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Volume 21 Number 4

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

December 22, 2005

Company police to be disbanded

In a decisive conclusion to a long-running debate, members of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] voted in a special meeting on December 11 to disband the community's Company Police department.

Sixty-four percent of those casting ballots selected Option 2 or 3 — both votes to disband company police — on the three option ballot. Thirty-six percent voted to retain the company police department.

The binding referendum attracted 720 voters — 15 percent more than last spring's vote on a dues increase.

The final tally, announced at the conclusion of the special meeting by SLLA Secretary Jackie Scotti, was: Option 1: 259 votes; Option 2: 96 votes; and Option 3: 365 votes.

Option 3, the prevailing choice, will result in the elimination of the company police department and no compensatory increase in the hours of roving security patrol, currently set at 80 hours per week. Option 2 would have disbanded the police force but increased roving security patrols to 120 hours per week.

The results of the referendum were reported incorrectly in two other Moore County newspapers.

The two-officer SLLA Company Police force will continue to operate until the end of the current SLLA fiscal year on April 30. According to the ballot itself, disbanding the department will save the association \$61,969 in annual operating costs. Other

(See "Company," p. 28)

Sharing is Caring



Jim Davis and thirty-five of his fellow Kiwanians rang the bell to fill the bucket for the Salvation Army this week — an annual service project of the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club.

SLLA members: Why wait 'til April?

Though the community had already voted to disband its company police department when residents gathered for the regular Wednesday, Decem-

ber 14 meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], company police concerns continued to dominate the

public comment segment of the meeting.

Once the floor was opened for comments, Gordon Farron asked why the board decided to add a second officer to the Company Police department in advance of the vote on the furture of the department.

"Since we've been working with only one policeman for two years," Farron asked, "why need to hire another policeman right before the election?"

Seven Lakes Landowners 12/14 Association Meeting

Director Jeff Herman, who has responsibility for Company Police told Farron that the plan to hire a second officer had been in place since "this board took over."

"This was requested by Direc-

(See "Residents," p. 18)

Westside board sets rates for boat trailer storage lot

Storage of boat and utility trailers will cost \$60 per year — half of the fee originally proposed — the board of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] announced after its Tuesday, December 13 work session.

A proposed fee of \$120 per year, announced during the October 25 SLWLA general session, had generated substantial resistance in the community and substantial input to the board.

Fees for recreational vehicle storage were also dropped, from a proposed \$300 to \$240. Asked for comment on the board's decision, SLWLA President Jim Meikle said he preferred to let the board's announcement speak for itself. Here, then, is that announcement:

Announcement

At the December 13, 2005 monthly Board Meeting of the

Seven Lakes West Landowners Association, the Board adopted the following fee schedule for the renting of reserved storage space in the two storage yards:

- For boat trailers with or without boats in the upper storage yard, \$60.00 per year.
- 2. For utility type trailers in the (See "Trailer," p. 2)

Early Deadline!

The next issue of *The Times* will be published on Friday, January 6. Because of the New Year's holiday, our deadline for ad reservations, ad copy, new items, and letters to the editor will be 5:00 pm on Friday, December 30.

NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 2 December 22, 2005

Local Project Linus chapter reactivated

Project Linus, an all-volunteer organization that provides comfort and security to seriously ill and traumatized children through the gift of homemade blankets, has reactivated the Sandhills/Moore County Chap-

Pat Weber of Seven Lakes North, will serve as the Chapter Coordinator for the area. Her volunteer duties will include recruiting "blanketeers" to make new, washable fleece blankets, quilts, afghans, and baby blankets, as well as arranging with organizations such as hospitals, shelters, social service agencies, etc. for distribution of blankets to children.

The chapter is in the process of contacting "blanketeers" who were active in the prior chapter, picking up completed blankets and delivering the blankets to local children's agencies. Most agencies have been without blanket donations for several months and the blankets for needy children have been deplet-

The Sandhills/Moore County Chapter of Project Linus gladly accepts unused non-wool yarn,

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to The Times should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be dropped off at the Seven Lakes Times offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602. West End. NC 27376, faxed to 910-673-0210, or e-mailed to thetimes@ac.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline	
Jan. 6	Dec. 30*	
Jan. 20	Jan. 16	
Feb. 3	Jan. 30	
Feb. 17	Feb. 13	
Mar. 3	Feb. 27	
Mar. 17	Mar. 13	
Mar. 31	Mar. 27	

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

quilting materials or fleece as well as cash donations to purchase supplies. One Seven Lakes "angel" has made over 250 chil-

dren's blankets using donated Chorus. With their financial help yarn. Recent contributors to Project Linus were the Seven Lakes Kiwanis and the Golf Capital



Project Linus' Pat Weber accepts a contribution from Deanna Petrie of the Ladies Auxiliary.

new fleece has been purchased for a workshop to be held in January.

Three locations have been set up in the area available for anyone who would like to donate materials to Project Linus. Fabric/supply drop off sites are at Deb's Cut & Curl in West End, Brownson Presbyterian

Church, Southern Pines; and The Village Chapel in Pinehurst.

If you have handmade blankets that are suitable for gifts to children in need, or would like to learn more about how you can help Project Linus, please call Pat Weber 910 673-1457. Workshop details will be announced in the January 6 edition of the

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Happy Holidays & A Happy New Year

Trailer lot rules

(Continued from front page)

upper storage yard, \$60.00 per year. (As space permits)

- 3. For RV or Travel Trailers stored in the upper storage yard, \$240.00 per year. (As space permits)
- 4. No commercial trailers can be stored in any SLWLA lot.
- 5. For sailboats and their trailers stored at Johnson Point,

\$36.00 per year.

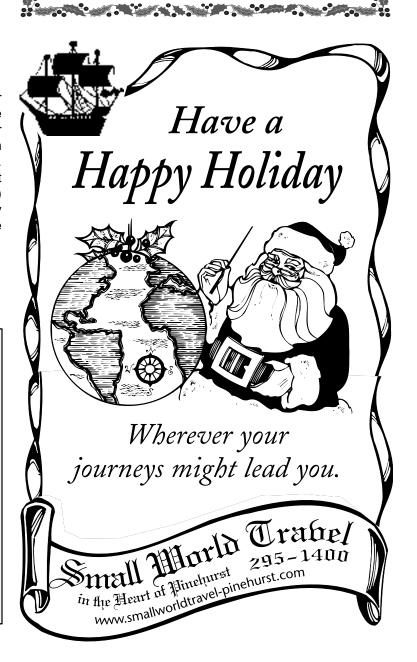
6. Non-resident lot owners or part time residents can store their boats and trailers for short-term use at the Johnson Point yard for \$3.00 per month. (This is only for boats that are not kept here all the time.) Trailers being stored on a daily

basis should be parked in the parking lot.



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NEWS December 22, 2005 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 3

Nominees for Civic Group board announced

by Carolyn Mealing

The Seven Lakes Civic Group is pleased to have three excellent candidates for its board this year to fill the vacancies left by outgoing members Kay Hodge, Fred Renner, and Ally Vogel. Dennis Roberts from the South Side, Dale Erickson from the North Side and Linda Tableman from the West Side will be on this year's ballot.

Roberts is originally from Ohio. He received his degree in Chemistry from Miami University in 1953, and then went to work for Dupont as a research chemist after graduation. He retired 33 years later as a Marketing Director and moved to Seven Lakes in 1986, where he continued to work as a consultant to the Chemicals Division of US Steel for two years and as Director of Marketing for Gaylord Chemical for five years. Roberts has

"Jacob Marley's **Christmas Carol**"

What A Life! Productions Presents a Live Theater Production of: "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol."

Performances will be at the Sunrise Theater in Southern Pines, through December 24.

Evening shows begin at 8:00 pm and Matinees begin at 2:30 pm.

Tickets are \$15 but some discounts apply to Senior Citizens, Students, Military with ID and advance ticket sales.

Military Appreciation Night is December 21. Active Military with ID FREE, Dependents only \$8.

Please call 910-947-9935 for more information and advance ticket sales.

Harry sez: BIG DOGS Walk softly and leave no trace!

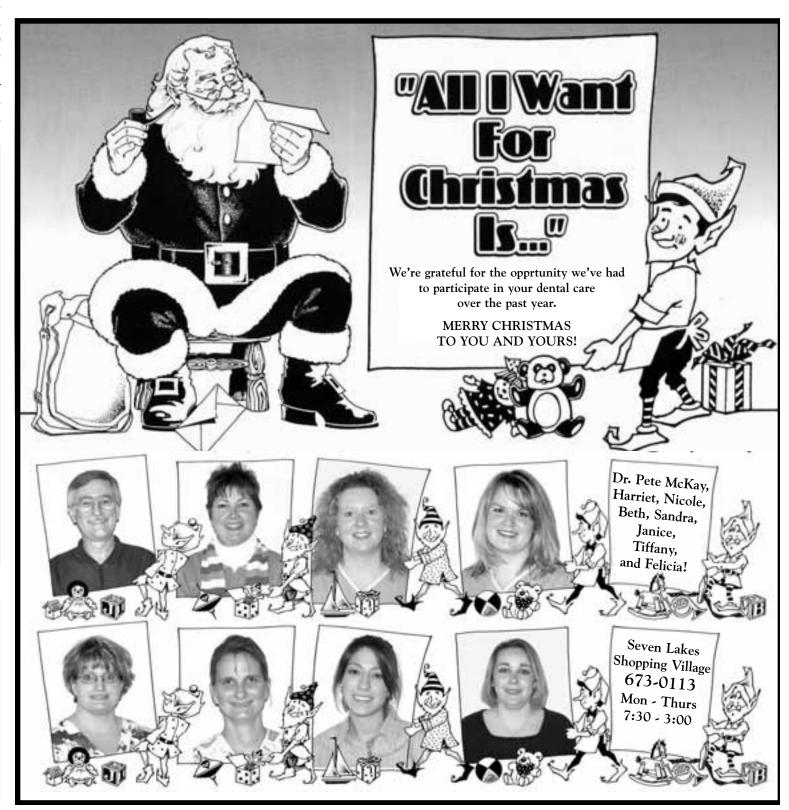
been married to Eileen for 52 years and has served two terms on the Seven Lakes Country Club Board (one as president). He was also president of the Seven Lakes Landowners Board for four years.

Dale Erickson's formal education includes Electrical Engineering and Business Administration. He is a retired Chief Operating Officer of an international company which does business in the electrical and electronics arena. Prior to his move here, he was an active member of a Cary Landowners Associaof Seven Lakes for approximately two years and enjoys landscaping projects and participating in church activities. Erickson is married to JoAnn, who was a former public and private school teacher. The Ericksons have two children, a married daughter living in Phoenix, and a single son, who is career Air Force currently assigned to an operation in Turkey.

Linda Tableman received her BA from California State University in 1979 and her JD from Ohio State University in 1982.

tion. He has been a resident Prior to moving to Seven Lakes in 1982, she was a litigation attorney. She is currently a member of the League of Women Voters of Moore County where she serves as Chair of the Education Committee. Tableman is also a member of the Women's Investment Club of Seven Lakes and the Seven Lakes Sailing Club. She is married to LTC Stephen Douglas Tableman, USAR, who is currently stationed in Gardez, Afganhanistan and resides on the West Side with son, S. Douglas Tableman, who attends Pinecrest High School.

Ballots for the election of these directors will be mailed in January to members of the Seven Lakes Civic Group who have paid their dues for 2005 by December 23. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting scheduled for Wednesday. February 8, 2006. Andrea Sarratt, Director of Planning and Community Development for Moore County will be the speaker that evening, and she will discuss our involvement in Small Area Planning. This topic will be of interest to all Seven Lak-



NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 4 December 22, 2005

Erickson presides over first meeting

Mayor George Erickson presided over his first regular meeting of the Foxfire Village Council Tuesday evening, December 13. Erickson was elected mayor by his fellow council members in a special meeting held December 5.

Also at that December 5 meeting, former Zoning Adminstrator Gene Petrie was elected by council members to fill a vacancy created by the December 1 resignation of Village Mayor Ed Phillips.

At the top of the business agenda for the December 13 meeting was a report from the Parks Committee on plans for renovating the pool and tennis court complex the village recently acquired from Avestra, owner of Foxfire Resort and Golf.

Jack Olsen, who chairs the Parks Committee, along with consultant Perry Harrison of The Hayter Firm, detailed plans for a half-million dollar renewal of the complex. The village plans to apply for a grant from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund [PARTF] to

> Foxfire Council Meeting

defray half of the cost of the project.

Elsewhere in this issue, The Times reports on a December 20 meeting in which the council accepted public comment, modified the plan for the park, and passed a resolution authorizing the grant application. [See page 5.]

Zoning. Village Clerk Janice Thomas said the office had received a set of plans for a new home on December 13 and were expecting three more sets at any time. The village has seventeen homes currently under construction.

Community-Club Relations. Councilman Joe Harsany said the club will be starting work to repair the cart paths and will soon begin a renovation of the sand traps.

Planning & Zoning. Erickson reported that the planning and zoning baord had approved the rezoning of three parcels along Foxfire Boulevard from RS-40 to RM-Residential Multi-Family so that condos can be built on the lots. He noted that plans for the development will be filed with the village at some time in the future and that there will be an opportunity for public input on approval of the plans.

Finance. "So far, we're solvent," was the conclusion of a finance report by Mayor Pro Tem Wally Peckitt in which he noted that the

(See "Foxfire," p. 6)



Mayor George Erickson, Joe Harsany, and Carl Munro.



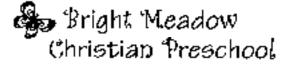


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Lot 5518 — *Under Contract!* — \$49,000

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Village will try for another park grant

After a lengthy public discussion of the details, members of the Foxfire Village Council approved a much modified version of its Parks Committee's plan for an overhaul of the village's swimming pool and tennis court complex.

The modified plan will involve an overhaul of the pool, demolition of the existing pool house and construction of a new facility that includes an exercise room, construction of new tennis courts, and development of a small children's playground.

The council eliminated from the plan a \$2,200 shuffleboard court and a \$40,000 in-ground heated spa proposed by the Parks Committee.

Council members unanimously passed a resolution that gives the Foxfire Village administration authority to seek a grant from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund [PARTF], as well as other grant-funding agencies, to pay for the more than half million project.

The village was successful last year in seeking a PARTF grant to fund the acquisition and initial development of Village Green, a large municipal park situated on the outskirts of the community.

The pool and tennis complex lies in the heart of the village and was only recently acquired from Avestra, owner of Foxfire Golf and Country Club. If the village is successful in obtaining a PARTF grant, it will likely cover half the

cost of the project, which has a current projected total cost of just over \$530,000.

Mayor George Erickson conducted an informal public meeting on the Parks Committee's

Foxfire Council 12/20 Meeting

draft proposal for the pool and tennis complex, moving item by item through the plan, soliciting comments from committee members, council members, the public, and Perry Harrison, a consultant with The Hayter Firm who has been working with the village on the project.

Key areas of concern included the in-ground spa, shuffle-

board court, playground, and pool drains.

Parks Committee chairman Jack Olsen defended the inclusion of the spa, noting that a waterjet equipped hot tub is a standard feature in current commercial and residential pool installation. Committee member Vic Koos said his background as a swim coach and his experience with fitness centers led him to believe a spa would in fact be well-used.

"I may not use it, and you may not use it," Koos said, "but my experience tells me it will be used."

The spa had apparently been a regular topic of unfavorable comment at village gathering in the past week, and the council wasted no time in eliminating it from the plan.

The shuffleboard court was also quickly dispatched, with-

out much comment from council members. One resident with a background in the hotel industry said shuffleboard courts were the least used amenitiy in her former company's facilities, and were eventually elminated.

"It costs a lot of money to put them in," she said, "and it costs a lot of money to take them out."

Provisions for a children's playground were more hotly debated. The Parks Committee's plan called for an expendi-

ture of only \$8,400 for a children's playground, and that amount would have to cover the cost of site preparation and appropriate ground cover, as well as equipment.

Parks Committee member Helen Munro sent council members a "minority report" that explained the inadequacy of that budget. Munro explained that \$28,000 had originally been budgeted for the playground —

(See "Village," p. 6)





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To all who sent cards, well wishes, food, flowers, and/or donated money in honor of Lynn Gorenflo, please accept this as our Thanks to you. Lynn loved Seven Lakes, and the entire community has really shown us why. Your Love and Kindness won't be forgotten.

THE GORENFLO & RING FAMILIES:

Bill, Mike & Lisa, Judi, Greg & Mandi Gorenflo, and

Lee & Sandy Ring, Laura Ahearn & Holly Tronolone



Page 6 Seven Lakes Times December 22, 2005

Village will try for another park grant

(Continued from page 5)

a figure based on research into the actual cost of playground installations in local municipal parks.

She argued that the play-

ground budget for the 50-acre Village Green facility was only \$10,000, which would purchase just four swings and a slide.

"Our committee last spring spent a lot of time discussing

playground equipment for the park," Munro said. "We wanted to put a playground for young children by the pool. \$28,000 is reasonable for what you can get."

Olsen argued that Village Green is the appropriate place for substantial playground equipment and said the 2,500-squarefoot area allocated for a playground in the pool and tennis complex is too small for swings.

After some debate about the amount, council members ultimately doubled the playground budget, to \$16,800.

The council also added \$3,500 to the budget to cover the cost of a second drain for the pool. State health codes now mandate two drains in new or renovated pools.

The cost for this modification had been eliminated from the budget for the PARTF grant application because it was thought the village might make the modification in advance of next summer's swim season. The construction envisioned in the PARTF grant application will

not take place until late 2006 at the earliest.

The council decided it was prudent to include the drain cost in the application, since it was unclear whether a second drain would in fact be installed before the summer of 2006.

After the additions and deletions to the Parks Committees plan were complete, before the council voted to authorize the PARTF grant application, Coun-

cilman Carl Munro asked whether the village could afford the \$265,000 expenditure, if the grant came through.

"We're going to have to increase our borrowing," but we can afford it, councilman Wally Peckitt answered.

"Do we afford it by raising taxes," Munro asked.

"Eventually you will raise your taxes, of course," Peckitt replied.

Foxfire council

(Continued from page 4)

village's cash reserves stand at \$324,000 in the General Fund and \$124,000 in the Water Fund. The village also has \$83,000 in capital reserves for the water system and \$42,515 in the capital project fund established for the development of the Village Green municipal park.

Peckitt asked and received council approval to appoint Mayor Erickson as village budget officer and the village clerk as deputy finance officer — changes necessitated by the vacancy on the village staff created by the departure of Sue Shuster.

Water. Councilman Harsany said the water department is installing lengths of half-inch PVC pipe with blue tape on them to mark the location of some water meters that tend to be covered by falling pinestraw.

Public safety. Councilman Carl Munro said the annual village lot cleanup program will

be starting up soon. However, this year only 12 lots have been identified as needing attention, compared to 81 last year. Owners will be contacted and provided with photos of the debris on their property that needs to be cleaned up.

Munro said that a number of stray cats in the village have begun to create substantial damage to vehicles, as well as to insulation in some of the village condos. The village will be working with Moore County animal control to trap the cats and with Animal Advocates to have them moved to a shelter in High Falls.

Mayor's report. Erickson said he had attended December 9 Moore County Summit meeting in Carthage and reported that it represented a good step toward greater cooperation among the governing bodies that serve the county and its municipalities.

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In memory of .

Lola Baxa Bonar, 92, of Seven Lakes, died on Saturday, December 10 at Pinelake Health and Rehab in Carthage. She had moved to Seven Lakes from Charleston and Buckhannon. West Virginia.

Mrs. Bonar was born in Selbyville, West Virginia to the late Albert F. and Ida Sayre Baxa.

She was a graduate of Buck-

hannon High School, West Virginia Wesleyan College, and Marshall University. She was a teacher for 31 years and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, American Association of University Women, Kanawha Countv Association of Retired School Employees, Eastern Star and The Emeritus Club of West Virginia Wesleyan College. She

had also been a volunteer at Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home the Women and Children's Hospital in Charleston, WV.

Mrs. Bonar was a member of Christ Church United Methodist, WV since 1951, and had attended Pinehurst United Methodist Church since moving to Seven

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, December 14 at

in Buckhannon, WV. The Rev. Harold T. Elmore officiated. Burial was at Heavner Cemetery in Buckhannon.

She preceded in death by her husband, Ross Bonar, two brothers. Willard O. Baxa and Ernest G. Baxa, and a sister, Lena Baxa Reed.

Survivors include two daughters, Carol Bonar Spence of Greensboro, and Nancy B. Bowling of Seven Lakes. A grandson, and two great grandchildren also survive.

Memorial contributions may be directed Pinehurst United Methodist Church, 4111 Airport Road, Pinehurst, NC or Community Home Care and Hospice, 185 W. Illinois Avenue. Southern Pines, NC 28387.

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

Newcomer open house

The Women's Auxiliary of Seven Lakes will hold their annual Newcomers Open House on Wednesday, January 18 at 7:30 pm in the North Clubhouse. The Auxiliary would like to invite any organization to come and provide information about your business, organization or club. Tables will be set up and everyone will be able to distribute information and answer questions. There will be refreshments and the evening should be a great asset for the new (and old) residents of the area. Please let Tinkie Petterson know if the Auxiliary

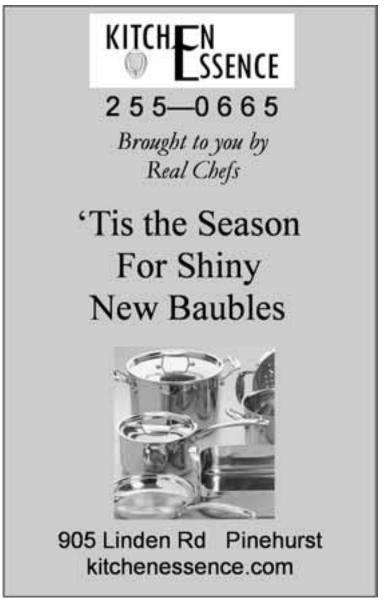
can count on your attendance. Contact Ms. Petterson by phone at 673-1742 or e-mail dtpett@earthlink.net by Decem-

ber 31. The Auxiliary wants to make this a really interesting and informative evening for all Seven Lakers.











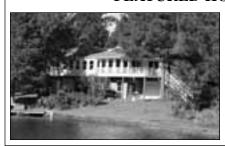
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#3393 - Good Perc. 2004 - \$155,000

LAKEVIEW

#4001 - Under Contract - \$42,000

#4307 - Under Contract - \$36,000

GOLF FRONT

#2189 - SOLD - \$20,000

#2193 - Golf Front (18th) - \$20,000

#2347 - Golf Front (18th) - \$20,000 #2396 - Under Contract - \$17,500

#2352/2353 - Under Contract - \$17,000 ea.

INTERIOR

#102/103 - SOLD - \$29.000

#196 - Double Lot - \$29,000

#453 - Under Contract - \$12,000

#2327 - Extra Large - \$14,900

#2475 - Really Nice - \$14,900 #2479 - Cul-de-sac - \$8,000

#2554 - SOLD! - \$16,900

#5218R (double) - Near Clubhouse - \$45,000



SEVEN LAKES LOTS

INTERIOR (CONT.)

#5433 - Under Contract - \$18,000

COMMERCIAL LOTS

#114 - \$8,000

#41 & #42 Pinewild (NC-211) - \$20,000 each

DECEMBER 2005 ACTION

159 W. Devonshire -

Lot #529 - Under Contract

Under Contract

103 Wildleaf -New Listing

Under Contract

Lot #453 - Under Contract

108 Dorset - New Listing

Lot #4001 - Under Contract

104 Pinewood Ct. - SOLD! Lot #4307 - Under Contract

Lot #2188 - Under Contract

Lot #2352/2353 -

Lot #649 - SOLD!

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Sequoia Lakefront Monthly

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NEWS December 22, 2005 Seven Lakes Times Page 9

SLLA offers riding club, holiday day camp

Seven Lakes Landowners Recreation is offering a new program that has started with much success.

The Seven Lakes After-School Riding Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm at the Seven Lakes Stables. Participants get a chance to make new friends and build relationships while learning proper care of horses and equipment, horse safety, as well as develop and improve their riding skills.

Club members recently attended the annual Southern Horse Festival in Raleigh on December 3. The festival featured vendors, guest clinicians and entertainers as well as educational seminars. This was just the first of many upcoming events that club members will have the opportunity to participate in. If anyone is interested in having their child join the Seven Lakes Riding Club, the cost to join is \$10 which includes a riding club T-shirt. Contact Karen Reeder or Dana Old at 673-4738 to join today.

Christmas Vacation Day Camp is underway. The camp will operate weekdays, December 21–30 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the North Clubhouse for children ages 5–14. (*Note: There will be No Camp on December 26.) The cost is \$10 per child per



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Members of the **Seven Lakes Afternoon Riding Club** — (Front) Gillian Munro, Tristyn Murphy, Amy Felix; (Rear) Autumn Barnes, Hannah Munro, Haley Germain, Amanda Felix, Erin Dean.



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Central Park Bldg., Suite H Seven Lakes Drive day. Camp activities include games, crafts, and even swimming — indoors of course, thanks to the Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center. Contact Chad Beane at 673-4931 for additional information.

Register in advance at the

day. Camp activities include Landowners Office or register in games, crafts, and even swimperson the day of camp.

If you have any suggestions, comments, or ideas for new recreation programs that you would like to see implemented please contact Chad Beane at 673-4931.

Horse show review

Here's a review of the horse show attended by the Seven Lakes Afternoon Riding Club:

The horse show was flips and tricks, mounting and the sound of clattering hooves, slashing whips and noisy guns, shouting people and loud laughs and beautiful paint horses galloping around and around the ring.

Finally the show ended. We got autographs from everyone in he show.

— by Gillian Margaret Munro

Merry Christmas

Thank you to all of our loyal customers and friends!



Left to right: Tommy Phillips, Homer Robinson, Eric Thompson, Jane Thompson, Tannah Mabe, Mike Miller, Jonathan Garrison, Don Strickland, Bucky Hendrix, Henry Ray, Christopher Marley, Terry McLean, Travis Scott, and Charles McArthur. Not pictured: Bernard Marsh, Robert Pearson, and Dan Kidd.



NC Highway 15/501 Carthage, NC 947-2244 Page 10 Seven Lakes Times December 22, 2005

Talent encore!

by Rollin Tomberlin

Last month's "Talent Encore" performance at the Seven Lakes Country Club entertained a soldout crowd and earned a standing ovation.

Master of Ceremonies, Don Welch, got things off to a rousing beginning with his witty banter regarding his recent surgery at FirstHealth. Dressed in an open-backed hospital gown, he closed his first number with the song, "Dancing Cheek-to-Check" then exited with an apparent backside exposure which was actually make-up paraphernalia.

Carol Mark's dancing group, "Fancy Footnotes" and accordionist, Dominic Roridello, singing "Amore" and "Return to Me" followed. Ken Jenkins did a reprise of Bobbie Darrin's "Mack the Knife." Connie Gavala, with an ensemble of 10 people, put on a skit entitled "The Man on the Bus" featuring Warren Holzkamp as a flasher. Don Welch demonstrated the range of his voice with

"When You Wish Upon a Star."

Jim Kilpatrick did a skit involving a new trainee security guard at the Empire State Building reporting on the phone to his boss regarding the arrival of King Kong.

Al Daniels followed with a performance of two marvelous songs, "Who Can I Turn To?" and "Where or When." Ken Jenkins did an innovative skit lampooning a TV commercial for "Cheese Whiz."

The ever-entertaining Ernie Miller combined with newcomer, Helen Barry, with a takeoff on "The Bickersons."

Before closing the show, Don Welch acknowledged the hard work of all the supporting members. Singled out particularly were Norma Walter, West End Presbyterian's music director, who supplied the piano accompaniments; Dean Charles, Sound; Betty Larson, Programs; and Lillian Schafer & Carole Barnard, Producers.



The Fancy Footnotes: Annette Daniels, Dodie Lynn, Jean Miller, Jo Gilbert, Carol Mark back up Lillian Partain.



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Dinner

Soup and Packaged Dinner Calendar for January

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	3 Mushroom Bisque	4 Chili	5 Corn Chowder	6 New England Clam Chowder
CLOSED	Beef Stroganoff Dinner	Pork with Mustard Cream Sauce Dinner	Lemon Shrimp Oriental Dinner	Chicken Parmesan Dinner
9 Split Pea with Ham Soup	10 Mexican Meatball Soup	11 Vegetable Soup	12 Creamy Chicken Alphabet Soup	13 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo
Shepherd's Pie Dinner	Shrimp Stroganoff Dinner	Chicken Tetrazzini Dinner	Spice-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	Pork Chops & Red Cabbage Dinner
16 Cabbage, Bean, & Sausage Soup	17 Cream of Broccoli Soup	18 Chili	19 Chicken & Dumpling Soup	20 Manhattan Clam Chowder
Two-Bean Enchiladas	Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	Pork Paprikash Dinner	Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	Swiss Steak Dinner
23 Potato & Bacon Soup	24 Vegetable Beef Soup	25 French Onion Soup	26 Tomato Florentine Soup	27 Black Bean Soup
Italian Meatloaf Dinner	Lemon Chicken with Rosemary Orzo	Beef Enchiladas	Crab Cakes Dinner	Smothered Pork Chops Dinner
30 White Bean Chicken Chili	31 Tomato Basil Soup	Call 910-673-2211 to Place Your Order! Many Other Menu Selections Available!		
Baked Spaghetti	Chicken Marsala	Monday - Friday 11:00 am - 6:30 pm		

NEWS Seven Lakes Times December 22, 2005 Page 11

Master gardeners offer blueberry plants

round addition to the landscape. mer fruit has an attractive sky blue your garden. In case you do not

Blueberries are an ideal year flowers in the spring, the sum-

They have delicate white or pink color and the fall foliage adds great red and yellow colors to

like to eat blueberries, the wildlife will love them. Blueberries rarely need pesticides and are not high maintenance plants.

Blueberries can be grown in your home garden by using the right species and proper soil modifications.

They are typically used in the landscape as hedges for screening, but they can also be used in cluster plantings or as single specimen plants.

You have until January 1, 2006 to send in your order. Since more than one variety must be

planted to provide the cross pollination required for maximum yield, you received three different rabbit eye varieties in one bundle for \$12.

The plants are two years old and bare rooted. Pick up will be February 3 and 4, thus giving you time to prepare the planting area in advance. Soil requirements and instructions are in the order brochure.

To receive the planting instructions and order brochure, call Marisa Back 673-4239. Questions happily answered.



Ray Lambert and Bill Barbour presented Bette Hanham with a memorial donation and golf cap signed by all thirty members of the Drifters in memory of her husband, Bill "Doc" Hanham.

The Drifters are a group of Seven Lakes residents that play different golf courses throughout North Carolina.







Phil, Norma, Jim, Tom, Dave, Lisa, Bob, Frances, Judy, Jackie M., Jackie C., Vernelle, & Terrry at

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Page 12 Seven Lakes Times December 22, 2005

Martha Gentry selected as 'star agent'

Martha Gentry of Martha Gentry's Home Selling Team and Re/Max Prime Properties has been selected by Howard Brinton, the nation's leading real estate speaker and educator, to join his group of "star agents."

Brinton selects only twelve agents for this prestigious group each year out of more than a million Realtors across the United States and Canada.

These agents are the most progressive, forward-thinking professionals in real estate today, ranking in the top 1% of all Real-

tors in North America. They are invited to share their methods of success through a series of interviews.

Brinton, who began the popular series in 1989, said, "Martha Gentry was selected because of her outstanding success in the real estate business, her unique, creative, and highly effective business practices and her reputation for integrity."

Gentry, who has been a leader in the real estate industry in Pinehurst since 1995 said, "It's exciting to be selected, to be able to share my ideas with others, and to give back to an industry that has been so good to me."

Gentry and her highly trained team of real estate specialists will



Martha Gentry

assist nearly 400 people in making home/investment decisions this year. According to Brinton, nationally the average real estate agent closes less than 12 transactions per year.

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Federal employee group meets Sandhills Chapter 1895 of the National Active and Retired Fed-

Sandhills Chapter 1895 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association will hold their monthly meeting Monday, January 9, 10:30 am at the Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett St., in Southern Pines.

Chapter Officers for 2006 are: President Vilma Geisert; Vice President George LeVander; Secretary Darlind Davis; and Treasurer Henry Seufert.

The Chapter welcomes all Federal, including US Postal Service, active employees and retiree's to the monthly meetings. For information call Peter Feeney (910) 695-1554 or George LeVander (910) 895-9657.





Caren Elizabeth
Maroun
NC State Universoty

At the department ceremony on December 14, Caren Elizabeth Maroun received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Nutrition from North Carolina State University.

While at NC State, Cari was active in Sigma Kappa Sorority, Rotoract, Meals on Wheels, National Society of Collegiate Scholars and put in many volunteer hours with various nutrition programs in the Raleigh Community. She plans on continuing her education through a Masters program in the fall. Cari is the daughter of Frank and Lynne Maroun of Seven Lakes South and the granddaughter of Vi Riddell, Seven Lakes North.



Next Parent Date Night — Sat, January 7

\$10/evening • 6:30pm-9:30pm. • Gr. K-7.

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'Papa' Hemingway comes to the Sunrise

Professional actors Jordan Rhodes and Lynn Moore are bringing a new play about the life and loves of Ernest Hemingway entitled, PAPA "the man, the myth, the legend" to the Sunrise Theater for three performances to benefit The Arts Council of Moore County and The

Sandhills Theatre Company.

This is the first time in the area that a show bound for Broadway will be performed prior to moving to New York. Mr. Rhodes and Ms. Moore have been on the road touring the play for almost two years. Last April, after they performed the

play in Charlotte with The Blumenthal Performing Arts group, the Shubert Organization invited them to bring the play to New York.

At this time, the play is scheduled to be in New York in March of 2006.

Don't miss your opportunity to be part of one of the most exciting theatrical events to take place in the Sandhills. The performances will be in January, 2006 at The Sunrise Theater on Friday and Saturday the 27 and 28 at 8:00 pm and a Sunday matinee on the 29 at 3:00 pm.

Reserved seats are \$25 and \$20 for ACMC and STC members and group sales. Tickets are available at the Campbell House in Southern Pines by calling 910-692-4356. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

You can e-mail Acmc@pinehurst.net – Proceeds to benefit the ACMC & STC. For this event, Mr. Rhodes is bringing the director and lighting director, Michael C. Sapp in for all the performances.

Longleaf Golf & Country Club is offering a special Brunch/Theatre price of \$30/pp for the 3:00 pm Sunday matinee.

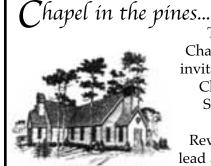
For information about the play and the actors, plus the reviews this outstanding entertainment has received, visit www.hemingwayonstage.com.

Why not give the gift of theatre for this holiday season? Tickets make a wonderful stocking stuffer. For the business community, the play is seeking sponsors to help underwrite the cost of the production.

For details call Rhodes Productions at 910-673-1537.

Get your event in The Times

Got a great get-together? Need a volunteer of two? Put it in *The Times'* What's When Calendar. We're happy to help non-profits promote their events. See the box on page 2 for info.



The Members of the Chapel in the Pines extend invitations to all to attend of Christmas Candlelight Service at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve. Reverend Don Welch will

lead and our Choir will sing.



way in "Papa."

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Ernest Hemingway and Jordan Rhodes as Ernest Heming-



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NEWS December 22, 2005 Seven Lakes Times Page 15

West End church 'adopts' West End school

by Ruth Sullivan

On Sunday, January 1, 2006, the West End Methodist Church will begin its third year participating in the adoption of West End Elementary in a program called the Hand in Hand Program.

During the 2004-2005 school

year, 68 Church members chose to be part of the Hand in Hand Program. 72 school employees also participated. School employees include Bus Drivers, Cafeteria Staff, Office Staff, Principal, Teacher Aides, and Teachers. In 2006, the church will adopt 78 staff members.

The adoption takes place with the help of the West End Elementary Secretary who collects the names, birthdays, and wedding anniversaries of all employees of the school. Volunteers from the West End Methodist Church adopt one or more of these individuals

Throughout the year the staff members are sent cards and letters of encouragement to them, for investing themselves in the lives of the children at West End Elementary School. Every once in awhile, a nice small gift or something sweet to eat is sent to the staff member.

At the end of the year, the church hosts a covered dish dinner for WEES employees and a guest, and at that time church members meet the person they have adopted throughout the year.

Otter Drive celebrates

The Fifteenth Annual Otter Drive Party was held Tuesday December 13 at the West Side Community Center. A wonderful time was had by the 70 people in attendance. The decorations and festive foods were a delight. The committee that brought all of this together was headed by Angie and Bill Huber and included neighbors from the Otter Drive community. After an evening of socializing, the neighbors gathered around the Christmas tree to sing Christmas carols to the accompaniment of Laud Pitt playing the piano.



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WHATS WHEN Page 16 **Seven Lakes Times** December 22, 2005

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

- · North Carolina Clay: Past and Present - on going exhibit. 10:00 to 4:00 pm daily. Seagrove, NC Pottery Center. 336-873-8430.
- War on Terror through December 2005. Favetteville. Airborne and Special Operations Museum. 866-547-0649.
- "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol" - by What A Life! Productions. Performances will be at the Sunrise Theater in Southern Pines, through December 24. Evening shows begin at 8:00 pm and Matinee at 2:30 pm. Tickets \$15, some discounts apply to Senior Citizens, Students, Military with ID and advance ticket sales. Call 910-947-9935.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

- Christmas Eve
- Chapel in the Pines 5:00 pm. Christmas Candle Light service. Rev. Don Welch and choir will sing. The community is invited to attend.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church Pinehurst - 10:00 pm, Christmas Eve service at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 35 McLean Road, Pinehurst

(right behind the Carolina Hotel). A candlelight service with Eucharist.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

· Christmas Day

<u>MONDAY, DECEMBER 26</u>

- First Day of Hanukkah
- First Day of Kwanza

an international cruise ship theme the "SS Seven Lakes" Evening begins at d'oeuvres, dinner 8:00 pm. Champaign Toast at midnight (included). Dress is Semi-Formal. Dance music provided by Bob

Bennett and What's When vocalist Lynn Nelson from 9:00 pm to 12:30 am. Club members and non members

invited.

- This year's party, featuring 7:00 pm. Cocktails and hors

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

News Year's Day

MONDAY JANUARY 2 Curves Open House -10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Prize give-a-way every hour. Refreshments provided. Drop by and say hello to your friends at Curves.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

Kiwanis Bingo - 7:30 pm, North Clubhouse. \$275. Bring a friend.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

- Women's Auxiliary 2:00 pm, John Le Trent, Director of FirstHealth Facility Management will speak on the construction and expansion of FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Refreshments to follow. Please bring personal items (soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc) for the coalition of human care
- Seven lakes Lions Club -7:00 pm. Seven Lakes

SATURDAY. DECEMBER 21 · New Year's Eve

- **Seven Lakes Country Club New Year's Eve Party**

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John 3:16, 17



We wish you a very joyful Christmas!

Advertise in The Times - Call 673-0111

WHATS WHEN

December 22, 2005

Seven Lakes Times

Page 17

South Resident and Chaplain Dwight Croy, with the 46th Combat Support Group, recently returned from Iraq. The public is welcome to attend, the program begins at 7:00 pm. Come early and join the Lions Club for dinner at 6:30, RSVP to Bill Judge at 6731434.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

Meeting – 10:00 am, at The Community Presbyterian Church, 125 Everette Road, Pinehurst. The Guest Speaker will be Kathryn Sells who is with the MATCH program of the Women's Prison in Raleigh. Lunch with program. Everyone is invited to attend. Questions or in need of baby sitting, please call Jacque Klimack, President at 281-0129.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

Sandhills Chapter 1895
 National Active and
 Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association

10:30 am, at Community
 Congregational Church, 141
 N. Bennett St., in Southern
 Pines. Additional information about NARFE is
 available call Peter Feeney
 695-1554 or George
 LeVander 895-9657.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

League of Women Voters
Luncheon – 11:30 am.
Open to the public. Topic:
"The Patriot Act & how its
use may limit our civil
liberties" Guest Speaker Patricia L. T. Camp, Lawyer,
Teacher, Writer, and Civil
Liberties Expert Paddock
Restaurant, Longleaf
Country Club, Midland
Road, Southern Pines. \$12.
Checks only. To reserve

your seat call: Norma Sullins 910-673-3980 by Fri., Jan. 13. Non-members must be pre-paid by same date. Mail your checks to: LWVMC, 4026 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC 27376

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

residents who have moved to the community this past year. Program will feature volunteer opportunities and activities available in the area. Representatives from local clubs and organizations will greet you. Call Tinkie Petterson 673-1742.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

 Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code – Ruth Pauley Lecture Series, 7:30 pm. Dr. Bart Ehrman, James A. Gray, Professor and Chair of the UNC-Chapel Hill, Dept. of Religious Studies will discuss the Da Vinci Code. Free. Sandhills Community College, Owens Auditorium. 910-245-3132.

· Windham Hill Winter

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NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 18 December 22, 2005

Residents question board on police

(Continued from front page)

tor Swearingen last January," Herman said.

"You couldn't wait three weeks," Farron asked.

"I, personally, felt it was a necessity," Herman answered.

Farron then asked why the board had decided to continue the department through April 30 — the end of the SLLA fiscal year - even though residents had voted to disband the police force.

"Why continue to pay two policemen through April?" Farron asked. "You're talking about a good bit of money."

There is a certain amount of public safety at stake," Herman replied. "You can't just shut down

the police force all at once."

"The rest of the board agreed on that date," he added. The board approved the three-option company police ballot in a closed work session on Wednesday, November 9.

When Farron referred to the SLLA officers as "lame ducks," Herman said he was confident they would fulfill their obligations to the community between now and April 30.

"I am completely confused by the way you handled the ballot," Farron said.

Jules Skalski then asked Herman about rumors that the SLLA had purchased a second police cruiser. Herman said no second police car had been or would be purchased.

Mary Hudson took up Farron's line of questioning, pressing Herman on the April 30 termination date for company police.

"That finishes out our fiscal year," Herman said. "It was written very clearly on the ballot. We voted on this."

"Mr. Swearingen spent the first part of this year getting together a report on what we should do to enhance security," Director Jackie Scotti said. "We enacted this; we all voted on it."

"A gentleman was brought on board," she continued, noting that the various background checks and certifications required

of new company police officers by the state took three month to complete.

"Now we have to tell this gentleman that he no longer has a job," Scotti said.

"The people have voted and now we are going to do just exactly what the people voted to

The December 14 meeting began with an announcement about the results of the company police vote and with reports from directors on their areas of responsibility.

Community Standards. Director Herman said twelve community standards complaints had been received in the past month, including inappropriate parking of golf carts, recreational vehicles, and a truck tractor. Those complaints generated seven phone calls and three letters to offenders, as well as one

Police. Herman said company police had issued seven written citations since the October general meeting, as well as four written and seven verbal warn-

He said Chief Dennis Lombard was investigating an incident in which someone shot four bul-

(See "SLLA," p. 19)

SLLA Nominees Named

The Nominating Committee of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] has placed four names on the ballot for directors elections to be held at the annual meeting in March 2006. They are current director Jackie Scotti, Michael Florence, Steve Hudson, and Ed Nutti.

Nutti and Scotti are Southside residents; Florence and Hudson live in Seven Lakes North.

Treasurer John Paulson, who headed up the nominating effort, announced the nominees during the regular December 14 meeting of the association.

Paulson noted that additional names may be placed on the annual meeting ballot by means of a petition signed by at least 50 resident members in good standing. Any such petitions must be presented to the board at the January general meeting, scheduled for January 25.

Three board seats are available in the 2006 elections: the seat currently occupied by Scotti, as well as those of Paulson and Loren Swearingen.



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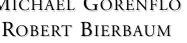
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First Casually

NEWS December 22, 2005 Seven Lakes Times Page 19

SLLA offers reward for sign shooter

(Continued from page 18)

let holes in one of the speed bump signs adjacnet to the roadway on the Lake Sequoia dam. Herman said bullet casings at the scene were from a nine millimeter weapon.

The range of such a weapon meant that the bullets could have easily reached a boat or a home on the shore.

"We are taking this very seriously," Herman said, noting that the Moore County Sheriff's Department had been asked to assist in the investigation.

Herman said the board was offering a \$200 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator.

Security. Director Loren Swearingen said complaints about loose and roaming dogs made up the bulk of the incidents reported by security over the past month.

He complimented Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane for helping to make sure that more fines are being assessed for those incidents.

Lakes & Maintenance. Director Don Truesdell reported that the association will spend over \$39,000 in the current fiscal year and nearly \$18,000 in Fiscal Year 2006/2007 on professional fees associated with the statemandated inspection of and repairs to the Lake Echo dam. The actual cost of the repairs — which will probably be completed in mid-May of 2006 — has yet to be determined.

Truesdell said he has asked the Hobbs and Upchurch engineering firm to prepare a quote to survey and inspect each of the community's dams, with an eye to correcting potential problems before they become the source of more state-mandated repairs.

The association should be able to save money by anticipating such problems in advance, Truesdell said. He noted that the state-mandated inspection of Echo Dam cost \$20,000.

Truesdell said he has received a quote of \$17,100 for the installation of a six-foot high white vinyl picket fence around the Northside pool. He is seeking additional estimates.

Truesdell said the SLLA Board had approved, during its December 8 work session, earmarking

a total of \$104,000 in reserves to be used only for road repaying.

Noting that the useful life and replacement costs applied to various SLLA assets in the association's financial statements are inaccurate, Truesdell said he is looking for a volunteer with

a strong accounting background to help develop a more accurate picture of the level of expenditures the community will face in the future in order to maintain its assets.

Recreation. Director Jackie Scotti said the dance classes

have installed shatter-proof mirrors and bars in the community activity center, which will enhance the already highly successful dance classes.

The Afterschool Riding Club attended the Southern Horse Festival in Raleigh and the

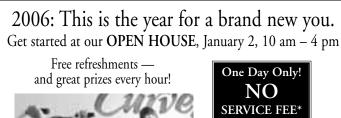
December 13 children's Christmas party at the North Clubhouse attracted 71 children, plus parents.

Scotti thanked the Women's Auxiliary for their contribution to the Christmas Party.

(See "SLLA," p. 20)







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NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 20 December 22, 2005

SLLA cash reserves running ahead

(Continued from page 19)

A holiday day camp for kids aged 5 to 14 will be held at the North Clubhouse from December 21 to 30 and will include games, crafts, and swimming at the indoor pool at Seven

Lakes Health and Fitness.

Scotti said she had met with a local contractor to discuss ideas for refurbishing the Sequoia Point restrooms to make them handicapped accessible — as well as adding a path and

handrails to provide access to the lake for those in wheelchairs or using walkers.

Architectural review. Director Ron Richmond reported that his committee had approved a new home on Devonshire, as

well as nine alterations and additions.

Finance. Treasurer John Paulson reported that Year-to-date revenues as of November 30 were \$1,175,400, versus expenses of \$643,800.

"Comparing today with 2004, we're about \$110,600 above last year in our cash position," Paulson said.

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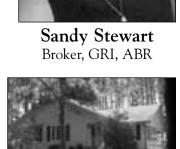
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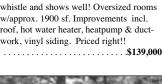
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SLLA Police & Security Report

The paragraphs below are are based on handwritten reports filed by Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] security officers at the time of the incidents reported and reports compiled by Seven Lakes Company Police Chief Dennis Lombard.

December 5

A resident turned into a security a set of keys found in the parking lot of the North mail house. They were returned to the owner.

December 6

A resident on Oxford reported that her red and white basset hound had gotten loose. She later reported that the dog had returned home.

December 7

A resident on Sherwood reported that he and his small dog were attacked by a large dog, apparently a Chow.

December 8

A resident on Atwater reported three dogs roaming near the intersection of Edgewater and Atwater. Security attempted to contact the owner of the dogs, who, they found, was out looking for the dogs.

December 9

No report.

December 10

A resident on Scuppernong reported two black labs roaming. Security was unable to locate the dogs.

December 11

Seven Lakes Company Police Chief Dennis Lombard took a report from a Seven Lakes Stable employee that the stable doors were apparently opened sometime during the night of December 10.

A resident on Pleasantview reported being tailgated by a dark green vehicle driven by a young man.

December 12

A resident on Scuppernong reported a stop sign down on her street.

December 13

Chief Lombard discovered a dead deer on Edgewater at 7:07 am, apparently having been struck by a motor vehicle. Checking with the North Gate, Lombard learned that a resident had reported around midnight that her son had struck a deer. The accident had not been reported to State Highway Patrol.

Chief Lombard was informed by Community Manager Dalton

Fulcher that one of the speed bump signs on Echo Dam had bullet holes in it. Lombard found two 9 mm shell casings at the scene and then used a metal detector to find two more. Evidence was submitted to the Moore County Sheriff's Department, but provided no leads. The case remains under investigation and the SLLA board is offering a \$200 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator.

December 16

Chief Lombard responded to a two-car motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Edgewater and Shenandoah Drive. A Seven Lakes resident pulled onto the grassy shoulder at the intersection and exited her car, thinking she had put the transmission in park. The car was still in gear and began moving forward as the driver exited, knocking her to the ground and running over her legs before traveling across the intersection to strike another vehicle. The resident was transported to FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital and cited for an unattended motor vehicle violation.

December 17

Chief Lombard responded to

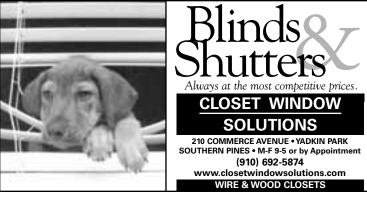
a complaint of a dog barking and growling at a resident on Sherwood Lane. He asked security to attempt to trap the dog.

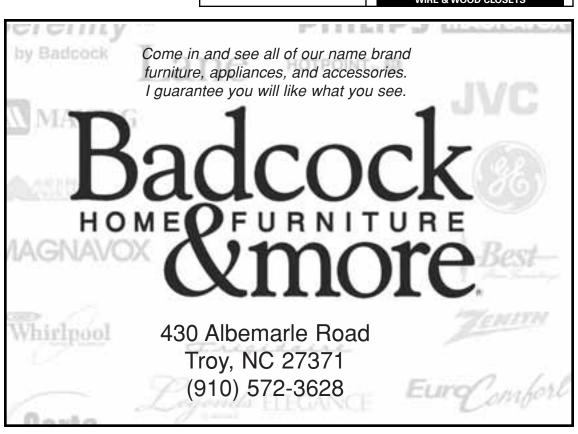


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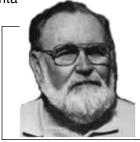
December 22, 2005

OPINION

Memories of Christmas past

Are you ready for Christmas? Are the presents purchased and wrapped? The Christmas wreath hung on the front door? The Christmas tree up and decorated? The glass of milk and plate of two cookies set out near the tree so that Santa

won't have any trouble finding them? You are ready for Christmas.



Ollie's-

But do you have a long rope pings a huge pile of paper and of pop corn strung around the tree? No? I still regret my inability to string pop corn in a long rope so that I could decorate our Christmas tree with it when I was a kid. I had seen the Christmas tree that the presents continued to be Pogue's Department Store opened. had standing in their display I have written before about

window. That tree was per-And so my mother had threaded a needle with fine thread and gave it to me with a big bowl of pop corn. Did I manage to produce a long string of beautiful pop corn for the tree? No. Every third pop corn split when my hands shoved the needle in it. And then a lot

more pop corn found its way into my mouth. It was delicious. I gave up. My mother tried to convince me that a rope of cranberries was beautiful around the Christmas tree also. I tried that.

Cranberries are too juicy. Also

they don't taste as great as

However, your tree looks

beautiful I am sure. The lights,

the ornaments, all of that color

against the green of the tree

seeming to grow out of the

mountain of brightly colored

pop corn.

I will admit, however, that in the midst of the bounty of presents this year, I will think for a moment or two of what this holiday means and of an orange and an empty vanilla

Merry Christmas.

boxes of Christmas presents helow

But wait. I am going to play Scrooge! Yes, when my kids were small Jody and I had too many presents around the tree to be opened and enjoyed. As they tore away the wrap-

> Thoughts Oliver Gossard

ribbons seemed to fill the room. And the kids became more and more excited about what was next to be opened. No wonder that they began to get exhausted and cranky as the

my father's memory of Christmas eve on the little farm in central Nebraska. He and his brothers and sisters would be carted by horse drawn wagon into the little Methodist Church in Herman, Nebraska. After a brief Christmas program of carols a Santa would give out presents. My father claimed that one Christmas his presents were an orange and an empty vanilla bottle!

Even as kids, my brother and sister hooted a little and thought of my father's Christmas as a memory in a league with his story of how far he walked through the snow to his one room school house.

bottle.

Gifts of Christmas: Past, present, & future

To paraphrase the "Dear Virginia" editorial: "Yes, Fellow humans, there is a Christ," and for that reason only, it is Christmas time.

Christmas Past

2000 years ago we celebrated the first Christmas . . . the birth of Jesus Christ.

Gift giving obviously began when the Magi arrived with their gold, myrrh and frankincense.

Let us all remember that at that time they celebrated the first Christmas . . . the birth of Jesus Christ

December 25th has been the date that was proclaimed as the date for celebration of His birth.

The custom of giving gifts to relatives and friends on a special day in winter probably began in ancient Rome and northern Europe. In these regions, people gave each other small presents as part of their year-end celebrations.

In the 1800s, two more Christ-

mas customs became popular -

decorating Christmas trees and

sending Christmas cards to rel-

atives and friends. Many well-

known Christmas carols, includ-

ing Silent Night and Hark! The

Herald Angels Sing, were com-

Your Turn

Seven Lakes West

posed during this period. In the United States and other countries, Santa Claus replaced Saint Nicholas as the symbol of gift giv-

ing. But gifts were never the real reason for Christmas. The celebration of Christmas became increasingly important to many kinds of

businesses during the 1900s.

Let us all remember that at that time they still celebrated Christmas ... the birth of Jesus Christ. **Christmas Present**

Today we've been asked to be politically correct . . . whatev-(See "Gifts," p. 24)

Something's up at Chapel

Dear Editor:

Something is happening at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the

On Sundays the parking is full and quite a few cars are parked on Seven Lakes Drive. The pews may not be completely full, but there's certainly an absence of pockets of empty seats. Yes, participation in Sunday worship is up.

We have been members of the Chapel for fifteen years, only missing Sundays when travelling. We enjoyed the rotating ministers with their diversity of style and message, and the guest soloists with their different contributions to the service.

Change is not just inevitable, it's also necessary to keep any organization viable and vibrant.

And Don Welch is doing an excellent job bringing a new life to the Chapel. His messages are relevant to our daily lives, uplifting and unmistakably thought provoking. His vignettes about friends, teachers and family from the past skillfully woven into his

sermons help us recall with a smile events and people from our past. He meaningfully links events and messages of 2000 years ago to today. And, we cannot overlook his singing.

They say change must start with a commitment at the top. So, kudos to the Chapel Board of Directors and to Doreen Smith, Executive Secretary, for their foresight in bringing Don to the Chapel. Kudos too to Gerry

Moss, Doreen's right hand, and to Shirley and Bob Jaeger and the choir for their more frequent and marvelous music.

We don't think it presumptuous to urge all Seven Lakers - and our neighbors - to visit the Chapel particularly at this time of the year or as a New Year's resolution. Try it. You'll like it, we're

> Jane and Dave Kinney Seven Lakes South

EVEN AKES IMES

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Are you a competent conversationalist?

I miss my friend Marie. We used to spend Sunday afternoons working crossword puzzles from two Sunday newspapers. Marie's mother died while she was in her teens consequently the duties of wife and mother fell upon her shoulders. Marie's - sister became a nurse, her brothers entered fields relating to electricity, no doubt because their dad owned a small commercial power generating system. Much as she would liked to have moved on to higher education, that was not an option for Marie. Despite her provincial life in a small town, she was a wonderful thinker and discusser.

Our conversations were interesting and stimulating. Among other things, she helped me to understand the importance of the power of our own thoughts and words. She would say to me "Don't say that. Don't even think those words. They are

At first I thought she was silly, but I came to realize how right she was. Our words often proclaim our thoughts and consequently our actions. She was a kind gentle person who looked to the positive not the negative and always wanted to give people the benefit of the doubt. Her mind went far beyond the range of her limited experiences and exploring venues of thought became challenging to us. She copied the following words from

Eleanor Roosevelt for me and had them mounted on a magnet which has gone from place to place, and from one refrigerator to another:



Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.

Recently, I have been thinking about what traits combine to make an interesting conversationalist. Number one is to become a good listener. If you are always thinking about what you want to say next, then you are not really hearing others and profiting from what they have to say. Not only listen, but ask questions and seek opinions. I've learned a lot from people who think differently from me.

Start keeping track of how often you use the words I, me, my, mine and ours.

They are an excellent guide to how interesting your conversation may be to others. What's scintillating to you may be downright boring to others. I am learnthere anyone here who really cares about what I was going to say ?" If the answer is "no" then it is better left unsaid. Some people say that I don't talk as much as I used to . . . truth is I am really trying to

Nona's Notes

monitor my words a little better. Haven't reached perfection but I'm working on it.

It is tough to be around people who speak so

loudly that they drown out all other conversation or make it tough to converse quietly. So too it is tough to be around the guy who monopolizes the con-

ing to stop and ask myself "Is versation. Sometimes, I think we should pass around a timer and and give each person a fair share of time to emit. We all know the guy who is always right about everything and doesn't really want to hear anything that's not in agreement with his

> Another person who could be left behind is the perpetual clown.

We all like a good jokes and amusing conversation, but the buffoon is rarely as funny as he thinks. Above all, when talking with others let's be kind, What one person thinks is an amusing comment or "put down" may be hurtful to the object of one's ridicule. Not only that, but to

(See "Nona," p. 24)



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1035A Lakeside Square, Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes, NC 27376 Page 24 Seven Lakes Times December 22, 2005 OPINION

Gifts of Christmas: Past, present, & future

(Continued from page 22) er that means!

First it was schools that banned the singing of Christmas carols. Then schools banned the singing of carols, but permitted them to be played by instruments with no lyrics. Now a school district has even banned the colors red and green from a "Winter Break Party," requiring parents to bring only white plates and napkins.

A high school principal in Washington canceled a dramatic performance of Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol," partly because he feared it would raise questions about the place of religion in public schools.

Well Mr. Dickens, it's a good thing you wrote your classic in 1843. You'd be "boiled in your own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through your heart" for writing the words "Merry Christmas" today.

And now stores want us to drop the word Christmas and replace it with Holiday. Where would these businesses be if it were not for the Christmases past? One of the largest stores, with revenue of many billions, has "absolutely not" banned Christmas, but is just "trying to serve all our customers for the holiday season."

I say, no, you are simply mak-

Nona

(Continued from page 23)

others, it makes the speaker look far worse than the object of his ridicule.

To anyone who wants to improve his conversational skills, I suggest... open your ears and your eyes. You may be surprised at what you learn, and at how much more accepting others may be of you. You'll make a better impression when you have something interesting to say. Sometimes what we don't say is more impressive than what we

God bless you all, and above all, enjoy each other.

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ing money during the Christmas Season, and capitalizing on a sacred holiday.

I hold other beliefs in high regard. They should, and do celebrate holidays in their own way.

But who is offended by the term "Merry Christmas"? Is it possible that a just a small group of people have caused us to go into spiritual hiding? Happy Holidays, Seasons greetings, Merry Christmas isn't changing anything. Everyone knows what time of the year it is. It's Christmas time.

I suggest to Merchants everywhere that they delegate another time – agree on any other date – to be known as Gift Giving Day. Perhaps their monetary selfishness can be assuaged then.

I would implore parents and all those who are so engrossed in the gifts at Christmas to step back and realize they have overindulged their children families and friends. I ask them to think about only one or two gifts to present to loved ones and save time for enjoying Christmas as I the significant holiday it is. I apologize for my generation, which probably is most guilty for starting this practice of overabundance of gift giving.

Christmas Future:

It is an unknown! But my hope is that those of us who honor Christmas because of its spiritual meaning regain the pleasure of celebrating it as it was in Christmas Past.

Merry Christmas to all! Betsy Mikula

Christmas Tree Recycling "Leave One for the Chipper"

Bring your Christmas tree for recycling to the corner of Hwy 15-501 and Murray Hill Road beside Tripps Restaurant in Southern Pines on Saturday, January 7, between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Trees will be chipped into mulch on site. Keep Moore County Beautiful will provide bags for individuals to take free mulch home to use around shrubs, trees or in flower beds.

For additional information, contact Joan Neal, Executive Director, Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. at 947-3478 or jneal@moorecountync.gov

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OPINION December 22, 2005 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 25

Improve your outlook

all of our lives. Let it drop, and you can call the undertaker your-

It's not too late to let these too often latent traits boil over frequently into full blossom: tenderness, patience, respect and admiration, liberality of judgment, and a modicum of constant good taste.

Skip the mid-afternoon nap more often and get out and do something for somebody.

Excuses? At this stage, we have few distractions or reasons for not being able to make



Cut down on introspection or negative thoughts. Too much

Humor has helped sustain us improvements in our comport- can be destructive. If we think things are not so great, what about the suffering going on just down the street,

> with a mother coping with her child's serious illness, or malaria sweeping through Malaysia, or a million destitute inhabitants barely existing on the streets of Bombay, India, each day,?

Don't worry about those wrinkles in the mirror. Your survivors will remember far more than

Have a Nice Day!

Church Women United to Meet

Church Women United will hold its Annual Meeting on Friday, January 6, at The Community Presbyterian Church, 125 Everette Road, Pinehurst at 10:00 am.

The Guest Speaker will be Kathryn Sells who is with the MATCH program of the Women's Prison in Raleigh.

A lunch will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend.

If anyone has questions or is in need of baby sitting, please call Jacque Klimack, President at 281-0129.

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- 6. Going Home Nora Roberts
- 7. Mary Mary James Patterson
- 8. A Common Life Jan Karon

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Nonfiction

- 1. The World is Flat Thomas Friedman
- 2. A Million Little Pieces James Frev
- - Charles Mann
- 4. Our Endangerd Values Jimmy Carter
- 5. Teacher Man Frank McCourt

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- 1. Lion, Witch, & Wardrobe C.S. Lewis
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- Christopher Paolini
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- In response to State Farm's financial strength, profitability, and new efficiencies through technology, I'm pleased to announce an 11% Homeowner Insurance rate decrease on average for all new and renewal business in Moore County effective June 15th. This is great news! One out of five homeowners in the United States has State Farm Homeowners Insurance.
- In addition, we have increased our staff from ten to eleven full time customer service representatives to continue to provide the best, most dependable and friendly insurance service in the marketplace. We are committed to excellence and now have outstanding auto and homeowner rates, thanks to the rate decreases!

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LETTERS Page 26 **Seven Lakes Times** December 22, 2005

Pilot gets it wrong on Co. Police vote

Letter to the Editor:

The lead article in the December 16, 2005, issue of The Pilot, "Seven Lakes Disband Company Police," contained several factual errors. I would like to set the record straight.

There were three options on the ballot.

Option 1: "Maintain Company Police Department."

Option 2: "Disband the Company Police and maintain existing 120 hours of roving patrol per week. Effective April 30, 2006, effective savings of \$39,761.44, per year."

Option 3: "Disband the Company Police and decrease service to 80 hours of roving patrol per week. Effective April 30, 2006, effective savings of \$61,968.80, per year."

Whoever gave The Pilot's reporter the definition for Option 2 as published, "cut the police patrol hours" is simply not correct as confirmed by the actual ballot. When the votes for Option 2 and Option 3 are combined there were a total of 461 votes of the total number of 720 votes cast, representing 64% of the total votes to disband the company police department.

Chief Lombard was quoted as saying "Truesdell argued that the community doesn't have much crime so it doesn't need the police force. Truesdell felt the company police were a luxury that the community could not afford." I did argue that the company police department was a luxury we could not afford but for the following reasons:

- have jurisdiction on Seven Lakes landowners property.
- 2. The estimated cost of two company police officers was between \$90,000 to \$100,000,
- 3. The Seven Lakes landowners assume all of the liability for the actions of its police officers.
- 4. The North Carolina State law

Letters to the Editor m

was changed on April 19, 2005, Senate Bill 166, was amended to read as follows: "Section 2. This act is enforceable by any company policemen appointed under Chapter 74E of the General Statutes, certified by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, and employed by the Seven Lakes Landowners Association, or "by any Law Enforcement Officer acting within the Officer's jurisdiction."

5. The Seven Lakes Landowners Association has confirmed that our only line of defense is to call 911. Not only does a 911 call give us immediate access to law enforcement but it also provides immediate access to EMS or the Fire Department if required.

1. Company police does not 6. Moore County Sheriff Lane Carter has one deputy assigned to patrol Seven Lakes (North, South, West and West End) 40 hours per week.

> It made no sense to spend between \$90,000 to \$100,000 per year for a Seven Lakes company police department with limited jurisdiction and 64% of the Seven Lakes landowners agreed.

We do have pressing issues with our infrastructure in terms of mandated repairs and improvements required to help maintain and improve our property values. As of this date, we have two mandated repairs.

1. We are required by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources to repair the dam on Echo Lake. Before we put a shovel in the ground we will have spent \$57,359, in professional fees. The cost of this repair has not been determined as of this date but the estimate is between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

2. We are required to make Sequoia Point handicap accessible. The estimated cost to replace the existing bathroom with a handicap friendly bathroom is \$40,000. We may also be required to provide two

paved handicap parking spots. The cost to provide these parking spots is \$5,735.

In these two mandated requirements we will have incurred expenses from \$178,094 to \$203,094. These mandated requirements will almost certainly invade our year end cash reserves.

The basic issue in my opinion (See "Pilot," p. 27)



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of treatment — 20 days."

Bruce Baxter Troy, NC

There is no need to transfer records from your exisiting physician to be seen at Family Care Associates.

OPINION December 22, 2005 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 27

Pilot story on vote misreads ballot

Dear Editor:

I was incredulous when I read Mr. Moriarty's description of our Seven Lakes Landowners Association three option ballot as written in his Company Police article carried on the front page of the December 16 issue of The Pilot. It reads as follows

Pilot

(Continued from page 26)

is to increase our year-end cash reserves to provide for a systematic schedule to repave our roads. We have 26 miles of roads within our gates. These roads were last repaved between 1985 and 1992. The current cost to repave one mile is \$50,000. Therefore in 2005 dollars we will need to generate \$1,300,000 to repave all 26 miles of our roads.

The assertion that "the community's primary problem is speeding" may be true. However there are two very effective deterrents that can be employed to combat speeders.

- 1. We recently installed three speed bumps on the Sequoia Dam. This has eliminated speeding at that location. If necessary we can install speed bumps at other locations within our gates.
- 2. Sheriff Lane Carter has agreed to provide radar traps at specific locations when request-
- 3. Also if you check the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board's minutes from August 2005, to November 2005, there were only a total of 16 citations issued by company police. There are approximately 3000 cars within our gates. Where is the problem?

For these reasons I am very gratified that 64% of the Seven Lakes landowners who participated in our binding referendum chose to disband the company police department. If you have any questions please call Don Truesdell at 910 673-1509 or e-mail to dtruesdell@nc.rr.com.

Donald P. Truesdell Director Seven Lakes Landowners Association

"There were three options on the ballot. One was to keep the police force as is. One was to cut the police patrol hours, and the third was to disband the Company Police altogether."

This was not the ballot I voted! The article then goes on to

"Of the 720 votes cast, 365 -52% — were for disbanding the police force. Another 259 voted to keep the police and 96 wanted to cut the patrol hours."

And this was far from an accurate depiction of the result!

These two paragraphs, whatever their source, represent yet another illustration of "garbage in - garbage out!"

Mr. Truesdell's article elsewhere in this issue of The Times very accurately discusses the ballot, the results, and the issues which caused it to take place.

> Ron Erskine Seven Lakes North

Board should save money, drop police now

Even though the vote to abolish the police department was successful, I don't believe everyone is aware that the police will continue to be employed until April 30, 2006

The cost for this unwarranted extension is as follows: Salaries for two police officers about \$30,000, pending any increases, health benefits, vacation, sick time for both officers, insurance premiums for compensation, liability and automobile with an increase in compensation and liability premiums for the additional policeman, who was hired three weeks before the vote. Total cost was not available for this issue of the Times.

At the last meeting, Wednesday, December 14, I asked Jeff Herman, Director of Police, why the delay of four months. His answer, "you voted for it!" Why was it even put on the ballot? The

only explanation I received was, "the budget item for the police runs until April 30th, so even though the police department should have been abolished as of December 15, the police will continue to work for the next four months.

I might add, the full page ad in the Times did not mention the vote for abolishing the police would be effective April 30.

Please call Jeff Herman and

appeal to him to adhere to the overwhelming vote of over 500 on the first ballot and 461 on the second ballot to abolish the police department by the end of this year.

It is your money and it should be better spent for other needs for the benefit of the communi-

> Gordon Farron Seven Lakes North

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NEWS Page 28 **Seven Lakes Times** December 22, 2005

Lakers' gripes more than a little bit silly

Dear Editor,

I am absolutely delighted to receive the Seven Lakes Times every other week. I get such a kick out of most of the letters to

the editor and the Seven Lakes Land Association police and security reports.

I often wonder why some of the residents of Seven Lakes just don't pack up their belongings and move to a deserted island where they can control everything, and not have to worry about silly things in life such as dogs barking, children playing too loud, "outsiders", and too many

trick-or-treaters.

I would like to let these people in on a little secret — dogs will always bark, children will always be loud, you can't keep everyone out, and trick-or-treat is fun for everyone, not just the kids behind the gates.

The report that I found most amusing was the Halloween Fiasco that has now been going on for the last two issues . . . give it up people!

Both articles were written by Seven Lakers. If they were so upset, why didn't they turn off the porch lights and close the door, or make a report to the SLLA police. I don't recall seeing any reports, and trust me, they would've been in The Times as well

I did not take my kids to Seven Lakes to trick-or-treat, but I wish I had!

Here's another little secret for those who are upset with me for the above mentioned - I have heard that the Belle Meade and St. Joseph's are really nice places to live, especially if you like the quiet and no children.

However, if Pinewild is cheaper on taxes and dues, I'm sure that there is plenty of available property listings in that area ... maybe it's time to move on.

"An Outsider"

Thanks for casting your vote

To All Seven Lakes Landowners: Thanks to all Seven Lakers who took the time and effort to

vote in the recent company police department binding refer-

There were 1344 eligible voters. There were a total of 720 votes cast representing 54% of the eliaible voters. The combined vote to disband was 461 representing 64% of the ballots

These totals are very impressive when compared to elections of the past several years.

I am very grateful that you were given the opportunity to express your opinion in this binding referendum.

If you have any questions please call me at 673-1509 or email to dtruesdell@nc.rr.com.

> Donald P. Truesdell Director Seven Lakes Landowners Association

Tiffany Alderman

Company police

(Continued from page 1)

estimates developed during the debate over company police have estimated total annual costs for the department as high as \$100,000.

A second officer was added to the force in mid-November. That decision, as well as the decision to delay the disbanding of the force until April, both became topics of debate at the regular December 14 SLLA meeting. [See story page 1.]

The December 11 special meeting at which the company police vote was tallied and announced was well-attended but had nothing on the agenda aside from the vote count itself.

SLLA Director Loren Swearingen attempted, in a Thursday, December 8 board work session, to add a public comment session to the agenda for the

special meeting, but was able to garner support only from Directo Don Truesdell. Swearingen's motion was defeated four to two (Director John Paulson was not present at the work session.)

President Jack Fathauer called the special meeting to order promptly at 3:00 pm on Sunday, December 11 in the Great Room of the West Sdie Park Community Center.

A large crowd of landowners attended the meeting, and Fathauer thanked them for their interest.

After Secretary Jackie Scotti certified the presence of a quorum, Fathauer recessed the meeting until the final tally was available.

The elections committee members who handled the vote count were Len Barnard, JoAn Moses, and Bud Shaver.

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NEWS December 22, 2005 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 29

A gardener's suggestions for the holidays

The wonderful season of Christmas, New Year and other Holidays is approaching and will soon be here.

It's the time of year when all of us are involved with parties, family and friends visit, decorating, gift exchanging, and other joyous events.

Therefore isn't the most appropriate time for discussing outside gardening.

The weather during December thus far has been beautiful. Frequent showers have occurred that helped to raise our lake levels, replenish soil moisture, and improved out overall rainfall shortage. Changing temperatures have been somewhat erratic from warm to cold.

Someone has said, "If you don't like today's weather around here wait until tomorrow it will change, be more desirable and perhaps suitable to your liking."

Here a few suggestions which hopefully will be followed during the Holiday season.

- · Safety is one of the most important things to practice during the season. Drive safely, defensively, and carefully. Don't drink alcoholic beverages and drive. Have a designated driver.
- Seven Lakes and our neighboring communities have beautiful decorations and lighting displays. Be sure your lights and connections are properly and safely installed. Use small, cool, and low wattage light bulbs. Turn off all lights including Christmas tree lights when leaving your home or retiring for the night.
- Remember to take care of your once live cut Christmas tree. Treated it with an anti-tran-

spirant and fire retardant to reduce water loss and help protect from the danger of fire. Keep the tree turgid and green by filling the tree holder with water daily to aid it from drying out.

Your Poinsettias are popular during the Holidays. Having been grown under greenhouse conditions, they must be conditioned somealthough some folks might be sensitive to the white sap which might cause skin irrita-

Traditional mistletoe plant is toxic. Pets and small children should not be allowed to come in contact with its berries and foliage. If either are eaten serious complications will likely result.

The Christmas Holiday Cactus is another flowering plant that is popular this time of year. Water them thoroughly when need-

ed and let them dry out completely between waterings. Keep them away from extreme

Winterize your outside areas:

- If you haven't done it, disconnect and winterize your outside water hoses.
- Check your irrigation pump, connection pipes and valves, drainage outlets, etc., to be sure they are properly drained.
- Leaves continue to fall. Dispose of them according to your desire. Mulch mowing leaves in your lawn offer several benefits, but most important it

adds plant residue nutrients from the decomposed leaves back into the soil. One limitation, the practice will promote and cause future weed and grass problems.

If your schedule permits and you desire to move plants and shrubs and trees, December is an excellent time for planting them.

Believe or not Mary and I have spent 25 Christmas seasons in

Seven Lakes. During this period, we have seen large growth and changes in the community. We have seen people come and go. Seven Lakes is a splendid place in which to live. Over the years we have made many friends and several neighbors.

We would like to wish each of you a blessed, happy, joyous, and safe Merry Christmas, and good health for 2006.

Tax Help volunteers needed

by Bill Roberson

AARP's Tax-Aide Program is the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service. This year we expect to significantly increase the number of customers we assist in Moore County. We are seeking Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to assist with one-on-one counseling and tax return preparation. You will be comprehensively trained and required to pass a competency test to become IRS Certified as a Tax

Volunteer training will be conducted during January 2006. Volunteers who become IRS Certified are asked to give a minimum commitment of forty hours over the ten-week filing season from February 1 to April 15, 2006. Expense reimbursement is provided for some program related out-of-pocket expenses.

For more information call, Bill Roberson at (910) 673)-1452.



By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

You've Got A Nice Face . . . But

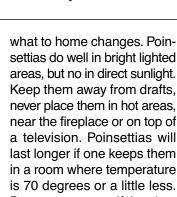
Do you know what I consider one of the greatest drawbacks of the seller who tries to sell his own home? The fact that most prospects will not confide their objections to the seller's face. I've found that the great preponderance of buyers are gentle, polite and caring individuals. That's the problem. They don't want to insult you.

You may have the nicest face on the block, but a promising buyer may have abruptly decided that he couldn't afford the price of your home and left. He didn't want to hurt your feelings. On the other hand, price is a subject that they WOULD discuss with our agent (they do it all the time)

who could then show them how it could possibly be financed within their means.

A nice prospect wouldn't dream of telling a nice seller that the carpeting was worn or certain rooms need to be repainted. They'd tell this to us though, in which case we could arrange to make minor financial adjustments or repairs and save what could have been a lost sale.

If there is anything I can do to help you in the field of real estate, please call me at 910-673-1699 or 800-994-6635 at RE/MAX Prime E-mail: Properties. sandys@ac.net. I'm here to help!



settias do well in bright lighted areas, but no in direct sunlight. Keep them away from drafts, never place them in hot areas, near the fireplace or on top of a television. Poinsettias will last longer if one keeps them in a room where temperature is 70 degrees or a little less. Do not over water. If the plant is wrapped in foil, remove it or punch holes in it before watering for good drainage and aeration. Contrary to belief poinsettias are not poisonous according to toxicologists,

> fine pruning of trees & ornamentals tree and stump removal plant site consulting & tree loss evaluation

Cutler Tree

Gardening in

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Jim Caudill

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Geoff Cutler Certified Arborist

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Page 30 Seven Lakes Times December 22, 2005 NEWS

Nominating committee conducting interviews

[This article is taken from The Seven Lakes Times, Volume 1, Number 2, December 1985. It is once again the season for board candidate nominations, and this story offers an interesting perspective on the job of a nominating committee.]

The Seven Lakes Landowner's Association Nominating Committee has been formed with Wilbur Fulton, Harry Heuple, Bill Mogk and Warren McIntyre as members.

In a *Times* interview, committee members stated their responsibility is to act as a screening process bringing to the membership the best possible candidates for the three-year term director's seats which will be up for election in March.

The number of seats to be filled will be either three, four, or depending on the results of the bylaw revisions now being considered by the board.

Emphasizing the importance

of the committee's mission by stating that those elected will have great impact on the quality of life and on the property values in Seven Lakes, the committee explained that they have defined procedures and standards. Adding to the

didate recommendations are sought; personal discussions with citizens of committee members; ongoing review meetings to consider such issues as how many candidates should be pro-

Times Past

dates.

Stories from The Times archives



importance of the nominations

is the stated recognition that

the Landowners' Association is

the only representation that res-

idents and lot owners have. The

Association is the major common

The procedures being used by

the committee include: notice

in the Interlake Bulletin that can-

denominator in Seven Lakes.

posed for each seat, and the standards expected of candi-

expected of ca

The Association bylaws state, "Nominees for the board of directors shall be made by a nominating committee, the chairman of which shall be named by the president, and shall consist of the chairman, one additional board member, and one or more non-board members. They shall pres-

ent a list of nominees to the board at the January meeting."

The committee members stated they appreciate recommendations from the landowners and assure that all those proposed will receive full consideration.

The bylaws also provide that "any voting member of the Association may be nominated by a petition signed by at least 50 voting members, presented to the board at the January meeting." At the last election in 1983, two of the present board members were nominated and elected by this petition procedure.

Criteria being used by the committee in their assessment of director-candidates include:

- the bylaw stipulation that "the affairs of the Association shall be managed by a board of directors, who need not be residents of North Carolina, but must be voting members in good standing;
- 2. diversity of prior business/com-

munity experience;

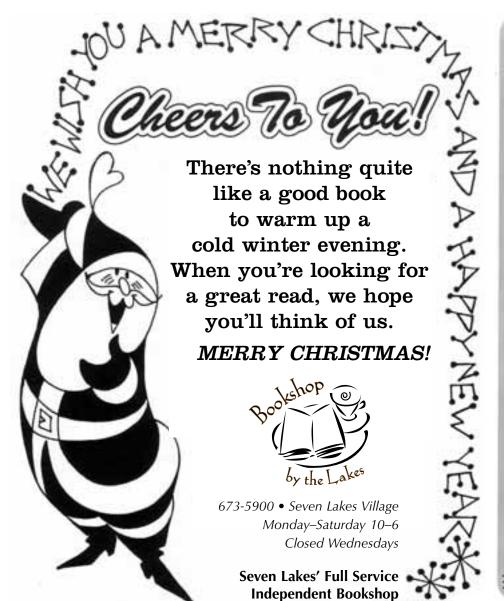
- 3. representation of each of the North-South-West sections;
- willingness to give a high level of time/work and involvement to board regular and working meetings and conferences with citizens;
- 5. communications skills;
- financial comprehension of the annual expenditures of approximately 3/4's of \$1 million; and
- 7. a stated desire to represent all landowners' interests.

Kiwanis Bingo

Jackpot \$275!!

Jan. 3 • 7:30pm North Clubhouse

Bring a Friend!





Seven Lakes Times

December 22, 2005

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HILLCREST MINI WARE-HOUSE, **LLC** — Affordable storage in Seven Lakes. Units are located at 20 Grant Street, across from K.R. Mace Electric. Unit sizes - 10x10, 10x20 and 20x20 available. Units have lighting for those who need to drop off or pick items after dark. Hillcrest is now offering outside storage space available for - boats, trailers, vehicles or campers. Pick-up and delivery to your unit can be arranged. Call 910-673-7320 for rental information. Urgent calls may be directed to 910-690-6491.

FOR RENT REAL ESTATE

TWO ROOM OFFICE – conveniently located on Seven Lakes Drive. \$350/month. Call 910-949-2191.

RETAIL/OFFICE SPACE – 1100 sq. ft., \$750/mo. Great location in Seven Lakes. Call 295-0688.

FOR RENT REAL ESTATE

OFFICE SPACE – Now leasing w/optional warehouse space. Great location, Grant St., Seven Lakes. Call 910-673-2106.

LAKEFRONT HOME – 3BD, 2BA, formal dining & living rm, Irg. Carolina room, with great lake view. 1/2 mile from community pool, tennis court, and clubhouse. \$1250/mo. Dep. and ref. required. Available March 1. Call 910-673-3462.

SEVEN LAKES NORTH – for rent or sale. 4BR, 2700 sq. ft. 2 car garage, Boat slip included. \$1200/mo. Call 910-673-1902.

LAKEFRONT HOME ON LAKE AUMAN – furnished, well decorated. Beautiful view, watch sunrise and set. Long term or monthly lease. Deposit and references required. No pets/no smoking. Call 913-908-9892 for information.

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SEVEN LAKES WEST

Short Term rental - 3BR/2BA Overlooking pond. Call Wayne 800-7FOXFIRE or 910-295-2288.

CUSTOM BUILT LAKEVIEW HOME FOR RENT – View the Sunrise! 3BR/2.5BA, GR,DR, Great Kitchen! Open Floor Plan, Lg. Master Suite, Walk-in closet, whirlpool & shower, Patio, yard maint. Inc. Non-smokers, no pets, one years lease, deposit and references required. \$1500 per month. 910-673-3603.

NOW LEASING — Office and Retail space, 500 to 5000 sq. ft. Call Seven Lakes Plaza Shopping Center at 910-673-0830.

FOR SALE LOTS

SEVEN LAKES SOUTH – Lot #2032, 189 Devonshire. 120 x 190 x 120 x 190. Perc tested. If interested, please call 673-2372.

FOR SALE LOTS

SEVEN LAKES WEST – Beautiful sloping 1/2 acre golf lot on cul-de-sac. Views of #3 and Fairway of Beacon Ridge Golf Course. Call 673-1179.2tc 11/23

LAKE FRONT LOT – #3167, with panoramic view of Lake Auman. 130 water front, \$295,000. Call W. Griggs at 516-694-6260 or 516-242-9516.

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FSBO SEVEN LAKES NORTH

- Corner lot, wooded. Lots of TLC. Perc tested. 270' frontage front and side. Asking \$19,000, neg. Call 1-845-831-2410.

WATERFRONT LOT ON LAKE AUMAN – #3220 price reduced to \$175,000. 3BR current perk permit, bulkhead and dock in place. Custom house plans for lot available. Motivated sellers – Make and offer! Call Jennifer Dwiggins, Broker at 910-673-3344 for detail and faxable documents.

commercial Lots – Expanding or starting? 19 lots in the commercial section of Seven Lakes. Call Tom McGinnis at The Property Center. Office 910-673-1724, Home 910-673-3676 or Cell 910-315-9127.

CHECK OUT MY LISTINGS -

in Seven Lakes West Homes/Lots for Sale AND surrounding area properties www.jenniferdwiggins.com. Contact Jennifer Dwiggins, Broker at 910-992-6133.

LAKE AUMAN – waterfront point lot w/180 ft. bulkhead, perc test and panoramic views. Lot #3344. \$350,000. Brokers welcome. Call 910-695-1101.

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

SEVEN LAKES NORTH - FSBO – built in 2003. 3BR/2BA. Vaulted LR with gas FPL, DR, kitchen w/appliances, breakfast nook, laundry rm, 2-car garage, rear deck. Asking \$155,900. Call 910-673-5656.

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

SEVEN LAKES WEST — Almost new, beautiful lakeview home in Seven Lakes West.

2000 sq. ft. split plan. Vaulted 9' ceilings, 3BR, marble baths, and much more. \$224,000. Call 910-673-1790

LAKE AUMAN — FSBO, 5 BR/3.5BA, gorgeous point view, dock and bulkhead, mature land-scaping, Carolina Rm. Very large lot. Huge screened porch, wraparound deck, wood-burning fpl, hdwd flrs, all brick. Yates Hussey Built Home. Multiple storage areas, huge downstairs video room. Too much to list. Call 910-603-4746.

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TURN YOUR USED BOAT INTO CASH — People are looking to purchase good condition used boats. Let us connect you to the prospective buyers. Call Jeff at 910-673-1440 or Lynn at 910-690-8695.

NEW & USED PONTOONS AND SKI BOATS — Call Seven Lakes Marine. 673-1440. *tfnc*

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HOUSE CLEANING – Experienced, professional. References available. Other services include: Laundry, ironing, sewing and housekeeping. Call Kathy at 428-2332.

PAINTER – Professional painter available for interior painting only. References and on time. 20+ years experience, competitive rates. No job too small. Call Dave at 910-673-5331.

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