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Pretty Towns: Pinehurst, Southern Pines Among Top 10

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A recent poll found that two of Moore County's towns are among the prettiest in the state.

According to a news release, 32 in-state journalists voted Pinehurst and Southern Pines in the top 10 prettiest small towns in North Carolina. Pinehurst finished second in the voting, while Southern Pines finished ninth. Cameron also received votes, but the release did not disclose how many.

Pinehurst missed out on the top spot by just 13 votes. Blowing Rock, located in the mountains, took top honors with 206 votes, while Pinehurst finished with 193.

Pinehurst finished ahead of Beaufort (109 votes), Southport (90 votes), Ocracoke (88 votes), Highlands (85 votes), Edenton (76 votes), Linville (75 votes), Southern Pines (70 votes) and Banner Elk (65 votes).

Davidson and Cashiers tied with 61 votes and just missed out on the recognition.

The writers selected their top ten from a list of 45 towns with a population under 15,000. Bill Hensley of Charlotte, a writer and former state director of travel and tourism, conducted the poll, according to the news release.

The towns were singled out for their charm, unique settings, landscapes, historic homes, architecture, character and commitment to preservation, among other factors.