photo: Chloe King, Avrie White, Keena Sosa, LilyAnah Halstead, Leila Halstead)

Weymouth Plant Sale

Weymouth will have their annual plant sale on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am to 1 pm, sponsored by the Weymouth Center Dirt Gardeners.

You'll find price friendly perennials, shrubs, trees, ground covers, vines, and herbs that thrive in the heat, humidity, and poor soils of the Sandhills.

Many of the plants attract

butterflies and hummingbirds. There will be a garden white elephant sale.

Cash and checks accepted; no credit cards.

Experienced gardeners will be on hand to answer questions and help load. Weymouth Center, 555 East Connecticut Avenue, Southern Pines. Information: (910) 949-3999, or dolphin3999@gmail.com



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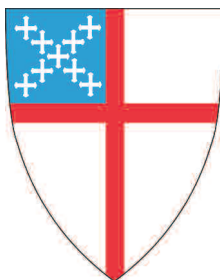
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Children's Chapel - 9:45 am
Adult Christian Education - 10:45 am

Tuesday Mornings

Intercessory Prayer
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FRIDAY, APRIL 3

- **Good Friday**
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, Volunteers are needed at the North Side Clubhouse to help and assist with stuffing Easter Eggs for the children.
- **West End United Methodist Church** – 7 pm, Good Friday Service.
- **Amazing Love** - 7 pm, Easter drama at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656. Nursery provided.
- **Sandhills Winery presents 'Whiskey Evans'** - Live music from 7 pm - 10 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*, A look at the mysterious relationship between Victorian art critic John Ruskin and his teenage bride Effie Gray. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

- **First Day of Passover**
- **West End United Methodist Church Men's Breakfast** – 8 am at West End Scout Lodge. Enjoy a home-cooked breakfast and a time of fellowship. After breakfast, a brief devotional and the men discuss projects to assist both the church and the community. Any man of the church or our community is welcome.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Easter Egg Hunt** – 11 am to 1 pm, at the North Side Clubhouse. Egg hunt, pony rides, bounce castle, refreshments and a visit from the Easter Bunny.
- **Pumpkin Creek Easter Egg Hunt** – 12 pm - 3 pm, free Easter Egg Hunt and Kid's Day. Easter themed games, candy, and prizes will be available for all children 12 and under. Special visit by the Easter Bunny and photographs. Special area for small children that need assistance of parents hunt at 1 pm. All other kids hunt eggs at 12 pm and at a second hunt held

at 2 pm. Egg dyeing contest, guess the beans in the jar, and egg race. Phoenix Fashions, 4243 Seven Lakes Plaza, Seven Lakes. Call Darrell or Chelcey at 673-1519.

Aberdeen (off Linden Road from Pinehurst). Jill McCloy (910) 692-5094.

- **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.

- **Amazing**

Love - 10:30 am, Easter drama at Seven Lakes Baptist Church. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656. Nursery provided.

- **West End Presbyterian Church** – 11 am service. 275 Knox Lane, West End.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

- **Easter Monday**
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

- **Zumba Class** – 10:30 to 11:30 am, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist

What's When



SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise – 2:30 & 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

- **Easter Sunday**
- **West End United Methodist Church** – 6:45 am, Easter Sunrise Service at West End Cemetery. Easter Breakfast at West End Baptist on Hwy. 211 at 7:30 am. Easter Services, at 8:30 am and 11 am at West End United Methodist Church.
- **McDonalds Chapel** – 7 am, Easter Sunrise Service participate in the church's annual "Flowering of the Cross" tradition. Congregation will gather in the fellowship hall for a covered dish breakfast. Easter service at 11 am worship service. McDonalds Chapel, 1374 Foxfire Road,



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- **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.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 5:30 pm, at the Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club** – lunch at 11:30, meeting begins at 12:05. Guest speaker, Lloyd Droppers Aeronautical Engineer. *New meeting location, *Beacon Ridge Country Club*. Visitors welcome.
- **Trivia Tuesday at Sandhills Winery** – 6 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **Seven Lakes Lunch Bunch at Chapel in the**

Pines – noon, program will feature Sandhills Community College Story-Telling Scat Band. Entertaining with bluegrass, folk tunes and original compositions written by band members. Reservation for lunch or transportation, call the Chapel 673-2156.

- **Spring Art Sale at the Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 6 - 8 pm, featuring new works of Art by area artists. Opening Gala Party tonight. The community is invited to join the festivities and to meet the Artists. St. Mary Magdalene Building, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **English-Speaking Union** – 6 pm, Cocktails & hors d'oeuvres; 7 pm, Dinner. guest speaker John Chamberlin. Chamberlin will describe mysteries that still surround building of "The Transcontinental Railroad." Meeting and dinner at Pinehurst Country Club, (costs \$46 per person, inclusive of tax and service charge). Membership open to the public. For information about E-SU programs and membership contact Hope Price at 692-7727, hopewp@aol.com
- **AWANA Youth Group** – 6:30 to 8 pm, Hankins Family Life Center. Children

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age 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.

- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

- **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.
- **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – 2 pm, Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive. Subject will be "Ask a Master Gardener." A panel of Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions and discuss frequently asked questions from the Extension Master Gardener Helpline. Door prize, free raffle. Bring your enthusiasm, question. Everyone is welcome.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm, 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *Effie Gray*. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

- **Seven Lakes EMS Community Yard Sale & Fundraiser** – 8 am to 2 pm, rent 10 x10 space for \$15. Tables for \$10 (Limited Quantities Available). Breakfast will be available for sale.
- **Sandhills Horticultural Society Plant Sale** – 8 am to noon. Perennials, woody plants and bulbs for sale at the horticultural building area (Steed Hall) of Sandhills Community College. Proceeds benefit the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens and the students. Information or to pre-order call (910) 695-3882.
- **Weymouth Plant Sale** – 9 am to 1 pm, perennials, shrubs, trees, ground covers, vines, and herbs that thrive in the heat, humidity, and poor soils of the Sandhills, plus plants attract butterflies and hummingbirds. Garden white elephant sale. Cash and checks accepted. Weymouth Center, 555 East Connecticut Avenue, Southern Pines. Information: (910) 949-3999, or dolphin3999@gmail.com Sponsored by the Weymouth Center Dirt Gardeners.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

- **Orthodox Easter**
- **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.

- **West End Presbyterian Church** – 11 am service. 275 Knox Lane, West End.
- **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 in the Youth Room at the church. Enjoy fellowship, study and a meal. West End United Methodist Church, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End, 673-1371.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse Game Room.
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Moore County Board of Education Regular Meeting (Adopt Budget)** – Central Office, 6 pm - Closed Session, 6:30 pm - Open Session.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

- **Zumba Class** – 10:30 to 11:30 am, *free* class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 673-4656.
- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.
- **Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club** – lunch at 11:30, meeting begins at 12:05. Guest speaker, General Buck Kernan **New meeting location, Beacon Ridge Country Club.* Visitors welcome.
- **Trivia Tuesday at Sandhills Winery** – 6 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Foxfire Village Council** – 6:30 pm, meeting at Foxfire Village Hall.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

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

1145 Seven Lakes Drive.

- **AWANA Youth Group** – 6:30 to 8 pm, Hankins Family Life Center. 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse Game Room.
- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. 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.
- **Talking About Knees** – 4 to 5 pm, guest speaker Ray Metzger, Appalachian Physical Therapy. Discussion will be on "Knees" Moore County Department of Aging, 8040 US Hwy 15-501, West End. To reserve your seat (910) 215-0900.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm, 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com



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Lions, Elks, Foundation donate Braille printer



The Southern Pines Elks Lodge, the Public Education Foundation and the Seven Lakes Lions Club donated a braille Embosser to Moore County Schools to assist students with varying degrees of visual needs. The new braille Embosser is located in the Education Center, and will be used for students throughout the district.

"Our visually impaired population is increasing and many more students will require braille instruction," said Betty Brown, MCS' teacher for the visually impaired. "The district has a ten-year-old braille Embosser at Union Pines High School, but it is aging and does not print graphics or words."

In addition to the 189 symbols that students learning braille must master before they can begin to read, the new braille Embosser is capable of printing braille graphics such as charts, maps and any other picture used in a classroom. Another special feature of the new embosser is that it prints the words beneath each line of braille, enabling teacher assistants and teachers without braille training to answer questions from visually impaired students.

"I used to spend an average of six hours writing the words under the braille symbols on each assignment for the approximately 23 visually impaired students we serve in 14 of our schools," Brown said. "Now I can spend more time working directly with our students instead of on paperwork preparation."

"We are so grateful to the Southern Pines Elks Lodge, the Public Education Foundation and the Seven Lakes Lions Club for all their support for Moore County Schools," Rebecca Benton, MCS' Director of Student Support Services, said. "This gift is the most recent example of their overwhelming generosity that benefits our students' lives."

"We are always looking to support worthy projects that positively impact children with special needs," said John Hilbrecht, chairman of the Southern Pines Elks Lodge's Special Needs Committee.

President Bill Seldomridge

of the Seven Lakes Lions Club said they are always willing to support their community.

"We believe in helping our community in any way that we can," he said. "When we learned that our gift would

support visually impaired children, we were even more excited to participate."

To learn more about Moore

County Schools' Exceptional Children Program, call the Education Center at 910-947-2342



Betty Brown, MCS teacher for the visually impaired; Donna Smith and her son, Canaan; Robin Covington, MCS instructional assistant-braille; and Rebecca Benton, MCS' Director of Student Support Services

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League offers Civic Leader scholarship

Leadership. Service. Initiative. Resourcefulness. Problem-solving skills. These are among the qualities sought in candidates for a new \$1,000 Civic Leader Scholarship to be awarded by the League of Women Voters of Moore County, (LWVMC) beginning in 2015.

The League members hope that this college scholarship will encourage active participation of youth in the American political process and in service to their community, both now and in the future. In an atmosphere where government is often seen in an unfavorable light, encouraging future political leaders is crucial to democracy.

High school juniors from North Moore, Pinecrest, and Union Pines with at least a "B" average are eligible to apply. Applications will be available in guidance coun-

selors' offices by the end of March. Application deadline is June 1, 2015. Finalists will be invited to an interview

with the League of Women Voters' Scholarship Selection Committee after school resumes in August. The

scholarship winner will be announced in early fall of the student's senior year.

The Civic Leader Scholar-

ship will be funded by the League's annual Lunch with Legends, plus donations from members and others.



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Railroad Mysteries at ESU

The English-Speaking Union will host John Chamberlin on Wednesday, April 8. Chamberlin will describe mysteries that still surround building of "The Transcontinental Railroad."

Like the moon project of our generation, this undertaking required immense resources. Unlike the moon project, building this railroad was undertaken mostly by private interests. No reliable cost figures exist for the rail line.

Chamberlin will guide the audience through this maze and the detective work of establishing ownership of the mortgage bonds that financed construction of the railroad.

Meeting and dinner at Pinehurst Country Club, 6 pm, Cocktails & hors d'oeuvres; 7 pm, Dinner (costs \$46 per person). Membership in E-SU is open to the public. For more information, contact Hope Price at (910)-692-7727, hopewp@aol.com

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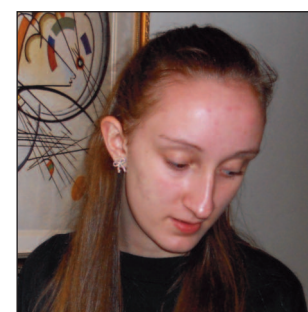
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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 7)

had pulled the information from a website and added the butterfly valve," Sohl responded. "The member also advised another staff member to put another valve on . . . That has since been locked off. The butterfly valve was put on when the pipe was installed. There are 14 million gallons of water behind that dam, and the primary spillway may be undersized."

"I have been on the Lakes and Dam Committee for several years," Sommers said. "That dam is really solid. There are no soft spots or leakage. I can't see spending this money on that when there is nothing wrong with it."

Fiduciary responsibility

"We have two independent engineers that have come up with the same recommendation," Member Jim Allen said. They are the only two that are qualified to comment on the subject here. The Board has a fiduciary duty to listen to those who are qualified."

"I think we have lost focus here," he continued. "Something could go wrong, and we hope that it won't. But if there are two different people saying that there is a problem, then we need to fix it."

"I would like to add a little perspective," Director Steve Ritter said. "Two years ago, when we were doing this, I was the President of the Board, and we knew we had to make some modifications to that dam. We talked about getting an engineer's study and talked about how many thousands of dollars it would cost."

Then, we had a member of the Board that was very knowledgeable do some calculations based on his profession, and he recommended the system that was ultimately put in. He swore it was no big deal. It was a no hazard dam and it would save us all this money. No big deal."

"The board listened to him and it gained traction," Ritter continued. "At that point, I thought we needed certified people. But I listened and

acquiesced and voted in favor, without having an engineer oversee what was done. Now, we know that the pipe was put in wrong. If we had conducted an engineer's survey then, we wouldn't be here right now, and the pipe would have been put in correctly."

"In good conscience, we should heed their advice," Ritter concluded.

The board voted four to two in favor of the study, with Director Mary Farley and President Racine opposed.

The broader community

Presiding over the last Open Meeting in his current term as President, Racine encouraged renewing relations with Seven Lakes West.

"Last time at the open meeting I made a comment hoping that the new board, no matter who is elected, get together with the West side for a casual lunch," Racine said. "I would like to encourage a luncheon for both boards to get together."

He reported that several West Side board members were in favor of meeting.

"They are looking forward to this and are anxious to have the North, South and West Sides working together," Racine said.

"I also wish to thank everybody who ran for the board, and everybody that voted," he added.

Spring fix-up

Providing the Architectural Review Board report, Jane Leach said a long list of spring projects had been approved, including new roofs, siding, screen porch enclosures, and cementing driveways.

During its three-hour March 5 meeting, Leach

reported, the most time consuming matter was a review of ARB rules and regulations.

Body cameras for security

"Universal Security is recommending body cameras to be worn by security officers," Director Ritter reported. "I think it is worthwhile. They will put the body cameras on the lakes and dam patrol and roving patrol during their shifts. They are relatively inexpensive."

"Universal Security has opted to go ahead purchasing a couple of the body cameras and field testing them for a

(See "SLLA Open," p. 21)

Seven Lakes Garden Club

The Seven Lakes Garden Club will meet on Thursday, April 9, at 2 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive.

The subject will be "Ask a Master Gardener." A panel of Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions and discuss frequently asked questions from the Extension Master Gardener Helpline.

Door prize, free raffle. Bring your enthusiasm, questions, and neighbors. Novice to experts everyone is welcome.

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SLLA Annual Meeting

(Continued from front page)

tion was less than thirty percent of those eligible to vote.

Leach elected President

Chuck Leach was elected SLLA President in a brief organizational meeting held immediately following the Annual Meeting. Leach received the votes of five directors; former President Bob Racine collected two votes.

The election of each of the other officers was uncontested. Lishawa will serve as Vice President. Mark Gyure, who has been a member of the Finance Committee, will serve as Treasurer. And Mary Farley will continue as Secretary.

Committee responsibilities will be as follows:

- Gyure - Finance
- Lishawa - Security

- Sandy Sackmann - Architectural Review
- Racine - Community Standards and Judicial
- Leach - Facilities & Maintenance
- Smith - Lakes & Dams
- Farley - Recreation

Changes to meeting time, format

In an informal discussion of Open Meeting agendas, Board members expressed a preference for restricting public comment to the beginning and end of each meeting, rather than allowing comment on each agenda item,

as was the case during Racine's term as President.

Leach said he would encourage interested members to attend Board Work Sessions and meetings of relevant committees in order to provide input earlier in the decision-making process.

Community Manager Ray Sohl expressed concerns about sending the membership a relatively complete version of the Open Meeting packet that is provided to Board Members, and the Directors appeared to authorize Sohl to provide the membership with an annotated

agenda rather than a full meeting packet.

Finally, the Board decided to move the Open Meeting, which has been held on the last Wednesday of the month since the inception of the Association, to the last Thursday in each month.

The Work Session, which has been held on a Monday morning, will move to a Thursday morning two weeks prior to the Open Meeting. Sohl is developing a meeting schedule for Board approval.

The next scheduled meeting of the SLLA Board of Directors is an April 16 Work Ses-

SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 20)

couple of months," he added. They are funding it and doing it all themselves."

From crafts to Easter eggs

Director Farley reported on the recent craft and tag sale hosted by the Recreation Committee.

"I am sure you know we had our first community sale," she said. "To my great surprise, it was a great success. I didn't know what to expect. We cleared \$700, and I would like to thank everybody for providing baked goods and everybody that donated."

"The committee worked very hard on this," she added. "I couldn't have done it without them. I am totally in awe of them. Many vendors asked if we could do this again in November closer to Christmas."

"Also, Easter is right around the corner," Farley said. "We are looking for any volunteers to fill and hide

2,000 Easter eggs on Good Friday at 9:00 am. The hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Hopefully, we will have a special time for all the kids!"

Other business

In other business during the March 18 SLLA Open Meeting, the Board of Directors:

- Approved hosting the NC Open Water Swim competitions in June and September.
- Voted to approve a water quality policy to allow for testing of bacteria in lakes.
- Unanimously approved the purchase a portable pool vacuum system at a cost not to exceed \$1500.

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OPINION

Dam study is pointless, volunteers are essential

For the February 9 Work Session of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors, I prepared a presentation that opposed spending more than \$10,600 to have the Ramapo Dam spillway analyzed to determine if it was designed and installed properly.

The spillway was installed in November 2013, at a cost of \$21,637, and has been working as designed, despite having two valves installed that were not part of the original design. There has been no indication that the contractor installed the spillway improperly. The company that supplied the plans for the spillway designs, builds, and sells components for both traditional and new design spillways like the new Ramapo spillway. Both contractor and component companies have many years of experience in their fields.

The old spillway, installed in 1960 when the dam was

rebuilt, had a 12 inch pipe, the same size as the new one, and served Lake Ramapo successfully for 55 years, before internally collapsing in June 2013. In fact, the new automatic spillway-

Your Turn

*Don Fentzlaff
Former SLLA Director*

siphon design is far superior to any of the existing spillways on the other Northside lakes. It is also similar to many that are being installed in new dams today. It is built with PVC pipe, which will not corrode or rust through, unlike the pipes in the other dams.

As I began my presentation, the community manager began defending his recommendation to spend money

for the engineering study. Then one of our Board members, Chuck Leach, began reading a prepared letter, denigrating and marginalizing the work of the many volunteers who have put in so much hard work and long hours to improve the community over the years, referring in particular to the oversight of the road repairs done a few years back.

He then began railing against me, as "an ex-police-man" (conveniently neglecting to mention my extensive engineering background) and just another misguided volunteer trying to save us a few bucks when the consequences could lead to extreme property loss and possibly loss of life if the Ramapo Dam were to fail. He said this, despite knowing

that the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources has classified the Ramapo Dam as a low hazard dam, with little to no possibility of either ever happening.

Once Leach finished reading his letter, I asked him who wrote the letter, and he replied, after some hesitation, "I did." Even though this was a public document, read at an official SLLA Work Session, I have not been able to get a copy of that letter, although I have asked for one. Leach has stated that he can't find it. I wonder why not?

In contrast, when one of our former Board members, Bill Hirsch, an architect and engineer, made recommendations and presented calculations regarding this same spillway back in 2013, before its installation, no one questioned whether it would be adequate to handle the needs of Lake Ramapo. Was he also not a "volunteer," the same

as me when I was on the Board?

The apparent reason management wants the new spillway analyzed is that, during the Thanksgiving weekend of 2014, we had a rain event of almost one inch in a short period of time. Because the lake was already at or above full pond prior to the rain, more water began discharging from the lake through the spillway, as designed.

However, because one of those two valves that should not be there was closed instead of open, the spillway continued to draw off water from the lake at a high volume, due to the siphon effect, rather than tapering off as the lake level decreased. This is what caused such a tremendous amount of water to discharge into the woods and onto Edgewater Drive. Otherwise, the spillway would have just acted as a drain, and the amount of water lost

(See "Fentzlaff," p. 24)

Village Beautification Committee needs your help

The Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee is asking the community for your help to allow us to continue our enhancement of the Seven Lakes Village grounds.

We are a volunteer group

from the entire Seven Lakes community whose mission is to improve the landscape appearance of the Village, which means all our work is outside of the gates.

The committee is entirely dependent on contributions

and the work of volunteers.

Seven Lakes Village has no Village governance to provide funding for landscape maintenance and enhancement and receives no money from the governing boards within the gates.

Local business owners carry a heavy burden that includes maintaining the roads within the Village, taking care of their own properties, and maintaining the Village Green.

The Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee does its best to maintain and upgrade the right-of-way between Highway 211 and the railroad tracks and the stone (Zen) garden at the east end of Seven Lakes Drive.

The "Welcome to Seven Lakes" signs on Highway 211 and near the triangle on Seven Lakes Drive were also made and installed by committee members.

needed to cover the cost of plants, mulch, and mowing.

Donations of any amount is appreciated and will be acknowledged.

Please make checks payable to Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee and mail to: Barbara McElroy, 1249 Seven Lakes North, West End, NC 27376.

The Steering Committee thanks you

for your continued support:

Al and Linda Geiger, Don and Barb Gerhardt, Kathy Goodman, Teresa Hessler, Barb and Phil McElroy, Lyn Purtz, Edie Reinhardt, Alice Shaughnessy, Nancy Shereda, Magda Sonderfan, and Deb Temple.

Your Turn

*Seven Lakes
Beautification Committee*

We hope you have noticed the visible improvements during our dozen years of existence.

We have not requested support for a couple of years and our funds are running low.

Although planting, pruning, and weeding labor is volunteered, financial support is

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Seven Lakes community needs your support

Dear Editor,

I have just written a check to the Seven Lakes Village Beautification Committee. I hope that everyone that reads this will realize that not only are these folks making our community look better with their hard work, but they are also helping our property values with their efforts.

I appreciate what these people do for our community and I encourage everyone to improve the community with your check to the Beautifi-

cation Committee.

As I placed a 49 cent stamp on the envelope to mail the check, I reflected sadly on the fact that 234 votes defeated an increase in Seven Lakes Landowners Association dues in an amount less than the cost of mailing one letter a week. This money would also have had a positive impact on property values.

I encourage everyone to realize that the community needs your support. The Seven Lakes Village Beauti-

fication Committee is a wonderful example of someone doing more than their share. Let's not forget that the Seven Lakes Landowners Association with our volunteer Board of Directors also needs your support.

We must remember that the 6 cent stamp we are all looking for does not exist and if we don't use a 49 cent stamp, our message will not get where we want it to go.

D. Alan Shaw
Seven Lakes South

Thanks from the SLLA Recreation Committee

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association the Recreation Committee would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the Seven Lakes residents who came out on March 14 to the Arts & Crafts and Unwanted Treasure Sale to not only show their support, but also for their generous donations to benefit the Stables in Seven Lakes

We also want to give a

special thank you to Pat Weber and the Women of Seven Lakes and Project Linus for donating the baked goods for the bake sale.

The Recreation Committee is very grateful for the work they have done for the community of Seven Lakes and the Stables.

Terri Cheechov
SLLA Recreation
Committee

League says thanks

Dear Editor,

The League of Women Voters of Moore County is grateful for the success of Lunch with Legends 2015.

With support of the advertisers in the program, the attendance of members and their many guests, and the generous contributions of some area residents and businesses, the LWVMC will be able to fund a \$1000 scholarship to a Moore County High School Student, continue as a supporting partner in the Ruth Pauley Lecture series and plan for candidate

forums for the municipal elections in the fall.

Your sponsorship and turnout are appreciated.

We also want to thank Mary Lou and Tom Bernett for writing and producing an educational and delightful program. Both Nellie Bly and Sally Ride, the celebrated legends of this year's event, would surely approve of how their legacy was portrayed.

Thank you.

Kathy Bergquist
President

League of Women Voters
of Moore County

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NCDOT

(Continued from page 10)

try, shopping, schools, and other destinations that affect traffic flows.

Also included was data on the current flows of traffic within the county, based on cellphone location data collected from cellular telephone companies.

The result is a sophisticated computer model, based on local data, that allows planners and engineers to predict how traffic flows will change over time — and how major traffic projects might affect

those flows.

The traffic demand model was perhaps the most "gee-whiz" aspect of a comprehensive transportation planning process for Moore County that began in 2011 and included representatives from the county and its towns, as well as other stakeholders.

Moore County's last comprehensive transportation plan dates to 1990. State law requires that the county have an updated plan in place in order to be considered for

future NCDOT improvement projects.

Focus on problem areas

The state and county had attempted to get a planning process under way from 2000-2010, but without much success — in part because many of the top projects on NCDOT's Moore County list are controversial. In addition to the controversial Western Connector, they include:

- Straightening the path that NC Highway 73 takes

through West End.

- A bypass of Carthage.
- A bypass of Cameron.
- Dealing with the congestion along US 1 as it passes through the prime shopping area in Southern Pines and Aberdeen.

West End

Currently, NC 73 enters West End from the east at the traffic light, runs along with NC 211 for a block and then heads off to the west.

NCDOT's Strategic Transportation Initiative Plan already includes a proposed new road that would straighten that out, with construction proposed for in 2020.

Cameron and Carthage

The idea of creating bypasses to carry NC Highway 24/27 around Carthage and

Cameron reflects the importance of that roadway as a key traffic corridor — and the impact that steadily increasing traffic could have on those small towns.

NCDOT's Walston said the traffic demand model indicated that traffic flows through Cameron on would increase significantly by 2040 — but not enough to create a congestion problem.

"Carthage is a little trickier," Walston said. Projections show that, by 2040, traffic through downtown Carthage will exceed the carrying capacity of the roadway, producing an unacceptable level of congestion.

Citizen input favored a shallow bypass north of town, Walston said. Currently, traffic through the center of (See "NCDOT," p. 25)

Fentzlaff

(Continued from page 22)

would have been considerably less.

Fortunately, a former board member happened to drive by Edgewater Drive, saw the water, and went to the dam and shut off the main valve (also not included in the original design, but fortunate in this situation) to reduce the flow, until the lake returned to normal level. Had he known about the other valve, he could have just opened it and the flow would have stopped immediately.

In summary, this is just

another example of the continuing attacks on selfless volunteers, a pervasive trend that some on our Board and management are using to minimize the value and the experience found in this community.

The "concerns" and "reasoning" behind limiting the use of volunteers include "liability risks," "lack of experience," "lack of knowledge," and, now, "not being homeowners." This attitude is driving away some of the brightest minds in the community, who have contributed untold

expertise, time, and effort over the years, and will ultimately discourage others from coming forward to serve.

We cannot afford to continue this loss of volunteers, as a community without this untiring help is indeed a community in trouble.

Don Fentzlaff is a former SLLA Director who chaired both the Lakes & Dams and Architectural Review Board.



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NCDOT

(Continued from page 24)

Carthage is approximately 12,000 vehicles per day. With the bypass, in 2040, that number is expected to rise to 12,600, while another 13,000 will use the bypass.

Fixing US 1

The 900 pound gorilla in the room during the March 23 presentation — and, arguably, the primary reason that NCDOT took a "key projects" approach to Moore County's comprehensive plan — is what to do about the crowded US 1 corridor where it travels through Moore County's prime shopping area.

The obvious solution is a bypass, but the one route available for that passes through the 4,000 acre Walthour-Moss foundation, a wooded area that is used by the equestrian community. Opposition to the idea of a bypass through the natural area has been fierce — as has the idea of covering the surface street into a limited access freeway. Moore County, as well as the towns of Aberdeen, Southern Pines, Pinebluff, and the Village of Pinehurst all passed resolu-

tions opposing the bypass and opposing turning that portion of US 1 into a freeway.

That leaves the question of how to accommodate increased traffic that is sure to come. Just south of it's intersection with NC 15-501, US 1 currently carries 40,000 vehicles per day. By 2040, that number is expected to reach 69,000.

The current level of traffic already presents a safety hazard, Walston explained. There have been 924 crashes on that stretch in the past five years, he said, including 338 that involved injuries.

At 412 crashes per 100 million vehicle miles, the crash rate for the urbanized section of US 1 is twice the state average.

Freeway to superstreet

Mike Horn, of the engineering firm Kimley Horn, presented five options for improving US 1. Those include doing nothing, which he said will lead to an unacceptable level of service, with more crashes and extensive traffic backups. Another option that would provide excellent levels of service would be to convert

it into a limited access freeway. But that would eliminate all the entrances to current businesses along the route — and has already been rejected by the county and towns.

Shifting his presentation to more plausible options, Horn said adding a lane on each side and a median in the middle would be able to accommodate expected levels of traffic in 2014 while offering a fair level of service, with some long lines at peak times. It would also involve taking some property from businesses that adjoin the street.

Creating a four-lane "super street" design would offer similar service improvements, while avoiding the encroachment on businesses. The superstreet design allows no

left turns onto the roadway. Traffic must instead turn right onto the street, move into the left hand turn lane, and make a u-turn in a widened area at the next intersection.

Turning US 1 into a four lane super street would offer the same level of service as the six lane approach, Horn said, but only through 2035, not 2040.

The final approach horn described was a six-lane super street design, which offers the best level of service short of turning the road into a freeway. It would, however, require taking the property of some businesses along the route.

NCDOT wants input on transportation options, See page 10 for details.



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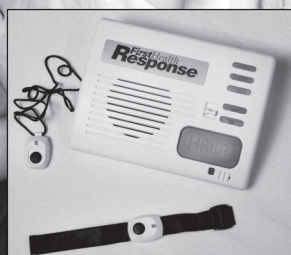
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Art

(Continued from page 5)

sions attract men, women, couples, and kids of all ages.

In addition to holding classes at West End Methodist and 7 Central Bistro, Batchelor teaches at private home parties, where family and guests can paint within the comfort of a home setting.

"You can bring your neighbors and people don't have to worry about driving into town or somewhere; they're right in their neighborhood."

"It's really a lot of fun when you have it at your home," she continued, "because that way you can totally relax with people you do know — because some people feel a little uneasy about trying to paint around strangers."

Batchelor uses acrylic paints during her painting sessions, but she admits her personal preference is for oil

paintings.

"The thing with this is it's a learning curve for me, because I usually paint with oils. . . I like oil because I can take my time and it takes a long time to dry. . ."

"Oil has an oil base," she said. "So if it's thick you can paint on it for weeks, and it doesn't dry. Acrylic has a plastic base, so it dries really fast. That's why you can finish a painting in only two hours."

Batchelor has painted for pleasure over the years, but other commitments have kept her from painting as much as she would have liked.

"When I was teaching school, everybody thinks you paint all the time," she said.

"But, when you're home and you've taught all day long, you've got other things. You're either doing grades,

or you've got your kids."

Despite those challenges, Batchelor was able to complete several paintings during her teaching career.

"I've got a lot of paintings I've done that are hanging up at home," she said. "I have painted some in my thirty years of teaching, but I haven't focused on it like I should. I should have been painting something every day — like they say to do."

During a Sociable Art session, Batchelor completes a painting while explaining the process to the group, step-by-step. Some instructors keep these demonstration paintings until the end of the year.

"Some people have a sale," she explained. One instructor teaches so many classes over and over that, at the end of the year, she has a Christmas

sale and sells her paintings."

Batchelor started her painting sessions in November and is already teaching about one class each week.

Proceeds from her session at West End Methodist support the work of the West End Food Pantry, which is receiving less grant and support money this year. The pantry feeds 250 to 300 people in western Moore County. Batchelor's goal is to raise \$10,000 for the cause by the end of the year.

"If I could have fifty people show up for several events, that would really boost it," she said.

Batchelor said she hopes to add additional fundraisers

to her schedule.

"I would rather work with people who need to do fundraisers and charities and special events," she said, "to be able to give back from having this natural talent so that I can help my community."

To join Elizabeth Batchelor in a painting session, visit sociableart.com to view dates and sign up. Sessions are held at 7 Central Bistro the fourth Wednesday of every month.

To contact Batchelor, email elizabethbatchelor94@gmail.com or call 910-400-5300. Find her Facebook page titled "Sociable Art With Elizabeth Anne Batchelor."

Buffer

(Continued from page 3)

cussed or voted on in any open meetings of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Board of Directors prior to the closing of the transaction.

Herdrich said the seller, McDonald Family Farms, LLC, had asked that negotiations concerning the property be kept confidential until closing, which occurred on

March 26.

Herdrich said the opportunity to purchase the property was unexpected — and came sooner than the Board might have preferred. However, once they learned that the entire parcel was on the market, roughly four months ago, the decision was made to move quickly.

The purchase was funded from the "Land Bank," a

reserve account set aside specifically for the purchase of property within or adjacent to Seven Lakes West that would be useful to the community as common area.



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Westside Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

to deal with a moving target every month, as names come off but new names come on. The new payment policies will help maintain this forward momentum."

During the public comment portion, Member Don Hart expressed his concern with eliminating the option of paying monthly by check.

"I sent a letter to the Board to question why we can't continue to pay our dues monthly with a check," Hart said. "I learned from my bank that I can't stop payment, that only a third party can stop the automatic withdrawal. I don't think it is fair or right. Why should I have to give access to my account rather than pay monthly, like I have for the last two years?"

Committees approved

The Directors announced and approved new committee members as follows:

Finance Committee: Don Freiert, Kathy Kirst, Diane Krauss, Stan Makson, Dennis Sheridan, Don O'Shea, Mike Thomas, and Nancy Workman.

CSI Committee: Parks Cobb, John Goodman, Jim Greaves, and Ron Sheppard.

Insurance Committee: Bill Price and Dale Shepherd.

Amenities & Events: Nancy Workman, Chris Beck, Wendy Benjamin, Sandi Carl, Carmela Chase, Kitty Cobb, Nelda Cockman, Pat Howell, Sandi Keyser, Cathy Menendian, Jane Sessler, Diane Silberhorn, Sue Shepard, Patsy Thomas, Louise Thomas, and Clark Trivett.

ARC: Bob Williams, Dick Van Horne, Dick Williams,

Don Hauck, Don Pollard, Duane Coppeler, Jack Cunningham, Keith Duever, Mike Swensen, Parks Cobb, Ralph Olsen, Ray MacKay, Ron Workman, Sandi Keyser, and Scott Minor.

Communications Committee: Dan Lambert, Jim Greaves, Lisa Sheridan, Richard "Ben" Benjamin, and Dalton Hadlock.

Infrastructure Committee: Jim Pierman, Gene Opdyke, John Goodman, Chuck Spelman, Jim Kulberg, Ray MacKay, Phil Menendian, Bill Carl, Sandi Carl, George Hitchner, Charlie Flinchum, and Tom Lawless.

Safety and Security: Mick Herdrich, Jane Sessler, Craig Dunkin, Ed Cockman, Terry Riddle, and Chuck Spelman.

Lake Committee: Ed Cockman, Mary Anne Fewkes, Charlie Flinchum, Jim Greaves, Bruce Keyser, Paul Kirst, Brent Neidentahl, Jason Nowakowski, Jane Sessler, Don Smith, and Dick Williams.

Dam Committee: Ed Cockman, Bob Fewkes, Mary Anne Fewkes, John Goodman, Mick Herdrich, Paul Kirst, Bill Pope, and Bob Van Houten.

Legal Committee: Ed Sil-

berhorn, Terry Card, Bud Sales, Gerhard Hergenbahn, Ray MacKay, Thom Moran, Bill Berger, Dan Lambert, and Tom Holleman.

Human Resource Committee: Nancy Workman, Mick Herdrich, Mary Anne Fewkes, Judy Trivett, and Ed Cockman.

Other business

In other business during the Tuesday March 23 SLWLA Board meeting:

- Manager Mendence reported that members will be required to bring identification to Johnson Point on Memorial Day. Security will be on site checking ID's of members to enter.

- Mendence said the West-

side's free library will be christened the Judy Pendleton Memorial Library. A brass plaque in honor of Pendleton will be hung in the library.

- Mendence reported that the Landowners Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 3. The yard waste center will also be closed the following Saturday.

- Member Charlie Flinchum expressed a concern that school busses are speeding within the community.

chum expressed a concern that school busses are speeding within the community.

- Director Bob Fewkes thanked Brent Neidentahl, Chad Stites, Matt Wimberly, Scott Birdsell, and John Hildebrand for helping replace ten lake buoys with new ones. "We plan to have ten more ready for use," he said.

West End Methodist Salad Supper

The West End United Methodist Women's Salad Supper will be held on Friday, May 1 at 6 pm in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Tickets for this event are \$8 each and can be purchased from Lou Anne Cline at 673-5431 or Anneliese Feggeler at 673-3734.

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School Board

(Continued from front page)

reviewed by teachers, principals, and school improvement teams.

The goals, Metcalf said, were to develop research-based grading policies that support student growth, to promote standardization and consistency across all MCS schools, and to provide uniform guidelines for staff.

The resulting seven page policy provides standards for communicating with students and parents, deadlines for making grades available, and guidelines on how homework and various classroom learning activities should be weighted in developing a final grade. Separate standards are established for elementary, middle, and high school.

Metcalf highlighted several elements of the policy:

- Following a new mandate from the state, MCS will use a ten-point grading scale, in which 90-100 is an A, 80-89 is a B, and so on.

- Grades for the previous week will be posted on the online Powerschool parent

portal each Wednesday, so that parents are able to stay up to date on student performance.

- Behavior — wearing a school T-shirt to class, or bringing in paper towels for classroom use — cannot be counted as part of a student's grade, nor can disciplinary issues.

- Homework will be graded for participation only in elementary school and will count for at most ten percent of the overall grade in middle and high school.

- The bottom grade a teacher can give is an F at 50 percent, and a statement on report cards will provide the actual score if it is below that level.

"Teachers are very passionate about grading, and we have differing opinions," Porter said. "So, we don't want to rush into this."

He said the draft policy would be posted on the MCS website sometime in April. Meetings will be held with teachers and administrators in each school to obtain feed-

back. And a series of public input sessions will be held to gather opinion from parents and other interested parties.

Porter said he expects to provide the Board with a report on the feedback received in May, with a possible vote on the new policy in June. If approved, it would not take effect in the next school year, but rather in 2016-2017.

"We want to spend a year educating the staff," Porter said. "Many times, when districts roll out procedures, they put them in place, but spend no time educating the staff."

Graduation requirements

Porter presented a second recommendation from the grading task force that would add a third type of diploma that graduating Moore County seniors could receive.

Currently, high school students may graduate with a Standard North Carolina

Diploma, which represents 22 high school credits, or with a diploma that bears the Moore County Distinguished Scholar seal, reflecting 28 credits.

The task force recommended adding a third option: the NC Academic Scholar seal, which requires 24 or 25 credits.

Porter noted that colleges and universities accept the standard diploma.

Board members expressed support for the third option.

Porter said he expected the task force to provide recommendations for graduation honors policies — designating valedictorians, salutatorians, etc. — next year.

Transfer policy to be tightened

The School Board is considering tightening up its policy on allowing students

to transfer out of their home school.

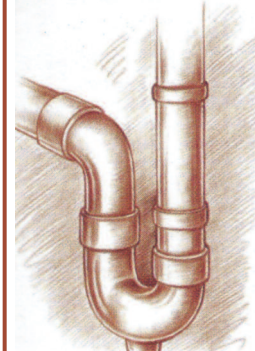
Board members heard the first reading of revised policies on who can be admitted to MCS schools, the rules for determining which school a child attends, and the requirements for transferring into another school in the district.

The recommended changes "tighten the process for requesting a transfer, and also limit the reasons the administration may approve a request for a transfer," Human Resources Director Dr. Anita Alpenfels explained.

Key elements of the new policies include:

- Students must be "domiciled" in Moore County in order to attend Moore County Schools. Farren noted that an individual may have multiple residences, but only one

(See "School Board," p. 29)



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School Board

(Continued from page 28)

"domicile."

• Students who are not domiciled in Moore County would have to pay tuition to attend school in the district, with the sole exception being children of full time — but

not part time — MCS employees.

• Students are normally assigned to schools based on where they live, but children of full time MCS employees may be assigned to the school at which their parents work or another school within that attendance zone.

• The process for requesting a transfer to a school outside a student's home district will be formalized, with an application process and specific deadlines. Approved transfers will need to be renewed annually.

• A student transferred outside their district to attend another elementary school will not be guaranteed that they will be able to remain in that district for middle school and high school, if the reason for the transfer no longer applies. For example, a student who transfers from Carthage Elementary in order to attend year-round classes at West Pine Elementary would not be guaranteed

that they would attend West Pine Middle School, since the year-round calendar is currently offered only in elementary school.

"What we are trying to do, and what [MCS Superintendent] Dr. [Bob] Grimesey and staff have been worried about," Farren said, "is when we give a transfer . . . as more kids move into that area, that grade level then gets overcrowded . . . We are trying to tighten the needle, but we are trying to make sure that your reason for your transfer is legitimate."

"We have schools that go further and further beyond capacity," Grimesey said, "and we are in the process of asking the taxpayers to make a substantial investment in trying to remedy that. We need to make sure that our policy reflects the reality of restricted capacity."

The second reading — and possible approval — of the proposed policy revisions will

be scheduled for the Board's Monday, May 11 regular meeting.

MCS has posted the proposed policy revisions online for the public to view until Friday, May 1 at www.ncmcs.org/Page/6876.

To make comments on the proposed policies, any member of the public may attend the Board of Education's April 13 Work Session, to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting, or email Moore County Schools via suggestions@ncmcs.org.

Other Business

In other business during their Monday, March 30 meeting, the Moore County Board of Education:

- Heard a request by the Union Pines High School DECCA Club for an out-of-state field trip to compete at a convention in Orlando, FL.
- Reviewed bids for roof repairs to West Pine and New Century Middle Schools, with the lowest bid of \$177,378 provided by McRae Roofing, Inc.

Stagville: Black & White

The special exhibit Stagville: Black & White, opens Thursday, April 16, at the Museum of the Cape Fear, and presents the Stagville State Historic Site in Durham through a different lens and connects the past with the present.

The photography exhibit shows the beauty and resilience of the structures and of the people who lived and worked in them. Stagville: Black & White will run through September 13, 2015 and Admission is free.

On the eve of the Civil War, the nearly 30,000-acre North Carolina Bennehan and Cameron family plantation holdings, called Stagville, were the largest in the state. They were home to Paul Cameron, the wealthiest man in North Carolina, and to the approximately 900 enslaved people he owned. Today, the historic site consists of 165 acres with numerous original buildings.

In 2011, photographer Brenda Scott began a photographic study of Stagville, resulting in thousands of images, sixty-four of which can be seen in Stagville: Black & White exhibit.

The photographs feature striking black-and-white images of the surviving 18th- and 19th- century buildings, such as the architectural details of the Bennehan family plantation home and the massive timber-framed barn, known as the Great Barn; other photos include Horton Grove, which was home to nearly 100 enslaved people.

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Seven Lakes Times
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MCLENDON HILLS COMMUNITY YARD SALE – Sat, April 18, (7 am - 12 noon), (rain date April 25). The ultimate yard sale! 1.5 miles past Seven Lakes on Hwy 211, McLendon Hills residents combine their treasures for a huge neighborhood yard sale. Household & yard items, furniture, clothing, toys, games and much, much more! ^{4/17}

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LAKEFRONT COTTAGE FOR SALE – 164 Cardinal Lane, Seven Lakes North, 2 BD, 2 BA, 1 car garage, Carolina Room, large decks, fenced dog lot, fireplace. New carpet, flooring. \$165,000 (Owner/Broker) Lisa @ 910-215-8400 (MLS#164280) ^{4/17}

LOT FOR SALE – SEVEN LAKES SOUTH - 106 Sheffield Lane (Lot 2525), nice sloping buildable lot. \$12,500. (Owner/Broker) Lisa @910-215-8400. ^{4/17}

5.3 ACRE LOT - MORGANWOOD SECTION – Seven Lakes West, equestrian lot (445 Morganwood Drive, Lot 41, Ph 3B). Close to Lake Auman and back gate. \$84,000 (Owner/Broker, Lisa @ 910-215-8400). ^{4/17}

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SEVEN LAKES NORTH HOUSE – Lakeview 3Bd/2Ba 2400sq/ft, great big deck, screened porch, gated community, amenities, great schools. Asking \$185k (available two weeks only) 910-603-7648. ^{4/17}

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Lovely Home built by Bolton Builders
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Seven Lakes West \$499,000
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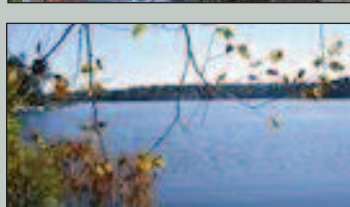
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126 Simmons Drive \$199,000

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Seven Lakes West \$199,000
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128 Edgewater Drive



Seven Lakes West \$246,000
Immaculate, cozy golf front cottage
3 BR / 2 BA
214 Longleaf Drive



Seven Lakes West \$299,900
Beautiful golf front home overlooking pond
4 BR / 3 BA
230 Finch Gate Drive



Seven Lakes West \$519,000
Gorgeous water front
3 BA / 2 BA
143 Vanore Road



Seven Lakes West \$349,500
Custom home w/open floor plan & private yard
3 BR / 3.5 BA
176 Simmons Drive



Seven Lakes West \$565,000
Spectacular custom on the water
4 BR / 3 BA
103 Vanore Rd.



Seven Lakes North \$159,900
Charming home w/large deck & private yard!
3 BR / 2 BA
136 E. Shenandoah Road

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