

If Pinehurst follows the advice of a paid consultant it will put aside any plans for a performing arts center at least for the time being. That's the assessment of Duncan Webb whose firm conducted a month-long examination of existing facilities. Webb delivered his report yesterday to The Pinehurst Village Council after interviewing dozens of residents and visiting all performing arts venues in the area. The study, which cost the village \$33,500.00, will likely disappoint maestro David Michael Wolfe, the dynamic founder of The Pinehurst-based Carolina Philharmonic who envisioned a 22-hundred-seat performing arts center and a music conservancy. What Webb recommended instead of a performing arts center is incremental investment in organizations and facilities which will help build a distinctive cultural identity. He further suggested that Pinehurst partner with other municipalities and organizations in looking for cultural investments. Webb mentioned Sand hills Community College and The Moore County School System. His firm has been paid to undertake similar investigations in North Carolina for Durham, Raleigh, Fayetteville, Cary and Charlotte.