

#### JULY/AUGUST 2017

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### In This Issue

Member Spotlight
Page 2
Courthouse History Page 3
What's New? Pages 4 and 5
Thank You/CPE Page 6
Committee Roster Page 7

Just for Fun

Page 8

#### **President's Message** *Speaking in Dialects*

The Noticer by Andy Andrews is a story about a young man's relationship with a mysterious elderly man who wears a white t-shirt, jeans and flip flops, carries a battered old suitcase and shows up out of nowhere when the young man has hit rock bottom. The elderly man, who calls himself Jones (no Mr., just Jones), explains that he notices things that others miss and he gives people a little perspective when they have lost all hope. Jones helps the young man in the story cope with the death of his parents which led to a bout of depression and homelessness and helps the young man find a job. Jones also helps various townspeople find a little perspective by opening their eyes to what has been in front of them all along.

In one chapter, Jones is meeting with a married couple who are thinking about getting a divorce because they don't feel loved or appreciated by each other and can't seem to communicate their needs. Jones tells the couple that there are four major dialects (languages) that people use to convey and feel loved: a cat, dog, canary and goldfish. These dialects correspond to physical contact, spoken words of approval, quality time, and favors and deeds. A cat, he says, likes to be rubbed and scratched and will rub up against a person with its face or back to express affection. Dogs love praise and respond positively to spoken

words of approval. However, dogs do not like words of disapproval or to be spoken to in an angry tone. A canary enjoys quality time with its owner. No need to talk to a canary, just sit and listen to its song. Jones explains that a canary will die if ignored, not from lack of food, but from lack of love and attention. A goldfish enjoys favors and deeds. It just wants to be fed, its bowl cleaned and castle

Discovering the dialect of a particular person early on can lead to a better relationship with that person.

straightened every once in a while.

While the dialects in the book illustrate how one conveys love toward a person or how a person perceives love, these dialects are also useful when interacting with co-workers and clients. I assume that many of us are like dogs and want to be rewarded for a job well done or told that the project we worked on for days was really good. If we aren't rewarded for our hard work in some form or fashion, we may not try as hard next time.

Many clients are like canaries. They want us to listen to their stories. Many of my clients want to talk about the illness that led up to the death of a loved one or how difficult life is now that their husband, wife or parent is gone. They don't need me to say anything, just sit and listen.

I have a couple clients who, like goldfish, prefer that I do things for them. Sometimes I will go to the bank to deposit checks, pay bills, or arrange for an estate sale or accounting service. They appreciate me

doing some of their tasks in order to make the estate administration process a little less stressful and cumbersome. And, there are those clients who appreciate a good hug or a pat on the back.

The best way to \_\_\_\_\_\_ communicate with a client is to figure out what he or she responds to best. Is it constant contact, praise, a good ear, actions? Recently, I had an attorney tell me that one of her clients was difficult to deal with. After the estate was turned over to me, I met with the client and quickly figured out that all she needed was someone to listen and be compassionate about her situation.

Of course, there are variations of the above dialects and even different dialects like Godzilla – the client who is never happy no matter what you say or do. Discovering the dialect of a particular person early on can lead to a better relationship with that person.



#### JULY/AUGUST 2017

Page 2

#### **Alex Hernandez** Q: Where is your Q: What do you like least hometown? If not in North about your job? Carolina, what brought you here? A: Explaining to clients I am not an attorney and can't A: I was born in Mexico and give legal advice. raised in Los Angeles, California. Furniture jobs Q: How has your brought my family to North membership in the CVPA Carolina. benefited you? Q: What prompted you to choose a paralegal career? A: I originally intended to enroll Page 1 in the Accounting program but came across information about Criminal Justice/ Page 2 Paralegal program and it immediately caught my attention. Page 3 **O:** Do you have a college degree and/or paralegal certification? Pages 4 and 5 A: I have an Associates Degree in Applied Science in Page 6 **Alex Hernandez** Paralegal Technology and I am a current North Carolina **NCCP** State Bar Certified Paralegal. Page 7 Q: What do you like most A: I am able to network with about your job? local Paralegals and take Page 8 advantage of the A: Spanish is my first Continuing Paralegal language. Around here there Education classes offered are not many Attorneys/ closer to home. Paralegals who speak

Spanish; I really enjoy

helping the Hispanic

community.

#### O: What has been the highlight of your career?

A: I started doing mostly clerical work at my first (current and only) Paralegal job 11 years ago. I would

say the highlight was when I was responsible for my first personal injury case.

- **O:** If someone contemplating a paralegal career asked you for career advice, what would you say?
- A: Becoming a Paralegal in a small town can be challenging. To find a job, I would advise them to be patient and be willing to start from the bottom.

#### Q: What tips do you have on how a paralegal can keep her career interesting?

- A: To network with other Paralegals, join local Paralegal Associations and learn about different types of law even if not handled by their current firm.
- Q: Other than being a paralegal, what would be your dream job?
- A: My dream job would have been being an architect.
- Q: What other jobs have you had in your lifetime?
- A: Sales representative at the local Radio Shack for 5 years.
- Q: What hobbies or activities do vou enjoy doing?
- A: Watching and playing sports. I love soccer and basketball.

#### Catawba Valley Paralegal Association • PO Box 3068 • Hickory, NC 28603

## Member Spotlight

President's Message

**Member Spotlight** 

**Courthouse History** 

What's New?

Thank You/CPE

**Committee Roster** 

**Just for Fun** 

#### JULY/AUGUST 2017

Page 3

### **CHEROKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

Cherokee County was formed in 1839 from part of Macon County and was named in honor of the Cherokee Indians who lived in the area before being forcibly removed and relocated to Oklahoma in 1838. The county seat of Murphy was named for Archibald De

Bow Murphey, who was a senator, an advocate of education in Western North Carolina and was known as the "Father of Education." When the town was named. his name was misspelled as

Murphy. Cherokee County is the westernmost county in North Carolina and is bordered by Georgia and Tennessee.

Cherokee County's first court was held in a rented house. In 1841 the county purchased

a site in Murphy and built the first courthouse. The brick structure burned in 1865, but citizens immediately rebuilt it using the same walls. In 1892, a third courthouse was built,

but it burned in December 1895. A fourth courthouse was constructed and it too burned on January 16, 1926.

After the fourth courthouse burned, the county commissioners ordered that the old

### **Cherokee County's first court** was held in a rented house.

walls of the burned building be demolished and hauled away *"except the marble* slabs on the outside of the foundation" which were to be used to build the new courthouse. The commissioners hired James J. Baldwin

as architect and James Fanning as the contractor for the new courthouse, which cost approximately \$200,000.

constructed of blue marble that was quarried locally in the Marble community of Cherokee County. The Cherokee County Courthouse was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

## Courthouse History

President's Message Page 1

Member Spotlight Page 2

**Courthouse History** Page 3

What's New? Pages 4 and 5

Thank You/CPE Page 6

**Committee Roster** Page 7

Page 8

Just for Fun

The Cherokee County Courthouse is an example of late Neo-Classical Revival style







JULY/AUGUST 2017

Page 4

#### **Assumed Name Update**

## What New?

In the June 2016 edition of the newsletter, we published an article on the new Assumed Business Name Act (Article 14A). Under House Bill 228 which was signed by the Governor on June 2, 2017, the implementation of Article 14A has been postponed to December 1, 2017. All of the original language in the Act has remained the same, except for the sections that provide implementation and expiration dates. Under House Bill 228, all certificates of assumed name filed under former Article 14 of Chapter 66 will expire on December 1, 2022 instead of July 1, 2021. On or after December 1, 2022, any person desiring to engage in business in North Carolina under an assumed business name must file a new assumed business name certificate under Article 14A, including an existing business that filed an Assumed Name Certificate under the old Act.

A person may file a withdrawal of assumed name with the Register of Deeds for any existing assumed name filing before recording a new assumed business name certificate for the same name. Any withdrawals filed with the Register of Deeds before December 1, 2022 will not be forwarded to or registered with the North Carolina Secretary of State.

President's Message Page 1

Member Spotlight Page 2

Courthouse History Page 3

What's New? Pages 4 and 5

Thank You/CPE Page 6

Committee Roster Page 7

Just for Fun

Page 8

#### **Recording of Maps with Deeds or Other Documents**

Per Nancy Ferguson (attorney for Chicago Title Insurance Company): For those of you who periodically record maps and have a "stamp" you put on them when they do not go through the Planning Department process because not statutorily required, you will want to see two new statutes (H454 below, and SB131 in the next section below). These took effect rather quickly on July 1, 2017.

<u>H454, S.L. 2017-27</u>, Surveying and Plat Recording Changes, includes several platting changes under GS 47-30, but also the below provision and change to the "stamp" on maps attached to deeds:

"(n) A map that does not meet the requirements of subsection (m) of this section may be attached to a

deed or other instrument submitted for recording in that form for illustrative purposes only if it meets both of the following requirements:

- (1) It is no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 14 inches.
- (2) It is conspicuously labelled, "THIS MAP HS MAY NOT BE A CERTIFIED SUR-VEY AND HAS NOT BEEN RE-VIEWED BY A LOCAL GOVERN-MENT AGENCY FOR COMPLIANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE LAND DE-VELOPMENT REGULATIONS." REG-ULATIONS AND HAS NOT BEEN RE-VIEWED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH RECORDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLATS."

### **Error Correction and Title Curative Statute**

The General Assembly of North Carolina passed HB 584, which was signed by the Governor on July 12, 2017. This is an act to clarify the process for correcting non-material errors in recorded instruments of title, to create a curative procedure for obvious description errors in documents of title and

to create a seven-year curative provision for certain defects in recorded instruments of title.

For complete details, click the following link:

http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Bills/House/ PDF/H584v5.pdf

#### JULY/AUGUST 2017

#### Page 5

## **Exempt Will or Intestate Succession Division**

SB131, S.L. 2017-10, changes the definition of Subdivision under GS § 153A-335, and GS § 160A-376, to exempt will or intestate succession division and allow plat recordation without planning approval as follows:

- (5) <u>The division of a tract into parcels in</u> <u>accordance with the terms of a probat-</u> <u>ed will or in accordance with intestate</u> <u>succession under Chapter 29 of the</u> <u>General Statutes.</u>
- (b) A county may provide for expedited review of specified classes of subdivisions.
- (c) <u>The county may require only a plat for</u> recordation for the division of a tract or parcel of land in single ownership if all of the following criteria are met:
  - <u>The tract or parcel to be divided is not</u> <u>exempted under subdivision (2) of</u> subsection (a) of this section.
  - (2) No part of the tract or parcel to be

divided has been divided under this subsection in the 10 years prior to division.

- (3) <u>The entire area of the tract or parcel to</u> <u>be divided is greater than five acres.</u>
- (4) <u>After division, no more than three lots</u> result from the division.
- (5) <u>After division, all resultant lots com-</u> ply with all of the following:
  - a. <u>Any lot dimension size require-</u> ments of the applicable land-use regulations, if any.
  - b. The use of the lots is in conformity with the applicable zoning requirements, if any.
  - c. A permanent means of ingress and egress is recorded for each lot."

Link: <u>SB131, S.L. 2017-10</u>

### **Real Estate Forms**

At the recommendation of the NC REALTORS® Forms Committee and NC REALTORS® /NC Bar Association Joint Forms Task Force, the NC REALTORS® Executive Committee has approved revisions to or the creation of the residential forms, effective July 1, 2017. A summary of the significant changes can be viewed via the following link:

http://www.ncrealtors.org/318-site-category/consumers-member-news-category/1718-summary-of-2017-forms-changes.html

NOTE: A number of changes to the Offer to Purchase and Contract have been made to clarify the rights and responsibilities of the parties with respect to post-Due Diligence Period inspections and examinations of the property.

#### Calling All Writers!

If you would like to submit an article for the newsletter,

please contact Beverly Cook, Leah Poovey or Laurie Hayden.

## What's New?

President's Message Page 1

Member Spotlight Page 2

Courthouse History Page 3

What's New? Pages 4 and 5

Thank You/CPE Page 6

Committee Roster Page 7

Page 8

Just for Fun

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JULY/AUGUST 2017

Page 6

## THANK YOU/UPCOMING CPE

Thank You/ Upcoming CPE

President's Message Page 1

Member Spotlight Page 2

Courthouse History Page 3

What's New? Pages 4 and 5

Thank You/CPE Page 6

Committee Roster Page 7

Page 8

Just for Fun

UPCOMING SEMINARS



### **SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**

District Attorney David Learner

6:00 PM - Catawba Valley Community College Auditorium

### **OCTOBER 10, 2017**

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

6:00 PM - Catawba Valley Community College Auditorium

We will be voting on directors at this meeting.

## Thank you!

**Sandy Costner** 

for presenting our August 8 CPE on Trust Accountings.

We are still in need of a CPE committee chair. If interested, please contact Laurie Hayden.

If you have a CPE topic you would like to see presented, please let us know

Also, if your attorney would be interested in presenting a CPE, please give his/her name to Leah Poovey or Laurie Hayden.

#### JULY/AUGUST 2017

Page 7

**CHAIR NEEDED** 

Leah Poovey

**Fundraising** 

Laurie Hayden

**Community Outreach** 

**Amanda Bentley (Chair)** 

**Amanda Bentley (Chair)** 

Laurie Hayden (Chair)

lhayden@phd-law.com

Patrick, Harper & Dixon L.L.P.

**Crystal Campbell** 

Membership

Catawba County Attorney's Office

abentley@catawbacountync.gov



## **CVPA ROSTER OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

#### CPE

Newsletter

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Laurie Hayden

Leah Poovey

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**Crystal Campbell (Chair)** carolina gal118@yahoo.com

**Heather Misenheimer** 

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Committee Roster

President's Message Page 1

Member Spotlight Page 2

**Courthouse History** Page 3

What's New? Pages 4 and 5

Thank You/CPE Page 6

**Committee Roster** Page 7

Just for Fun Page 8



**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS** ARE NEEDED. PLEASE SUPPORT THE CVPA **BY VOLUNTEERING AS A COMMITTEE CHAIR OR MEMBER!!** 

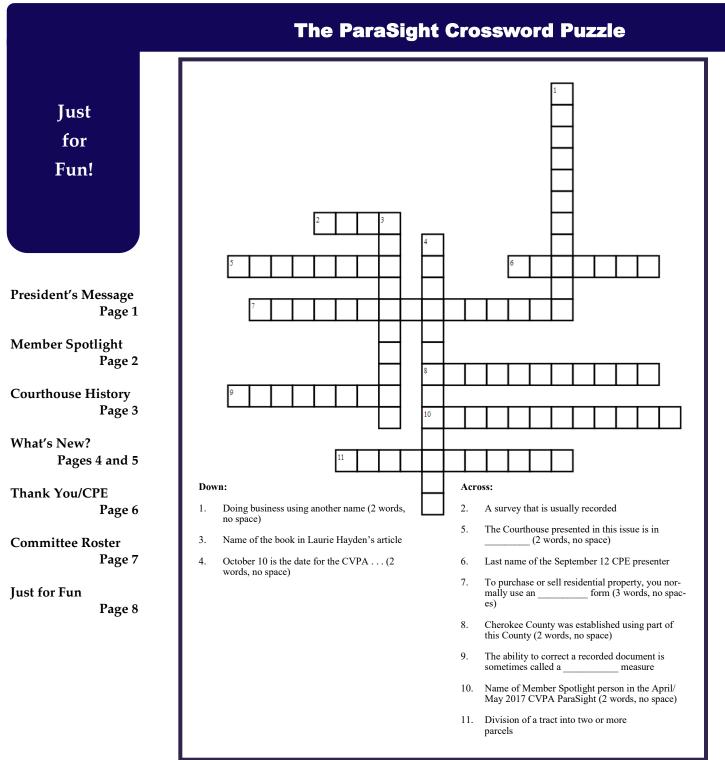
#### Social Catawba County Attorney's Office abentley@catawbacountync.gov

Crystal Campbell (Facebook)



#### JULY/AUGUST 2017

Page 8



The first paralegal to return a completed crossword puzzle to bcook@phd-law.com will win a prize.