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April 27, 2007

West Side opens work sessions

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Greater openness and comprehensive planning were the Board initiatives that newly-elected Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] President Jim Haggard chose to highlight at the first General

ing. The Board's next work session, scheduled for Tuesday, May 8 at 8:00 am, will be open for public observation, Haggard said, though details about whether and how public input will be allowed at those sessions has yet to be finalized — as has the location.

"Potentially, members will have an opportunity to make statements either before or after the work session has been completed," Haggard said. He cautioned

those who might choose to attend a SLWLA work session that "our work sessions are long. We operate in a very informal but controlled manner. Board members speak as long and as frequently as they need to to get their point across. That will not change."

(See "West Side," p. 38)

Foxfire celebration



Ribbon Cutting — The Foxfire Festival on April 14 included a Ribbon Cutting for the new Village Green municipal park. Recreation Committee Chairman Jack Olson, Mayor George Erickson, North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Board Member Lydia Boesch, and NC Representative Joe Boylan did the honors. [Pat Ogren photo.]

West Side Landowners Meeting

4/24

Meeting of the Association since Board elections were finalized at the Annual Meeting in March.

Perhaps the most dramatic evidence of the new Board's interest in openness is their decision to open Board work sessions, taken at an April 10 work session and announced by Haggard at the General Meet-

SLLA Board: Range must have ARB approval

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board has united behind the position that Southside covenants apply to the property on which Seven Lakes Country Club [SLCC] is preparing to build a new driving range.

And while no board member expressed an interest in seeing the matter wind up in court, they appeared willing, during the

Wednesday, April 25 General Meeting of the Association, to seek an injunction to stop construction of the range if no compromise short of that step can be reached.

President Don Truesdell suggested, and his fellow Board members agreed, that a better option would be to convene a non-binding meeting of the attorneys representing the Club and

the Association in which both could review the evidence and documentation each side has amassed to support its case.

Each lawyer would then be charged with offering his or her client a candid assessment of the strength of their position. That assessment, Truesdell believes, may allow the SLLA and SLCC to avoid testing the strength of their respective positions in court.

At issue, at the moment, is whether the 7.5-acre property on which the Club plans to construct a new driving range is subject to the Southside Restated covenants and whether the Club, as a result, must win the approval of the SLLA Architectural Review Board [ARB] before beginning the project.

Plans for the range include a 50-foot net to control stray balls.

The Southside covenants require ARB approval for fences.

Club officials indicated at the Club's Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 22, that they planned to start construction on the new range shortly after May 1, Truesdell told the SLLA Board.

Truesdell asked for and received the consent of the Board to send a letter to Club officials. (See "SLLA," p.21)

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Vets will explain "Why We Serve" at meeting

The Jesse Helms Center Foundation is hosting an evening with veterans of the War on Terror at the Days Inn in Southern Pines, located on US Route 1, on Thursday, May 17 at 7:00 pm.

The purpose of the program is to allow the speakers to speak about the nobility of service and to share their experiences — and some of the good news stories that often don't make it into evening television news or daily newspapers.

The "Why We Serve" speakers do not address Department of Defense policy, but rather present a personal perspective as can only be seen through the eyes of our uniformed men and women. There is no charge for attending the evening program which is open to the public.

In July 2006, the Department

of Defense formed a speakers initiative titled "Why We Serve," a program designed to give returning Iraq, Afghanistan, and Horn of Africa veterans the opportunity to share their personal military experiences with the American public, while answering the call for more first-hand accounting from the front lines.

Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England told program veterans that it's "important and vital to relate your experiences to the American public, to be out with the message of the importance of what you do every day, and all those who serve."

The United States has always

relied on the courage and selflessness of military members who have fought to preserve America's security, freedoms,

and way of life since the nation was established."

England concluded his remarks saying, "What you are

doing is hugely important. And while you're out there, deliver a great message for America."

Bridge awards luncheon

The Women of Seven Lakes Bridge Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 10, at 12:00 Noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club.

Please bring your own cards and scoresheets.

The cost for the luncheon is \$14.00, and reservations may be made through Friday, May 4, by

calling Carolyn Follansbee at 673-5913, or Dodie Mulready at 673-5044.

Send checks for complete tables, made out to Women of Seven Lakes, to the person to

whom you made your reservation.

Carolyn Follansbee at 1115 Seven Lakes North, or Dodie Mulready at 647 Seven Lakes North.

Correction

In a report on the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session that appeared in our April 13 edition, we reported that President Don Truesdell said a new member of the Architectural Review Board [ARB], L.G. Bowling is an architect. Mr. Bowling kindly wrote to inform us that he is not an architect, but has several years experience as a residential draftsman.

We regret the error and wish Mr. Bowling the best during his term on the ARB.

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 mail@sevenlakes-times.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
May 11	May 4
May 25	May 18
June 8	June 1
June 22	June 15
July 6	June 29
July 20	July 13
August 3	July 27
August 17	August 10
August 31	August 24
Sept 14	Sept 7
Sept 28	Sept 21
Oct 12	Oct 5
Oct 26	Oct 19
Nov 9	Nov 2
Nov 21*	Nov 15*
Dec 7	Nov 30
Dec 21	Dec 14

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Cost of Schools' building plan is rising

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Soaring materials costs have increased estimated expenses for Phase I of the Moore County Schools [MCS] Facilities Master Plan by \$9 million dollars. Split into three phases, each lasting four years, the facilities plan was drafted in the Fall of 2005 with an estimated total cost of \$144 million.

Phase I of the Facilities Master Plan includes construction of two new schools, several building additions and renovations to existing county schools, as well as addressing water and sewer needs at several locations, and was originally estimated to cost \$38 million.

Citing both petroleum and alu-

minum price increases, Dr. Larry Upchurch, Deputy Superintendent, said at the MCS Board of Education work session on Monday, April 23, "We intend to continually update the facilities plan. In Phase I, we are addressing the nine overcrowded county schools." Later in the discussion, he said, "It is important for the Board to look at these updated figures."

In addition, Upchurch presented the Board with \$6 million in estimated athletic facilities costs for specific urgent needs that were identified by the Athletic Task Force as part of the 2007-2008 MCS Budget process. Targeted facilities and needs included new fencing and expanding concessions and pub-

lic restrooms at Pinecrest, adding stadium seating at North Moore High and Union Pines, and building storage buildings at many of the counties schools.

As part of the facilities planning process, population projections are also frequently updated to include new developments. This allows the board to target areas of growth and to review "optimal sites to build new schools," stated John Hawthorne, Executive Supervisor for Construction, during discussion.

The anticipated new residential developments proposed within Small Planning Area A boundaries will not be counted until those lots are platted and approved.

Green Building Design

The twelve-year Facilities Master Plan calls for the addition of six new schools in Moore County. The MCS Board is interested in incorporating sustainability, energy efficiency, and environmental stewardship into the building projects.

Identifying some green design as not big dollar items, such as automatic shut-off faucet valves, Hawthorne said "Positioning a building for light and heat can make a big difference." However, he noted that it was important to make these types of decisions before design begins.

Two processes for certification and keeping track of the green building and design process were discussed; High

Performance Guidelines, and LEED [The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design], a rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The associated cost to incorporate the LEED certification process was estimated to be between one and six percent of the total budget.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, May 14, at 7:00 pm. Meetings are open to the public and held at the MCS Administration Building in Carthage.

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Lot 412	On #9 – National Golf Club	\$89,000
Lot 9	TBD Paula Ct., The Commons	\$79,900
Lot 6118	284 Longleaf Dr	\$61,500

Commissioners say no to Area A moratorium

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

A resolution for a proposed six-month moratorium on major subdivision development in Small Planning Area A was defeated during the April 16 Moore County Board of Commissioners meeting.

The Moore County Planning Board and the Small Area A Steering Committee, chaired by Dave Kinney of Seven Lakes South, proposed the original moratorium resolution during the April 2 meeting and revised the proposal during an April 11 work session with the Commissioners to include three options.

Option 1 was to pursue the original Interim Development Policy as proposed. Option 2 was an alternate resolution placing a moratorium only on development requiring rezoning within Area A, and Option 3 was to take no action on the moratorium policy.

Endorsing the full six-month moratorium, Leonard Tufts, a member of the Area A Steering Committee said during the public hearing, "We are not finished. The developers are doing the planning – and the County should be doing it!"

Harry Huberth, Chairman of the Moore County Planning Board also favored the moratorium, "The group is in the middle of their work. You will handcuff the group and handcuff the planning process if you approve the developments." He continued,

"Stop now and allow us to put guidelines in place."

Representing the Moore County Homebuilders Association, Denzel Williams said that while Association members endorse the goals of the Steering Committee, they urged the Commissioners to adopt Option 3 as developments often take two to three years from conception to built-property.

Commissioner Larry Caddell expressed concern that the developments closest to Seven Lakes had the potential of "sucking the lifeblood out of the current communities, plus there is no water."

Caddell continued, "The undeveloped lots in Seven Lakes need to be protected for future water use and the demand for more houses in Seven Lakes is not there. There are many houses for sale, sitting vacant, and not using water. These houses and the lot owners expect water to be there when they need it."

However, Caddell said that by approving new subdivisions such as the Brenner Property, the Commissioners would make a statement to developers that "This is what we want; we don't want 800 houses on 400 acres."

The Brenner Property subdivision proposes a golf course and 248 homes, leaving 65% of the land in open space. The property is located at the inter-

section of Rt. 73 and Beulah Hill Church Road.

Commissioner Jimmy Melton asked Committee Chairman Kinney if Option 2 would give his group time to complete the Area A plan.

"I could live with Option 2. It would put some pressure on us be we could do it," said Kinney. "We know there will be growth, we just want to manage it."

Commissioner Tim Lea suggested that Option 2 would not be fair to developers – by penalizing those properties needing rezoning in favor of those that do not.

Water, or the lack thereof, was a key issue. Both Caddell and Lea felt that current water and sewer capacity restricted development and created a natural moratorium on the building process.

"I don't want to put a moratorium on a moratorium," said Lea. Commissioner Melton made a motion to approve Option 2 and was seconded by Chairman Colin McKenzie, but they were defeated in a 3-2 vote.

Commissioner Caddell moved that the Board adopt Option 3. Lea seconded and asked that the motion be amended to read that

the resolution should go back to the Planning Board for planning and consideration. The amended motion was approved unanimously.

School Board

Dr. Susan Purser, Superintendent of Schools, presented Moore County Schools' [MCS] proposed \$24.1 million budget during the Commissioners meeting.

The ambitious budget requests a 16.3% increase from the County Commissioners with a 30.6% increase in Capital Outlay.

(See "Commissioners" p. 36)

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Peggy Sue's first day in Kindergarten

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

On her first day in Kindergarten, Peggy Sue flopped down on her blanket on the floor, stuck her feet up in the air, and waited to have her belly rubbed. Is she a poorly behaved child not ready for school?

No, of course not! You see, Peggy Sue is a trained therapy dog and a volunteer in the Luther and Friends Canine Assisted

Reading Education program. Launched a year ago in the Moore County Schools, the Luther program was developed to expand a child's interest and development in reading.

Fluency in reading is the ability to read accurately and quickly and, when reading aloud, to group words together in a natural rhythm with correct expression. Reader's who have not developed fluency, read aloud in a

choppy word-by-word style. Peggy Sue's job is to provide a fun and attentive audience for early readers and children struggling with reading fluency.

A five-year old Cairn Terrier, Peggy Sue, is one of three therapy dogs owned by Jackie Coger of Seven Lakes South. Born with a congenital birth defect, Peggy Sue is even more exceptional as a three-legged ambassador, especially to children with

learning and developmental difficulties.

"Lots of kids won't notice her disability right away," says Coger, "but when they do notice they are saddened and will say 'poor Peggy Sue.'" She continues, "I say to them, 'Shhh, don't tell her! She doesn't know - Peggy doesn't know she's not like other dogs and we don't want to point that out. Just because she looks different doesn't really make her any different."

"It is rewarding to see them turn from sadness about her condition to acceptance and happiness," says Coger. "Peggy Sue has a way about her that everyone loves her, she evokes feelings in a very unique way."

Peggy Sue is assigned to West End Elementary and each week, Coger will be taking one of her three therapy dogs for an hour and a half session with the children. Last week was Peggy's first visit.

"I read them a story and Peggy Sue read them a story," said Coger. Peggy Sue is trained to growl and bark softly in response to the command 'Tell me a story.' "She was so laid back and the kids just oohed and aahed when she read to them," stated Coger. "I didn't know if I was going to like it but it was phenomenal and very rewarding."

Seven Lakes is actually home to between eight and ten certifi-

(See "Peggy Sue," p. 6)



Risky, BeBe, and Peggy Sue with their proud Mom, Jackie Coger of Seven Lakes South.

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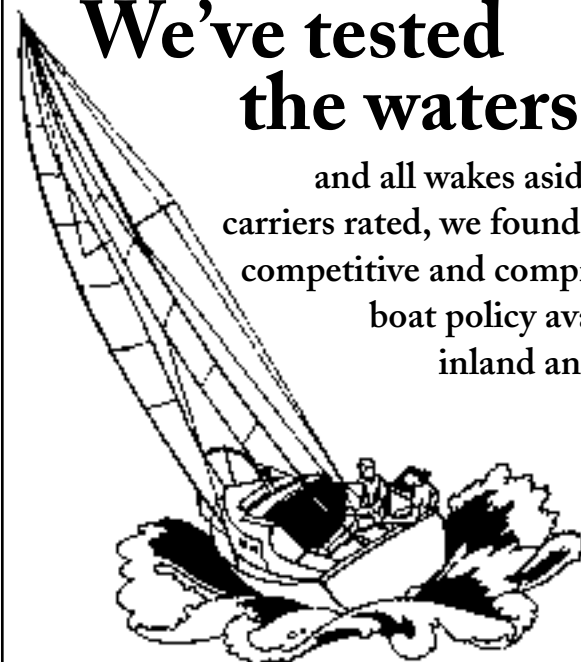
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Peggy Sue

(Continued from page 5)

fied therapy dogs in the Moore County Schools Luther program, including Cogger's other two dogs, BeBe and Risky. Both former show dogs, Risky is a four-year old Labrador retriever and BeBe is a nine-year old Cairn terrier, and the mother of Peggy Sue.

Cogger is quick to point out that dogs do not have to AKC registered or pure-bred to participate in either the Luther program or in the Canine Good Citizen program, an obedience certification sponsored by the American Kennel Club.

Canine Good Citizens are tested on the ability to sit, heel, stay, come when called, to be left with stranger, and walk through crowd – important skills necessary for therapy dogs. All Luther and Friends' dogs must pass testing requirements for Canine Good Citizens award and be certified through Therapy Dogs International [TDI] before enrolling in the program. TDI provides insurance coverage which protects therapy dogs and their handlers, as well as the school system.

"The rigid testing requirements prevent accidents," says Cogger. "After my dogs passed the test, it took TDI three months to approve our certification. The fee was \$45 and once certified,

each year I need to send proof of health records and the annual fee to keep current."

"All three of my dogs visited nursing homes and were already certified TDI therapy dogs," said Cogger. "I enjoy very much having people say 'Oh, you're Risky's mother or Peggy's mother.' She

continues, "There is a joy that I get from sharing my dogs with others."

Prior to moving to Seven Lakes, Cogger worked in the New York public school system for twenty-six years and was very involved with 4H Clubs.

"Any kid that ever worked with

an animal does not get in trouble," said Cogger. "Animals teach children to have a different outlook, and to learn about life and death. Animals give so much more than they demand."


In the Luther program, the dog is simply asked to lie quietly next to the child while they

read aloud.

"In interacting with an animal, children are more comfortable and not as shy reading aloud to a dog instead of a person." Cogger continues, "My job is to handle the dog. The dog is the main focus; the child and the dog."

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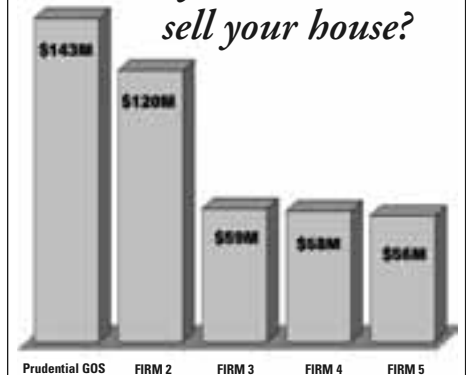
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Foxfire Golf Front

Keep Moore County Beautiful Golf Tournament

The Seventh Annual Keep Moore County Beautiful Marge Owings Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at Mid Pines Golf Club in Southern Pines on Saturday, May 12 and Sunday, May 13.

Tournament proceeds provide the entire annual budget for the Keep Moore Beautiful organization.

An Entry Fee of \$125 includes lunch, a gift bag, snacks on course, and the Owings Memorial Gift Packet to every golfer which contains four green fees for future play at Mid Pines, a premier Donald Ross designed golf course.

The entry deadline is May 4. If you are interested in playing, please contact Joan Neal at 947-3478.

League plans Fashion Show for May 19

A Celebration of Spring and Summer with Fashions by Talbot's will be presented by the League of Women Voters of Moore County on Saturday, May 19, at 11:30 am. The long-awaited LWV Spring Luncheon, Fashion Show, and Card Party is being held at The Pinehurst Members Club with a luncheon menu of special Country Club Chicken Salad and Warm Granny Smith Strudel for dessert. Tickets are \$30 per person.

This annual event funds a variety of the League's activities including Voter Registration, The Voters Guide - a Directory of Elected Officials which is updated each year and offered free to the public, also the League's highly regarded Candidates Forums, Civics 101 and other community and civic education events. In addition, members of an active Observer Corps attend and report on local government meetings and the

League is one of four sponsors of the Ruth Pauley Lecture Series.

Other features of the Luncheon, Fashion Show, and Card Party will be a door prize created by Silk Sensations, surprise table favors, and a drawing for an exciting raffle, the winner of which will receive a \$500 gift certificate at the Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa in Asheville. League members have been

selling raffle tickets to friends and neighbors for several weeks.

The cost is \$3 each or ten for \$25, so find a Leaguer for a chance at the winning ticket. For more information, call Ann Torok at 235-9208.

Picture yourself enjoying a Pinehurst Country Club lunch, viewing Talbot's newest offerings for the spring, enjoying bridge or a card party with your friends, and the possibility of

being the winner of the \$500 gift certificate.

Reservations may be made by sending checks made payable to LWVMC for \$30 to Mary Ann Bird, Treasurer, 105 Owens Lane, Southern Pines 28387. If a card or game table is planned, please include the names of all the players. The deadline is May 11.

What a pleasant way to spend a May Saturday afternoon!



Do Shaver and Pud Kent will be among the models at the Annual League of Women Voters Fashion Show on May 19.

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MS Publisher is focus at Computer Club

by Betsy Oliver Mikula

Jules Skalski, a member of the Computer club of Seven Lakes, spoke at the April meet-

ing on MS Publisher.

A longtime user of Publisher, Skalski introduced the basics of the program and the versatil-

ity of it by reviewing each page of the March 2007 issue of the club's newsletter.

Among other things, Skalski demonstrated page set-up, creating text frames and their properties, creating picture frames and their properties, creating word art frames, creating tables, creating borders, border art, and shading and rotating and flipping text and pictures. He invited attendees to call him if they had questions.

Skalski ended his program with an entertaining and non-related subject, "405: The Movie."

This is a computer generated three minute film made by two visual effects specialists on their home computers and is free to download.

A new club feature, devoting the first five minutes of each meeting to useful tips, kicked off the April meeting. Betsy Mikula presented three ways to attach documents in Outlook Express: attach from Outlook Express; attach directly from a document; and her favorite, attaching with the drag and drop method.

Brady M. Smith, President of the Sandhills Camera Club, will be the speaker at the club's May 8 meeting. His topic will be "Electronically Sharing Photos" and will include the use of Adobe Photoshop Elements and, in addition, how to send pictures via e-mail, CD, and DVD.

The Computer Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm in the Game Room adjacent to the SLLA office. Visitors are most welcome to attend and meet fellow computer enthusiasts.



Jules Skalski

Learn to sail!

Ahoy sailors and want-to-be sailors. The Seven Lakes Sailing Club will be offering our annual learn to sail course the week of June 4.

The course meets Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to Noon. The cost of the course is only \$25, plus the purchase of an instructional book that will be available at Bookshop by the Lakes.

We provide the boats, but you must be a member of the sailing club and sixteen years or older to take the course.

All land owners on North, South, and West sides are eligible to join. Annual family membership is available for \$20. For a membership application, call or email Paul Kirst at 673-8998 or boat-house@nc.rr.com

To sign up, send a check for \$25, per person, made out to SLSC to Paul Kirst at 3094 Seven Lakes West. The course is limited to ten students to maintain a ratio of two students per instructor. Don't wait, the course usually fills quickly.

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*****ATTENTION*****

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SEVEN LAKES COUNTRY CLUB

According to the latest newsletter from the Seven Lakes Board of Directors, the membership may soon be asked to vote on the sale of the present practice range. If 2/3 of the members vote in the affirmative, this 5.1 acre site will be sold to a developer for the sole purpose of high density housing (16 patio homes).

Due to the following serious concerns, the undersigned members of the club are adamantly opposed to the sale of this land for this purpose.

- **High density housing at the entrance to the South Side will detract from the aesthetic appeal resulting in diminished property values.**
- **Across the street on Devonshire there are only seven residential houses along the same stretch of road.**
- **High density housing could conceivably add an additional 32 autos at the heavily used drive to the country club, golf course, and mailboxes.**
- **Selling off a valuable asset sets an undesirable precedent. One can speculate that other assets, such as the tennis facility, might be the next to be sold.**

Other means of underwriting the cost of the new driving range are available. For example, a series of fund raising drives, one time assessment of club members, use of a portion of the current contingency fund, second mortgage on the existing SLCC debt, or a combination of two or more of the above.

Please join us, in our opposition to the present plan, by contacting any of the undersigned members. Let the Board of Directors know that a new idea for the use of this land is needed. The present plan is not in the best interest of our club, our property values, and the Seven Lakes Community.

Anderson, R.	Hartung, P.	Kindsvatter, R.	Parks, P.
Arceneaux, W.	Hatfield, P&F.	Kinney, D.	Parr, Jr. G.
Arner, R.		Kirkland, J.	Pressler, P.
Bach, J.	Herrmann, R.	Leach, C.	Quintana, M.
Bennett, B. & Jo.	Heubel, H.	Levinger, C.	Reece, A.
Blythe, N.	Hilse, D.	Martin, T.	Richmond, R.
Butz, F. & V.	Horchler, F.	Massimo, E.	Shields, J.
Campbell, W.	Hutchens, R&J.	Mazurkiewicz, E.	Starkey, E.
Christy, T.	Jones, B. & G.	McKeon, A.	Stephan, R.
Dorward, C.	Judge, W.	Messina, R.	Sullivan, D.
Francis, G.	Kann, S.	Morris, N.	Sullivan, G.
Frye, W.	Karrer, K.	Netschke, M.	Terry, D.
Grossheim, R.	Katz, I.	Newsham, L.	Warren, R.
Halpin, H.	Kelly, H.	Nutter, D.	Willets, H.
			Wood, K.

**Our thanks to all of those contributing to this ad including numerous
Seven Lakes Country Club members who are not listed above.**

In memory of . . .

Jean Presnell Prickett, 75, died Monday, April 9, at her home. A native of Chatham County, Mrs. Prickett was a daughter of the late Guy and Marjorie Perry Presnell.

A graduate of Woman's College [now UNC-G] and a member of the Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority for Women Educators, she taught fourth and fifth grades at Carthage Elementary School for thirty-one years.

She was active in many clubs, including the Carthage Garden Club and the Red Hat Lady Buggies of Carthage. She was a founding member of the Carthage Historical Committee and curator of the Carthage Museum.

She was an active member of the Carthage United Methodist Church, part of the Carthage United Methodist Women, Hope Circle, and was a recipient of the Methodist Woman of the Year award. She also received the Moore County Outstanding Citizen of the Year award from the Rotary Club of Carthage.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Eula P. Hunley; and two brothers, Pete Presnell and Jimmy Presnell.

Mrs. Prickett is survived by two daughters, Lyn P. Austin of Seven Lakes, and Kathy Prickett of the home; a son, Turner "T" Prickett III of Raleigh; three sisters, Sadie and Midge Presnell, and Dottie Agnello, all of Fleetwood; a brother, Jesse Guy Presnell of Goldsboro; and three grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, April 21, at the Carthage United Methodist Church. The Rev. Chuck Plowman officiated. Burial followed in Cross Hill Cemetery.

Memorials be made to Carthage Museum, 4396 U.S. 15-501, Carthage, NC 28327, or the Carthage United Methodist Church, PO Box 70, Carthage, NC 28327.

Frank Kucho, 87, of Southern Pines, formerly of Seven Lakes, died Sunday, April 15, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Kucho was born in Berwyn, Illinois. He was a flight instructor in Bonham, Texas, for the U.S. Air Force and served in China, Burma, and throughout the Far

East during World War II.

He was employed by The Huber Company in New Jersey for thirty years, retiring in 1982 and relocating to Seven Lakes. He enjoyed woodworking, gardening, and handyman activi-

ties at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines. He was married to Judy Wooten, who preceded him in death in January.

Mr. Kucho is survived by three nieces, Judy Addelman of Burnsville, Minn., Marcia Stran-

ski of Lisle, Ill., and Vicki Pierkarski of Gilbert, Ariz.; and a nephew, Bert Austin of Riverside, Ill.

Interment was in the Memorial Garden of Chapel in the Pines in Seven Lakes.

Memorials be directed to the

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, 2125 Seven Lakes S., West End, NC 27376, or FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.

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Worst recognized by Pointing Breeds Club

The Sandhills Pointing Breeds Club (SPBC) recently celebrated its 10th anniversary by holding a dinner and party at the Inn at Eagle Springs. Over 40 people attended the event, which followed a very successful AKC Hunting Test for Pointing Breeds held earlier in the day.

Founder and Foxfire Village resident, George Worst accepted an engraved plaque as a

token of the membership's recognition of his many contributions to the club over the past decade.

About 10 years ago, George Worst realized it would benefit local owners of AKC pointing breeds to participate in a club formed for the express purpose of training for and holding AKC Hunting Tests.

There were no other hunting test clubs for pointing breeds in

North Carolina when George started the SPBC in 1997. The club now boasts a membership of over 60 pointing breeds enthusiasts and includes at least one representative of every AKC recognized pointing breed.

In addition to periodic training seminars, the SPBC holds two hunt test weekends per year and an annual wing-shooting clinic. Members get together at the club's permanent grounds in Jackson Springs on an informal basis to train in the fall and winter. The club typically kicks off the fall hunting season with a Fun Hunt for members and guests.

Thanks to the generosity of the late Hank Wheeler, the SPBC is the custodian of 100 acres of training grounds and a clubhouse in Jackson Springs. The club's land committee has worked very hard to transform the grounds from the dense mixed hardwood habitat common to the area into a habitat suitable for Bobwhite Quail.

The Land Committee Chair, Jeremy Rust, also was recognized for his outstanding efforts and hard work at the anniversary dinner.

Several club members received the coveted Kate Award at the party for achieving the advanced AKC title of Senior Hunter on their dogs in the past year. Those members were Phil and Karen Hearne, Betta Breuhaus, and Ross Adams. At the same time, two club members were recognized for having achieved the ultimate mark of success in AKC hunting tests – the Master Hunter title. Clarence "Rock" Rothrock and Gloria Howell both finished Master Hunter titles on their

dogs this season.

The AKC awards only a handful of Master Hunter titles in the entire country each year.

Owners of AKC registered pointing breeds interested in field training or hunt tests are welcome at any club meeting or event. Club meetings are held at 7pm on the first Tuesday of every month from September-May.

For more information, call Bonita Austin at 910-246-0926.



Donna Boyce presents George Worst with an engraved plaque commemorating the Sandhills Pointing Breeds Club's tenth anniversary.

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Life Care Pregnancy Center assists women and men facing unplanned pregnancies by providing free pregnancy tests, accurate information, material assistance, and community referrals.

Starting **May 7th**, LCPC will provide baby bottles for anyone wanting to participate in our annual Blessing in a Bottle Campaign. You simply fill your bottle with coins, cash, or checks and we will send a card to a woman in your life you wish to honor with your donation.

Call **910-947-6199** for more details or questions. Say thank you to the women in your life by helping another woman in need!

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Peace Corps volunteer regales Lakes Women

by Nancy Workman

The April 5 meeting of the Women of Seven Lakes was held at the West Side Park Community Center. The guest speaker was Nancy O'Connell who, after a happy and fulfilling life as a pharmacist, a mother raising five children, and twenty five years as a golf sports writer, still felt there was more she needed to do. So, she became a Peace Corps volunteer.

Her stories of challenges and successes in South America where she worked with a group dealing with AIDS/HIV positive patients were both heart wrenching and humorous

O'Connell is now happy to be back at her home in Whispering Pines but still communicates with the many friends she made during her two years in the Peace Corps. %

Women of all ages who live in the Seven Lakes area are invited to attend the next meeting of

the Women of Seven Lakes which will be held at the North-side Clubhouse on May 3rd at 2:00 pm. Safety Awareness will

be the topic of the guest speaker, Evelyn Everett with the Moore County Sheriff's Department. Donations of household items or school supplies will be accept-

ed on behalf of the Friend to Friend organization.

For membership information, please contact Sandi Carl or Shirley Kistek.



Nancy O'Connell

Get your garden on the Garden Club tour

Would you like to be on tour? The Seven Lakes Garden Tour, that is.

If you have been working hard to develop a beautiful garden or yard and would like to show off a bit, please volunteer for this year's garden tour. Or, if your neighbor has a wonderful garden that you admire, please volunteer them! Call Johanna Moran at 673-3855. The 2007 Tour will be held on Saturday, June 9.

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It's time to register for kindergarten!

WEE Alpaca field trip



West End Elementary Kindergartners learned about life on a farm – an alpaca farm that is, with a recent field trip to the Crystal Pines Alpaca Farm in Carthage.

After hand-feeding the alpacas, the children enjoyed a hay ride, the petting zoo, and digging for worms in the garden.

Kindergarten registration for Moore County Schools will take place on various dates throughout the month of May.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school their child will attend prior to the registration dates so initial paperwork can be obtained and completed before coming to the school.

The date for kindergarten registration at West End Elementary is May 18. Parents should contact Principal Judith Douglas at 673-6691 before that date and make a registration appointment.

"We want to make the process as easy and convenient for parents as possible," said Director of Elementary Education Becky Cameron.

"Calling for an appointment and picking up the application packet prior to the registration date will greatly reduce the time needed to complete the final registration process during the scheduled appointment."

To enter kindergarten for the 2007-2008 school year, a child must be five years of age on or before October 16, 2007.

Public law requires all chil-

dren entering school for the first time to have a physical examination by their doctor or health provider and the following immunizations:

- 5 - DTP/DT Shots (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)
- 4 - Polio Vaccine doses
- 1 - Hib (if child is not 5 years of age)
- 3 - Hep B doses
- 2 - MMR doses (measles, mumps and rubella)

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Golf outing will benefit Backpack Pals

by Betsy Oliver Mikula

The Women of Seven Lakes is sponsoring its first annual Golf Tournament to be held on May

18, at Beacon Ridge Golf and Country Club. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Backpack Pals program.

Lunch will be served at 11:00 am, and golf shotgun start will begin at Noon. The format will be Captain's Choice. The cost is

\$65.00 per person. A corporate sponsorship is \$300.00 for a team of four people. A hole sponsorship is \$100.00. Prizes will be awarded.

The Backpack Pals program provides backpacks filled with food that underprivileged children can take home on weekends. The food is child-friendly, non-perishable, easily consumed and vitamin fortified.

Distributed discreetly to children on the last day before the weekend or holiday vacation, the Backpack Pals program is

designed to meet their needs at times when other resources are not available.

The Women of Seven Lakes invite you to come participate, have a fun day of golf, and be assured that the kids benefiting from Backpack Pals will be the real winners!

For additional information and registration forms, please call Ginger Finney at 673-1330, or Jo Nicholas at 673-3604.

Davis passes state boards



Mirae Davis of Lakeside Square Barber Shop

Mirae Davis of Lakeside Square Barber Shop in Seven Lakes passed her State Boards and received her barber's license in early March.

Davis trained in the first class of barbers at Central Carolina Community College [CCCC] — one of the few barber training programs located in a state institution — and was the first of her graduating class to pass her state boards.

Davis told *The Times* that North Carolina's process for licensing barbers is more complicated than many people realize. Would-be barbers must travel to the State Board of Examiners in Raleigh and bring along a model to demonstrate that they can cut hair — and execute a 14-point shave with a straight razor. And that's just to get an apprentice license.

After a year as an apprentice, the barber must journey back to Raleigh for an even more extensive test. That's the test Davis passed in March.

Davis and Glenda McCormick of Lakeside Square serve customers Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturdays 9:00 am to Noon. The shop is located at 1035 Seven Lakes Drive, Suite B. The phone number is 673-0144.

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Kiwanis laud Richmond

by Frank Krohn

Ginny Richmond, the immediate past president of the Seven

Lakes Kiwanis, was recognized by Kiwanis International for her inspirational leadership with a Dis-

tinguished President's Pin for 2005-06. She also accepted the Distinguished Club Award which the Club earned during those years for its efforts in the service of children.

During the April 17 meeting, former Seven Lakes resident, Bob Levine spoke to the Club about his experiences as a prisoner of war during WWII.

Levine was captured in northern Italy, and after several transfers to different POW camps in Germany and Poland, was finally liberated while in Odessa, Russia after the cease fire in Europe.



Kiwanis President Gerry Buelow presents the Distinguished Club Award to Ginny Richmond.



Bob Levine with Chuck Kersey, Program Coordinator.

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Wine Tasting benefits challenged kids

The Sandhills Children's Center and Sam Zahran & Sons, Inc. will host the eighth annual Run for the Roses Wine Tasting on Friday, May 4, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at the Fair Barn in The Village of Pinehurst. The Kentucky Derby themed evening to benefit Sandhills Children's Center will include amazing wines, delicious food, and unbeatable company!

Tickets are \$50.00 per guest and include gifts from Champion Sponsor Wachovia Securities in Turnberry Wood in Pinehurst.

Robyn James of The Wine Cellar and Tasting Room will be on site to take wine orders for the special wines tasted that evening and will donate a portion of the proceeds from the sale to the Sandhills Children's Center. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 692-3323.



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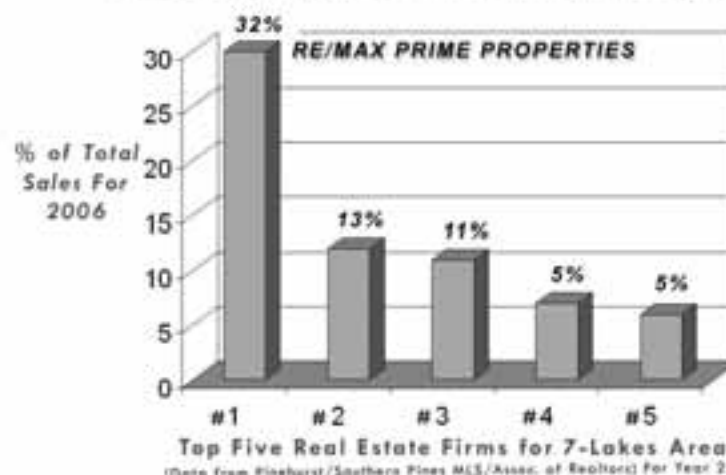
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Rogers to attend Institute for Excellence

Dorothy Rogers grew up in the company of a grandmother who had dreamed about becoming a nurse but left nursing school because of family concerns.

"My grandmother always talked about being a nurse," Rogers says. "She regretted she couldn't do it. She was always helping the shut-ins, and I watched what a thrill she had doing that when I spent time with her growing up."

Rogers, who graduated from Charlotte's Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing in 1968, works in the Clarke Neonatal Intensive Care Unit [NICU] at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Later this spring, she will join twenty-nine other nurses from throughout North Carolina for the 2007 Institute for Nursing Excellence.

Sponsored by the North Carolina Center for Nursing, the weeklong Institute for Nursing Excellence is a professional development program that encourages direct-care nurses to remain in the profession, improve their capacity for leadership, enhance their ability to be role models, and extend their ability to attract others into the nursing profession. The 2007 session will be held May 14 -18 at the Montreat Center in Black Mountain.

"Nurses continue to be the largest group of health care providers and are vital to the delivery of quality, cost-effective, and accessible health care in North Carolina," says David Boer, assistant director of recruitment and retention programs for the North Carolina Center for Nursing. "We are pleased to honor these nurses for their enduring personal and professional commitment to excellent patient care and the nursing profession."

Rogers joined the nursing staff at Moore Regional Hospital straight out of nursing school and worked throughout the hospital until she was transferred to pediatrics a little more than a year later. After another four years, she moved to the newborn nursery and the Clarke NICU, where she found her professional calling and where she has been ever since.

"I love my job," she says. "I love my babies. The more the

merrier, that's my motto."

In more than thirty years of caring for premature and ailing infants, Rogers has observed lots of change. When she joined the NICU staff, the technology was limited and outcomes were often poor. Advanced technolo-

gy, as well as greater emphasis on prenatal care, has made a world of difference, though, and infants who probably would not have survived a few years ago are now leaving the hospital as healthy babies with good prospects.



NICU Nurse Dorothy Rogers

Nothing pleases Rogers quite as much as seeing a baby she has cared for go home with a happy family. "It's just rewarding," she says. "We've come a long way."

Rogers, who is certified as an R.N. III, has taken a number of nursing leadership roles in addition to her work with the Clarke NICU. She works with the hospital's Clinical Ladder Program

and has served on several nursing committees, including the one that led Moore Regional's successful quest for the national Magnet Nursing designation last year.

She has been involved from the program's beginning with the annual Clarke NICU reunion of hospital staff, NICU "graduates" and their families; and she assists

(See "Rogers," p. 36)

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Scotch Chocolate Cake is easy on the wallet

This is a very simple chocolate cake. I think it is called Scotch Chocolate because it is cheap to make.

Scotch Chocolate Cake

2 cups all-purpose flour
2 cups white sugar
1 stick butter
1/2 cup vegetable shortening
4 heaping Tbsp cocoa
1 cup water
1/2 cup buttermilk

1 tsp baking soda
2 eggs
1 tsp vanilla

Combine flour and sugar and mix well. In saucepan, put butter, shortening, cocoa and water and bring to rapid boil. Cool mixture. Add eggs and beat. Pour this over flour-sugar mixture, mixing gradually. Put soda in buttermilk, and add to other ingredients. Mix and pour into

greased 11" x 16" pan. Bake at 350 degrees about forty minutes. Test for doneness with toothpick.

Icing

1 stick butter
4 Tbsp cocoa
6 Tbsp milk
1 tsp vanilla
1 box confectioner's sugar
1 cup chopped pecans
1 cup flaked coconut

In saucepan, combine butter, cocoa and milk. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Add other ingredients. Spread on hot cake.



from Lucy's
Kitchen

Lucy Ingram
Seven Lakes South

Breakfast will support V2V

According to an article in Time magazine, 17 million Africans have died since the AIDS epidemic began in the late 1970s. More than 3.3 million of these are children. An additional 12 million have been orphaned by AIDS.

As the HIV virus sweeps mercilessly through these lands, a special few try to address the terrible depredation.

One of the few is a small, charitable organization located in Vermont called Village 2 Vil-

lage [V2V]. They have established a community in Uganda which is providing shelter, food, and education for fifty children left parentless by this relentless disease, as well as offering medicine for a few infected women.

Laurie Kroll is the executive director and driving force behind this effort. She is the wife of a Baptist minister, a mother of four, and has dedicated herself to this project since the early 2000's.

West End Presbyterian Church will support this charity by offering a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, April 28, from 7:30 am to 11:00 am. Pancakes and all the trimmings will be served for \$5.00 per person. Fred Seufert, the architect of the Kiwanis breakfast, will be there to ensure a delicious meal.

The breakfast will be held in the Crawford Center located directly behind the church on Knox Lane in West End.

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Roberta Campbell

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Timely tips for totally terrific tomatoes

The weather conditions in April for the Sandhills have been rather unusual: Freezing conditions during Easter weekend, followed by warmer days and nights. Then within a week we were blessed by more than three

and a quarter inches of much needed rainfall. These April showers will promote the old adage "April showers bring May flowers." It is somewhat late but Spring has finally arrived.

A subject that has come up

again this year is complaints by vegetable gardeners that their tomatoes didn't do well in 2006. Some of the problems mentioned were plant vines wilted and slowly died before maturity, and white, green or unripened spots

on top of the fruit near and around the stem. There are various types of tomato diseases and nematodes. The wilts include many species and races of bacteria fusarium and verticillium. Also there are early and late

blight diseases. The white and green unripened spots on the tomatoes are due to lack of calcium, poor fertilization, and possibly sun scald.

Now that it is tomato planting

(Continued on page 19)

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SPACIOUS TWO-STORY ON LARGE CORNER LOT! Well-maintained and neat as a pin, this northside home has room galore to include 4 bds, 2 1/2 baths, formal living & dining room, family room plus a bonus room over the garage. Impeccably landscaped, screen porch & private back yard. **A super home for \$269,500!**



THOROUGHLY UPDATED & MAINTAINED! Nice location with some acreage yet convenient to town. Over 2000 sq ft in main house, new kitchen & windows, hardwood floors, plus in-ground pool w/pool house, detached garage, storage. This property has much to offer for **\$195,000!**



HILLTOP ESTATE! Dream home on 3.5 acres w/20 x 40 pool w/waterfall, pool house w/bath & storage rm; 34 x 36 Barn-Workshop. 4000+ sf, 4BR/3.5BA, 18' clgs. in Fam. Rm & Foyer, 2 story stone fplc, hdw floors w/granite inlays and lots of 7' arched windows on back overlooking covered porch & pool. Owner/Broker **\$575,000**



LOVELY, LIKE-NEW 2 STORY ON CORNER LOT! With 5 BR's & 3.5 baths, this westside home offers quality throughout. Oversized rooms include: large eat-in kitchen, LR, DR, main level Master suite. Relax on front porch or rear deck that overlooks swimming pool. Beautifully landscaped, great location & price! . . **\$369,000**



TERRIFIC WEST SIDE BUY! Like new three bedroom, two bath home, conveniently located. Great floor plan with generously sized rooms, nice wooded lot and paved drive. Move in condition. No better buy in Lake Auman area!
. **\$247,000**



A GREAT HOUSE AT A GREAT PRICE! North side ranch w/over 1900 heated square feet. Includes a large living room & kitchen with vaulted ceilings, formal dining room plus a sunny Carolina room and huge back deck. New carpet in bedrooms & fresh paint throughout. **Won't last long! \$179,000**



SPACIOUS SOUTH SIDE RANCH! Charming with some unique features. Split plan with over 2,200 heated square feet. Lots of updates throughout to include new carpet, paint, countertops. Oversized lot with new landscaping & golf views. **Listed at \$259,500**



FABULOUS VIEWS OF 4TH GREEN, POND & FAIRWAY FROM THIS GOLF FRONT ON SLCC! Over 2,400 sq. ft., open floor plan, 3 BR, 3 BA, living rm, dining rm, Sun Rm plus walkout basement with room for entertaining. 2 fpl, basement workshop, new appliances, lots of storage, deck & patio . . . **REDUCED! \$225,000**



SUPER SEVEN LAKES RANCH! Lovely home on large lot with golf views. Spacious rooms to include three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, living room, dining room, family room, large Master suite. Beautiful wide-planked hardwood, new roof, new tile back-splash & more. **Listed at \$194,000**



GOLF FRONT BEAUTY ON 4TH HOLE OF SLCC! — Situated on a double lot and barely lived in. A functional split-BR plan with no wasted space and many fine features, large family rm. with French doors leading to light & airy kitchen with solid surf. tops, hardwood in main areas, ceramic tile, 9 ft ceilings, screen porch & more. **A super home listed at \$225,000**



OUTSTANDING VALUE IN EXCELLENT LOCATION! — A lot of house for the money. Great brick & vinyl ranch w/formal living room, dining room, plus huge Carolina room. Lots of improvements to include: new appliances, garage door, air handler, water heater & more. **A great price at \$149,500**



UPDATED COTTAGE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION NEAR SCHOOLS & 7 LAKES! A great home, affordably priced with lots of updates to include a completely remodeled kitchen, new laminate flooring, roof 2 years old. Other extras include pine walls & flooring in LR, fenced backyard, detached 16x20 workshop. **A great deal for \$99,000!**



DELIGHTFUL NORTH SIDE HOME! Well-maintained, in good location with fenced back yard. Open floor plan includes three bedrooms, two baths, plus a sunny Carolina Room, large master suite, lots of closets, rear deck and two car garage with built-in shelving. **A great deal for \$175,000**



PINEWILD NEW CONSTRUCTION-GOLFRONT ON 1.5 ACRES! — On Hobkirk cul-de-sac, new home offers quality in construction & design. Spacious floor plan features: 3 BR, 3BA (all suites), upstairs bonus rm & 1/2 bath, 3 fpl, scrn porch, 2 car garage, golf cart storage. Call for plans & spec. Ready Spring '07. **\$595,000**



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Timely tips for totally terrific tomatoes

(Continued from page 18)

time, here are some suggested tips which will improve your chances for producing better tomatoes:

- Add compost, organic matter, rotted leaves, or manure and incorporate them into the soil. In the absence of a soil

which isn't very practical.

Tomato varieties I have found to have good disease resistance are Big Beef, Park's Whopper, and Celebrity. The Sweet 100 cherry variety has moderate resistance. The popular Better Boy has good resistance but is susceptible to early season blossom end-rot. Rutgers, Marglobe, German Johnson or German Pink, and Roma have, in my experience, little or no resistance.



Gardening in the Sandhills

Jim Caudill

test, use two to two and a half pounds of Dolomitic limestone and half pound of slow release 8-8-8 or 10-10-10, per ten foot of row space. Incorporate the lime in the soil but do not incorporate the fertilizer.

- Fertilizer should be scattered on top of the soil then covered with mulch, bark, leaves, or pine straw.
- Water your tomato plants often keeping them moist but not soggy. Keep the water off the fruit, too much will often cause cracking.
- Mulching with pine straw, leaves, bark, or newspapers conserves moisture and helps to control chances of sun scald, poor fruit quality, and blossom end-rot.

As mentioned earlier, there are several diseases and nematodes species that attack tomatoes. The best recommendation is to rotate or plant tomatoes entirely in a new location or at a different spot within the garden, annually.

The next thing to do is plant disease resistant varieties, plants that are labeled VFNT. The other alternative is to treat the soil next year with a nematicide

Flowering plants suggestions for April:

It is planting time for summer flowering annuals including marigolds, petunias, impatiens, celosia-exotically shaped plumes, feathery or cockscomb flower head types, salvia or scarlet sage to mention a few.

There are many other plants such as Gerber daisies, geraniums, and hibiscus that can be planted in outdoor pots which makes a nice colorful display. Pots are also vole proof.

Plant your warm weather ornamentals that grow from bulbs, corms, and tubers including gladiolus, canna, dalilies, caladium, tuberous begonias, and elephant ears.

The begonia is an important vigorous annual that is gaining recognition and being used by many gardeners. Begonias do well in beds, edging, and containers. The most popular type locally is the bronze leaf series which grows six to eight inches tall and has good heat tolerance. The bronze leaf plant prefers some shade but can be set out in full sun when temperatures do not exceed ninety to ninety five degrees. The green leaf varieties are not tolerant of the sun.

The soil should be fertile, well-drained, and contain significant amounts of organic material. Use a premium slow release fertilizer and Dolomitic limestone. Incorporate these materials in the soil before planting and add a light application of plant food monthly. Begonias are reasonably drought tolerant but water the plants when they become dry.

The Seven Lakes Garden Club plans to use the bronze leaf white and red colors in the beds at the North, South, and West entrances at planting time next month.

Just a reminder if you haven't done it already — fertilize your Bermuda or Zoysia lawns as soon as possible. According to my experience, these warm seasonal lawns should be fertilized

now and again in July.

It's an ideal time to control those broad leaf weeds in your lawn with a recommended herbicide. Also a weed and feed product will be helpful.

Now is the time to fertilize your azaleas, camellias, and other blooming shrubs. Plants go through their greatest stress and need for feeding during bloom, fruit-set, and production.

Suggested vegetable plantings during April:

All types of bean seeds including snap, pole, and limas, cantaloupes seed or plants, sweet corn seed, pickling and slicing cucumbers seeds or plants, okra, southern field peas, sweet and hot pepper plants, tomato plants, and watermelon seeds or plants.

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Foxfire Women's Spring Luncheon features Dodson

Reservations are now being accepted for the Foxfire Women's Association's Spring luncheon and meeting program, scheduled for Friday, May 4, at the Foxfire Clubhouse. The ladies will gather for a social hour at 11:30 am, and luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. The Spring menu will include chicken crepes with mushroom sauce, fresh asparagus, a house salad with a selection of dressings, and Lemon Delight for dessert.

Following the luncheon, popular author James Dodson will speak about his experiences as a world-famous golf writer and gardener. His talks, like his books, combine information, humor, philosophy, and adventure. He has traveled to some of the world's most remote regions in his quest for rare garden specimens, and has also played many of the world's most famous

golf courses, with many of golf's most illustrious players. Before and after the luncheon copies of James Dodson's books will be available for purchase and for signing by the author.

The women extend a cordial invitation to all of the men of Foxfire Village to come to the clubhouse at 1:00 pm, to hear this interesting speaker.

The Foxfire Women's Association was founded twenty-six years ago with a purpose of uniting Foxfire women of all interests into one umbrella organization. Spring and Fall luncheons take place each year, followed by a brief meeting and a speaker or a musical program.

The deadline for reservations is Monday, April 30. The cost of the luncheon is \$15, and annual dues are \$7. Checks may be mailed to Carolyn Gilbert at 9 Pine Tree Terrace.

Beaconette Cup



On April 5, Barb Mercer captured the Beaconette Cup for the ladies nine-hole league. Mercer had a low net score of thirty-three.

In other Beaconette news, final preparations for the Member Guest Tournament are being made. Paula Hill is chairman for the event which will be held at the Beacon Ridge Country Club on Thursday, May 24.

Looking to the future, a Friendship Day Tournament with the Seven Lakes ladies nine-holers will be held on Wednesday, July 25.



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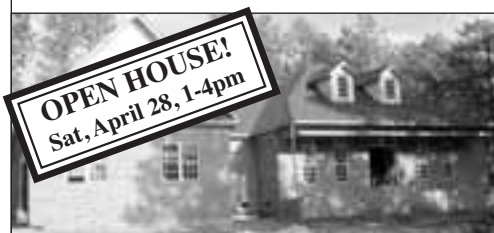
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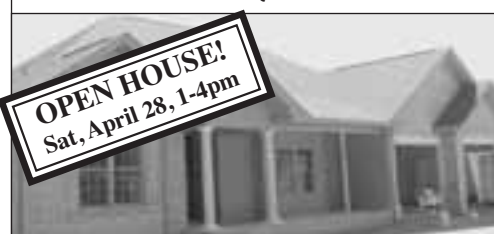
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Golf Front.
\$325,000

SLLA

(Continued from front page)
cials requesting a meeting of the attorneys. The text of that letter is reproduced on page 25.
The document also indicates that the Association would be interested in purchasing the five-acre parcel between Seven Lakes Drive and Devonshire Avenue, on which the existing range is located

Easements denied

Earlier in the meeting, the board declined to grant two requests from Grumpy Pumpkin, LLC, a real estate development company managed by attorney Clark Campbell, for easements that would allow the installation of pipes to carry wastewater between several Southside lots.
Campbell owns a number of lots that will not support the installation of septic systems. His objective in making the request was to install pipes and pumps that would carry waste from these lots to other lots with soils more suitable for septic.
Community Manager Dalton Fulcher pointed out that this practice has been implemented in a number of locations on both the North and South Sides. Granting the easements to Campbell is the first step in a process that would also involve

a review by the ARB of plans for the septic systems — plans that must be prepared by a licensed engineer. The Moore County Health Department would also have to approve the plans before construction could begin.
ARB Director Donna Stephan expressed skepticism about the length of the pipe runs involved in Campbell's plans — as well as concern about who would have long-term responsibility for fixing the septic systems should problems occur several years down the road.
Tom Jarusinski, whose Southside home lies along the path of one of the proposed wastewater lines, shared similar concerns with board members.
After considerable discussion, Board members declined to approve either of Grumpy Pumpkin' requests.
Lakes & Dams Committee
President Truesdell announced during Wednesday's meeting that he would be forming a new Lakes and Dams Committee with a threefold mission:
1. To ensure that the quality of water in the lakes is the best it can be,
2. To review state inspectors' reports on the community's five "high hazard" dams, and
3. To follow up on any recom-

mendations made in those reports.
Noting that the lakes are the "number one amenity in Seven Lakes," Truesdell noted that they can also become a significant liability — as was the case this year when the SLLA was forced to make \$245,000 in state-mandated repairs to Echo Dam.
Truesdell said he would chair the new committee himself and noted that he had asked Ron Erskine to help assemble its members.
In past years, responsibility for the lakes has been a part of the Maintenance Director's portfolio, currently held by Ed Nuti, who also has responsibility for a rewrite of the SLLA rules and regulations.
Rules changes
Board members approved a new policy that will allow landowners to pay their dues in installments, while subjecting those payments to a twelve percent interest charge and, when necessary, a late fee. Landowners using the installment option will be asked to sign a promissory note.
The board approved the sale of vehicle barcodes to non-resident family members. In the past, landowners have been able to purchase vehicle stickers

for non-resident family members for ten dollars per year. This year they will purchase barcodes instead, at a cost of fifteen dollars per year. Community Manager Fulcher explained that this would give the Association greater control, as barcodes can be disabled if necessary, while stickers are good for an entire year.
The board also approved, on the recommendation of ARB Director Stephan, a new require-

ment that all foundations on new homes be comprised of block covered by full-sized brick on all sides. Stephan said that the foundations of many homes have been made of stucco-covered block. Eventually, the stucco begins to wear and fall off, leaving an unsightly appearance.
The board had planned to consider a ban on overnight parking of trailer tractors within
(See "SLLA" p. 24)

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FRIDAY, APRIL 27

• **Bookshop by the Lakes** – 7:00 pm. Join Bookgroup by the Lakes for a discussion of *The Space Between Us* by Thrity Umrigar. The meeting will be held in the Coffee Scene.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

• **St. Mary Magdalene Church Yard Sale** – 8:00 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in the Seven Lakes Business Village. Rummage sale of household items, books, clothes, crafts. Hot dogs and baked goods will be available.

• **Southern Pines Springfest** – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, downtown Southern Pines. Free, family fun event. Enjoy handmade crafts, great food, live entertainment and more. Kids Block will be full of activities for kids. Bring your bike, tricycle or big wheels for the annual Youth Bike Races for children 10 and under. Register at 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Races begin at 11:15 am. 692-2463

• **FirstHealth Tour de Moore** – 100-mile bike race around Moore County, sponsored by FirstHealth of the Carolinas, Rainbow Cycles, and Coca-Cola. For more information, call 692-4494.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

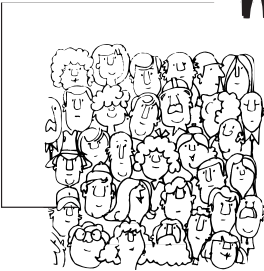
• **Carmina Burana** – 4:00 pm, Pinecrest High School. A special concert featuring the Moore County Choral Society and the Fayetteville Symphony. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased through Ann Covington 315-8336.

• **Weymouth Woods Red-cockaded Woodpecker program** – 3:00 pm, meet at Visitor Center parking area. Join us for a talk and hike to see the endangered bird, red-cockaded woodpecker. Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve is located at 1024 Fort Bragg Road in Southern Pines. For more information, please call 692-2167.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

• **Project Linus Workshop** – 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, North Clubhouse. Demand for blankets has increased and

our inventory is low. Please attend our workshop and help us make blankets for children in need. Fleece will be available and



kits are ready for check out. Handmade blankets, quilts or afghans can be dropped off at Seven Lakes Landowners Association office or the Bookshop by the Lakes. If you have questions, require a scheduled blanket donation pick up, or need a gate pass for the workshop, call Pat Weber 673-1457.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

• **Women of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 2:00 pm, Seven Lakes North

Clubhouse. The Moore County Sheriff's Department will speak on "Safety Awareness." In support of

"Friend to Friend," please bring any of the following items: laundry detergent,

room air deodorizers, batteries, light bulbs, kitchen size trash bags, paper towels, and toilet paper.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

• **West End United Methodist Salad Supper** – 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall at West End Methodist Church. Some of the popular salads available will be chicken, seafood, tossed, congealed, and ham along with a smorgasbord of desserts. This delicious supper is \$8.00 per person for adults, and \$4.00 for children twelve and under.

All proceeds go directly to support mission projects including the local Food Bank. Get your tickets early by calling Trudi Vaughn at 255-6158. Tickets will not be available at the door.

• **Run for the Roses Wine Tasting** – 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, at the Fair Barn in The Village of Pinehurst. The Kentucky Derby themed evening to benefit Sandhills Children's Center will include amazing wines, delicious food! Tickets are \$50.00/guest. 692-3323.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

• **Seven Lakes 7K & May Follies** – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Northside Park. Something for everyone; a seven kilometer race, a one-mile fun run and walk, carnival games and jumping castle for children, a Hot Shot basketball tournament, Jr golf hole, plus vendor and merchandise areas. Refreshments will be available. All proceeds will

benefit Northside Park. For more information, call Chad Beane at 673-4931.

TUESDAY, MAY 8

• **Computer Club of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 3:00 pm, Game Room. Brady M. Smith, President of the Sandhills Camera Club, will be the speaker. His topic "Electronically Sharing Photos," will include the use of Adobe Photoshop Elements and how to send pictures via e-mail. Visitors are welcome to attend.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

• **Women of Seven Lakes Bridge Awards Luncheon** – 12:00 pm, Seven Lakes Country Club. Please bring your own cards and score-sheets. The cost for the luncheon is \$14.00, and reservations may be made through Friday, May 4, by calling Carolyn Follansbee at 673-5913, or Dodie Mulready at 673-5044.

Help SARL Help the Animals!

Sandhills Animal Rescue League, Inc needs your help with tax deductible donations to continue our rescue and rehoming of abandoned and unwanted cats and dogs in the Seven Lakes and surrounding area. Sandhills Animal Rescue League [SARL] is a no kill shelter, 501(c)3 organization operating since January 2002.

SARL has trapped, spayed or neutered and adopted out some of the adult cats in the Seven Lakes area and others (feral ones) have been released to be fed by concerned members of the community. Eighty-seven kittens have been adopted out from some of these female cats in the last three

years. Some of the cats were just too feral to be turned around and were released to their former area — but not to continue to breed. The released cats help keep the rat and mice population down in the Seven Lakes Business Village.

SARL has also rescued a number of dogs and puppies in the area and most have been adopted into “forever homes” in Moore County, and up and down the Eastern Seaboard. A kitten from Eagle Springs went to Germany in January 2007.

Please help Sandhills Animal Rescue League continue to provide excellent vet care and good nutrition, and to buy supplies

that are needed on a daily basis by sending a tax deductible donation using the form below. You may choose yearly, monthly, or a one time contribution.

Thank you from the cats and dogs we rescue, our volunteers, and the board of directors of Sandhills Animal Rescue League.

For more information about the League, volunteer opportunities or other information please contact Lou Atkins at 974-4468 or pick up a Sandhills Animal Rescue League pamphlet at Bookshop by the Lakes in Seven Lakes Business Village.

Donations to S.A.R.L. will provide shelter, healthcare and adoptions for rescued pets.

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c/o Lou Atkins, 396 Thomas Road, Jackson Springs, NC 27281

- **Seven Lakes Garden Club Plant Exchange** – 7:30 pm, North Clubhouse. Share your plants with neighbors. Pick up plants free for your garden or home. No need to bring one to get one. Plants should be placed in expendable containers for sharing. For more information, call Dale Schmidt at 673-1210.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

- **Carthage Buggy Festival** – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, historic Carthage. The festival commemorates the Tyson and Jones Buggy Factory that produced carriages from the mid 1800's to the 1920's. Enjoy the historic buggies, classic cars, carts, antiques and enjoy the great food and entertainment.
- **SLCC Spring Fling Dinner & Dance** – 5:30 pm cocktails, 6:30 pm dinner, 7:00 pm music. Entertainment will be provided by Eric "Mr. Music Man" Henderson, at the keyboard. Dinner choice of Beef Stroganoff or Chicken Cordon Bleu with rice Pilaf, green beans w/red peppers, salad, and dinner rolls. Dessert will be Carmel Apple Pie. All-inclusive members pricing is \$24.00. Non-members pricing is \$29.00. Reservations 673-1100.
- **Keep Moore County Beautiful Golf Tournament** – Mid Pines Golf Club in Southern Pines. Tournament proceeds provide the entire annual budget for the Keep Moore Beautiful organization. Entry Fee of \$125 includes lunch, a gift bag, snacks on course, and the Owings Memorial Gift Packet to every golfer which contains four green fees for future play at Mid Pines, a premier Donald Ross designed golf course. Tournament continues on Sunday, May 13. Entry deadline is May 4. If you are interested in playing, contact Joan Neal at 947-3478.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

- **Rooster's Wife Concert Series** – 8:00 pm, outside at Aberdeen's oldest building, the Postmaster's House. Featuring the Carolina Chocolate Drops. Join in for an evening of great old time music and fun.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

- **Interfaith Forum** – 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Hwy 15-501 two miles north of the Pinehurst traffic. Representatives of five Moore County congregations will share their perspectives on "Are you there, God? Exploring the Power of Prayer." Question and answer period after the forum which is free and open to the public. All are welcome. For further information, call 673-2935, or 295-1179.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, North Clubhouse. Please join us as we build our inventory of blankets to be donated to agencies supporting children who have suffered a serious illness, a traumatizing event or are otherwise in need. If you have never attended a workshop, stop by, let us introduce you to Project Linus, the agencies we donate to, and meet out other volunteers. Many of our volunteers do not sew - there are lots of other ways to help. We will have fleece

for cutting and tying, kits to check out and labels to sew on. Call Pat Weber at 673-1457, if you have any questions or if you need a gate pass for the workshop.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 9:00 am to 11:00 am, at the West Side Park Community Center. Don Welch will discuss World-wide Fundamentalism. All women and men from Seven Lakes and their guests are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Don Welch at 673-6701, or Bill Mamel at 673-8970.
- **Why We Serve Speakers** – 7:00 pm, Days Inn in Southern Pines, located on US Route 1. Sponsored by The Jesse Helms Center Foundation, veterans of the War on Terror will share their experiences – and some of the good news stories that often don't make it into evening television news or daily newspapers. The event is free and open to the public.
- **Moore County Amateur Radio Society** – 7:00 pm. Moore County Emergency Operations Center [EOC].

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Licensed Amateur Radio Operators and those interested in HAM radio are welcome to join. Charles Wackerman at 947-2707.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

- **Women of Seven Lakes Golf Outing** – Beacon Ridge Country Club. Proceeds will benefit Backpack Pals. Come participate, have a fun day of golf, and help the kids. For information or registration forms, Ginger Finney 673-1330, or Jo Nicholas 673-3604.
- **Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills Golf Festival** – 2:00 pm, shotgun start. Longleaf Golf & Country Club, Southern Pines. Proceeds benefit Head Start music programs in Aberdeen, Southern Pines and Vass Elementary Schools. Entry fee \$100/person includes green and cart fees, refreshments and prizes including two complimentary green fees at Longleaf & the Pit Golf Links. Sponsorship available. Contact Paul Gibson, Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills, 949-4191.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

- **Friends of Given Memorial Library Literary Luncheon** – 11:30 am, St. Andrews Room at Pinehurst Country Club. The featured author is award winning mystery writer Jeffery Deaver. All are welcomed to this community event. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the following locations: Given Memorial Library; Given Book Shop; Cooks Choice, and the Country Book Shop in Southern Pines.
- **League of Women Voters Spring Luncheon, Fashion Show, & Card Party** – 11:30 am, The Pinehurst Members Club. A Celebration of Spring and Summer fashions by Talbot's over delicious luncheon menu of special Country Club. Tickets \$30/person. Reservations must be made by May 11, send checks made payable to LWVMC to Mary Ann Bird, Treasurer, 105 Owens Lane, Southern Pines 28387. If a card or game table is planned, please include the names of all the players.



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SLLA

(Continued from page 21)

the gates but tabled the proposal to allow Security Director Michael Florence and opportunity to incorporate the advice of the board's attorney into the new regulations.

Committee reports

Finance. Treasurer Steve Hudson reported that, as of March 31, SLLA revenues totaled \$1,263,000. Operating expenses were \$871,000 and capital expenses were \$407,000.

ARB. Director Stephan said her committee had approved one fence, two alterations, two addition, one house painting, one roof, and two new homes.

Security. Noting a letter that appeared in the April 13 edition of *The Seven Lakes Times* complaining about a speeding ticket, Director Florence said there is no "Good Old Boy" network when it comes to speeding infractions in Seven Lakes. "I watch my speed because, if I'm caught speeding, I don't get a pass," Florence said.

Florence reminded residents that there is an 11:00 pm curfew on SLLA common areas. Vehicles may not be left parked on Association property past curfew, and Florence said he plans to step up enforcement of this rules including towing the cars of violators.

Florence proposed removing the speed bump in the middle of Lake Sequoia Dam, a proposal which drew little objection from his fellow directors. However, a

number of residents objected, saying the speed bumps had in fact reduced speeding.

Recreation. Director Laura Douglass reminded residents that a full day of fun and fitness activities is planned for Sunday, May 6, at the Seven Lakes 7K and May Follies. Volunteers are still needed for the event, Douglass noted.

As a result of the success of the Taste of the Town event, the Women of Seven Lakes have increased their donation to the Recreation Committee to \$3,500 toward the purchase of playground equipment, Douglass reported. This will be used to create a new playground at Sequoia Point. Later in the meeting, Director Florence suggested the Board consider matching that contribution.

Other events on the horizon include Spanish Lessons, beginning May 14 in the Great Room of the West Side Park Community Center; the North Carolina Open Water Swim Meet, which will bring 375 swimmers to Echo Lake on Saturday, June 2; and Summer Camp, which will begin on June 11 and will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm each day.

Summer Recreation schedules are available in the Landowners Office and the mail-houses, Douglass said.

President Truesdell presented and the Board approved a renewal of the annual agreement with the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association that

allows landowners on either side of town to share in each other's recreational programs and use each other's amenities.

Road Survey

Truesdell told Board members that he had obtained a quote from an NC State-affiliated engineering firm for a comprehensive survey of the condition community roads. The result would be an assessment that would allow the Board to plan how best to apply resources to road repair.

Truesdell said the firm had prepared similar studies for Foxfire Village. The cost is approximately \$6,600.

Both Zielsdorf and Douglass expressed skepticism that the study would produce information that would be of practical use, while Florence suggested some professional guidance might be appropriate, given that repaving the community's roads will likely be the largest expense the community faces over the next several years.

Stephan and Hudson both deferred comment until they had had time to review the proposal more fully. It is likely to be discussed in the Board's May work session.

Appointments

The membership of several committees were announced or approved during Wednesday night's meeting.

The Board approved Stephan's recommendation for the ARB: L.G. Bowling, Joanne Guy, Jane Leach, and Mark Widman.

They also approved a Judicial Committee roster that included Frank Krohn, Ed Chapman, Nancy Welch, Dean Charles, and Dave Kinney as Chairman.

Maintenance Committee members include Norm Ehrig, Jay Kissell, Mark Widman, and Frank Horan.

Zielsdorf said his Community Standards Committee would include Ray Pardue, Judy Wood, Jim Lorion, and Cheryl Zielsdorf.

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SLLA letter to SLCC on Driving Range Issue

[The following is the text of a letter sent Wednesday night by Seven Lakes Landowners Association President Don Truesdell to Seven Lakes Country Club.]

Date: April 25, 2007

To: Dick Weber, Denver
Galford, Mike Spayd

Subject: Seven Lakes Country Club Update
The Seven Lakes Country

Club is moving forward with their new driving range and expects to begin construction on or about May 1, 2007. The Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors agrees that the driving range should be moved to its proposed new location. Unfortunately the club has not yet made its application to our Architectural Review Board (ARB) for approval because there is a basic difference of opinion as

to whether or not the South Side Restated Covenants apply. The South Side Restated covenant that applies is found on page 12, bullet 24: "No fences of shrubbery or other material shall be constructed without prior written approval of Declarant or such person or persons as they may designate." The club is required by the Moore County Planning Board to provide a 50 foot high fence around the

perimeter of the new driving to catch any errant shot.

The landowners would like to suggest a non-binding meeting where the club's lawyer and the landowner's lawyer would meet to review the evidence. The only two people in the room would be the respective lawyers. Each lawyer would then make his findings known to his respective client. I believe that a lawyer has an ethical obligation to his

client to confirm whether or not he has a case and how strong his case might be. Hopefully this suggestion will be seriously considered by the club with the hope of resolving this issue without having to go to court.

The landowners also have an interest in buying the current driving range and would be willing to talk with the club concerning this option.

Please advise.

Don't miss 7 Lakes 7K & May Follies on May 6

An afternoon community festival featuring fun activities with something for everyone – the Seven Lakes 7K & May Follies will be held on Sunday, May 6, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Proceeds will benefit Northside Park and be used to purchase new playground equipment and improve the landscaping.

All events will be held at Northside Park in Seven Lakes North, rain or shine. The seven kilometer race will start at 1:30 pm. A one-mile fun run and walk will follow at 1:45 pm.

Registration forms for either race are available at the SLLA office. Activities continue all after-

noon with carnival games, a Jumping Castle, a Hot Shot basketball tournament, a junior golf hole, and tennis games. At 3:00 pm, there will be a demonstration by the Sandhills Academy of Gymnastics.

Entertainment will be provided by musical duo of Domenick Rondello of Seven Lakes North and Bruce MacDonald of Seven Lakes West.

For your shopping pleasure, local participating businesses will host merchandise areas inside the Game Room and North Clubhouse. Refreshments will be available all afternoon.

Organizations, clubs, and

neighbors are welcome to walk or run as individuals or teams. Silliness is encouraged so feel free to dress in theme or costume.

A "walking block party" would be a great way to visit with friends and show community spirit.

Sponsorships and vendor spaces are still available, and volunteers are needed. For additional information, please call Seven Lakes Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane at 673-4931.

Contributions should be

addressed to Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], 501 Seven Lakes North, Seven Lakes, NC 27376.

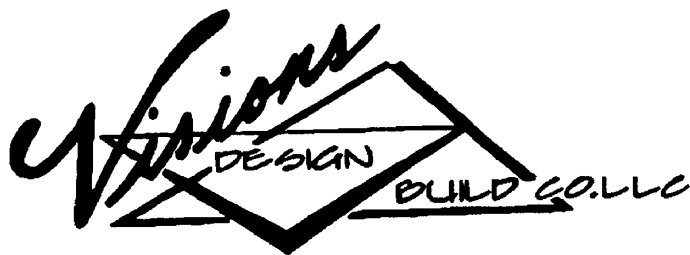
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Teachers have window into student psyche

News of the horrible shootings at Virginia Tech has touched us all. I was particularly interested in the story of the English teacher who saw evidence of the psychotic thinking of the student, and who was disregarded by administration. It has been my experience that we teachers often gain insights that are not readily apparent to others.

A number of stories come to mind, but there is one where administration support became the means by which were able to move the wheels that were essential to providing very real support to a "hurtin" girl who immediately impressed me as a girl with a serious problem.

After talking with her, I visited Dave who was the administration

assistant in charge of discipline; I told him that I was sure she would show up in his office. My request of him was that he treat



**Nona's
Notes**
Nona Wiley

her gently and keep his eyes and ears attuned to her. He agreed with concerns regarding her welfare, but we had nothing definite to "go on."

The next week my friend Linda told me that she had just seen

Ellen lying on the floor in the girls room. She offered to take over my class so that I could go to Ellen. By the time I found

her, she was standing by a three-story stairwell and claimed that she intended to go over the top.

She especially did not want to stay at home that night. I told her that I surely could not go to her home to get her, but that if she could get to me, she could spend the night in my home. Before he went out that evening, my husband warned me that to

avoid legal problems, it would be essential to call the Sheriff's office and report to them that the girl was with me.

Ellen did not appear, but she did tell me the next day that her aunt had taken her home. By then, I was thoroughly convinced that we had to take action and so was Dave.

He requested that social services make an investigation. They did so, but declined to take any action, whereupon Dave lost his "cool" and insisted that both he and I were intensely concerned, and that if they did not act he would call the state child protective services.

They did remove Ellen from the home and determined that she was sufficiently disturbed to send

her to The New York State Mental Hospital in Ogdensburg.

The next year, when I was studying additional courses at St. Lawrence University, I had occasion to talk with Ellen's case worker at a joint meeting. She informed me that the father was in the habit of locking the other children out of the house, enabling him to sexually abuse his oldest daughter. She also told me that Ellen really had intended to go over the stairwell on that desperate day.

Thank God for an administrator who had sufficient confidence in my opinion to act upon it. Sometimes when "kids" can't speak, we must speak for them.

'Nature's revenge:' the widescreen edition

This week I watched, yet again, the bus and taxi-clogged streets of New York City get swept away by a giant Nor'Easter wave. It was a huge swell of crushing water from a nightmare imagined only in Hollywood.

Unable to ignore my inert couch-potato form, my dear husband shook his head in chagrin as I sat engrossed for yet another two hours of my life that I'll never get back. To be honest, I've watched *The Day After Tomorrow* enough times that, well, let's just say it speaks volumes about

my cinematic taste: or lack thereof.

Maybe the attraction is symptomatic of a childhood filled with celluloid treasures such as *Airport*, *The Burning Inferno*, *The Poseidon Adventure*, and *Earthquake*.

Truthfully, it's probably a much deeper, more sinister desire to see Mother Nature win every once in a while. I'm going to out myself from my granola-filled closet and admit that I secretly relish those moments on film when the nerdy tree-hugging

scientist proves his pseudo-science theories correct just in time to say "I told you so," before the world as we know it ends in some cataclysmic natural disaster.

And in case you're wondering — No, I have not watched Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*. I'm afraid that is a disaster film I'd find way too terrifying!

The mid-1990's ushered in a new era of special effects and thus a fresh crop of frightening adventures for my viewing pleasure with classics such as *Vol-*

cano, *Twister*, and *Dante's Peak*. Not to mention *Armageddon* and *Deep Impact*, two flicks



**Laura's
Learning Curve**
Laura Douglass

competing to out terrorize audiences with the threat of human extinction from meteors. It seems Earth might call in reinforcements from outer space if we don't watch our step.

Space plays an integral villainous role in *The Day After Tomorrow* also as freezing air drops down from Earth's upper stratosphere through huge storm eyes to Earth's surface, flash-freezing everything below. Within several short weeks, the entire Northern Hemisphere is obliterated by a new Ice Age and the American government has forgiven all Latin American debt in payment for allowing the surviving Southern state populations safe haven.

Okay, so it doesn't take a

genius, or in this case a meteorologist, to know that this is escapist entertainment in its purest form.

And the same goes for my other favorites such as *Volcano*. Lava coursing through the Los Angeles

subway system is probably as likely as the garden I recently planted with my children bearing fruit.

I've always joked that I keep a Darwin-inspired landscape; if it was meant to grow where I plant it, it will.

I'm not real big on yard work and I certainly don't have to believe the plot of a film. It's the 'what if' part of these impossible science scenarios that make them so much fun to watch. But just in case, I'll keep recycling my aluminum cans, plastic bags, and cardboard, and continue to plant seeds and flowers.

If Mother Nature should come calling for paybacks, I'm going to keep my list of insults in the economy range.

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Keep the 25 mph limit and keep streets safe

Dear Editor:

In the last issue of *The Seven Lakes Times*, Jordan Rhoades went to great lengths to justify his breaking of the law in Seven Lakes. He implies that driving 35 mph is not as bad as driving 50, so he should not have received a ticket and have to pay a fine. After all, 35 is only 10 mph over the speed limit, and everyone he talked to says this is a reasonable speed limit for Seven Lakes. Let's impose a 35 speed limit, so we all can feel justified driving 45. Hey, it's only 10 mph over the legal limit.

Another argument that Mr. Rhoades makes is that 35 is safe enough for Rt. 211 by West End Elementary School and on Seven Lakes Drive. I, for one, have not witnessed too many people walking, riding bikes, or playing in those areas. I would like to thank Mr. Rhoades for slowing down when he sees people walking or playing on our roads.

I live on Firetree Lane and often walk the dogs along the road. Incidentally, my wife and I scoop our two dogs' poop, which I sadly can't say about all dog walkers. Unfortunately, most drivers are not as courteous as Mr. Rhoades and do not slow down. Many, flying by, are not young people. Many are senior citizens in their "souped up" Lincolns, Caddys, etc, who most likely live on nice, quiet, non-main roads where nobody drives faster than 15 mph.

I applaud the Association Board and "Mr. Deputy" for enforcement of the law, and wish it could be done more frequently. Hopefully, most Seven Lake residents agree.

Don Gleason
Seven Lakes North

Harry sez:



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— John Letter
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Speed limits are about safety — not 'quotas'

Dear Editor:

In response to the letter in the April 13 *Seven Lakes Times* from the Seven Lakes North resident about speed traps, I would like to comment. First of all, let me state that I do not live in Seven Lakes North, South, or West. For that matter, I do not even live in the West End area. However, I am married to a career police officer of twenty-four years and feel compelled to respond to this letter on behalf of my husband and all other law enforcement officers everywhere.

It is not the job, nor the concern of any law enforcement officer to "appease" an Association Board or Board Member. It is the responsibility of law enforcement to do just that, enforce the law. Ten miles over the posted speed limit is ten miles over, whether you are in a gated community or on I-95, and it is breaking the law, period. The "deputy" — and I know who he is — who wrote the SLN resident the ticket did exactly what he should have done and took an oath to do.

Mr. Resident stated that there was no other traffic on the road or anyone walking. I'm not sure how that changes the law or the speed limit. To my knowledge the speed limit doesn't change to fit neither the current conditions, nor does the law change to appease certain people, in fact the speed limit is designed to be the maximum safe speed under optimum conditions. Had Mr. Resident topped a hill or rounded a curve and hit another car, or for that matter another resident, I doubt he would have had to nerve to post such a letter of complaint to the public.

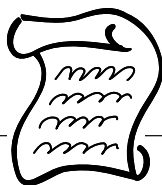
Mr. Resident may not be aware that the total stopping distance of vehicle in proper working order on flat dry pavement will take, on average, 65 feet to come to a stop, at 25 mph. It will take that same vehicle 112 feet to stop at 35 mph.

As for "quotas," that has got to be the largest misconception there is in law enforcement. There are no quotas for police officers to meet and haven't been for many, many years. As a matter of fact, it is now illegal for any law enforcement agency in the state of North Carolina to

require "quotas." The only "prize" an officer gets for writing a lot of tickets is a lot of paperwork and a lot more court dates to show up for, in which many will be on their regularly scheduled day off. Wow, I know I would want that "prize!"

It seems that whenever something has gone wrong, whether

Letters to the Editor



small, on a personal level, or something as tragic as the latest massacre at Virginia Tech, there is always someone who wants to blame the end result on law enforcement. "Why did it take the police department so long to respond?", "Why was there not a plan in place faster?" or in this case, "Why are you

picking on me? I'm just a retired resident minding my own business! I didn't hurt anything or anybody by going ten miles an hour over the speed limit!"

I'm sure, Mr. Resident that you can retain an attorney and get your violation reduced to "improper equipment" and will
(See "Speed," p. 30)



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Driving range: We need alternatives to debate

We need alternatives to debate. Frankly, I'm disappointed with the Seven Lakes Country Club [SLCC] Board of Directors for failing to provide alternative solutions to the potentially ruinous outcome of an accident on Seven Lakes Drive caused by an errant golf ball from the present driving range.

The only solution would seem to be a new driving range on the land just east of the SLCC clubhouse and the 18th fairway. It does have considerable merit. But, is it the only solution?

Has the alternative of netting along Seven Lakes Drive been thoroughly considered? Would it conflict with some power company regulation?

Would folks think it unattractive? The "pros" and "cons" of this and other alternatives need to be debated openly by the SLCC and Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] boards, then by our residents.

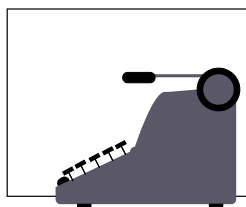
It's one thing to have a plan. It's quite another thing to decide how to pay for it. My disappointment with the SLCC board is only heightened by the

absence of alternative means of financing the planned driving range.

The one and only solution we hear about and debate — selling the abandoned driving range to a

Your Turn

Dave Kinney
Seven Lakes



developer for cluster homes — is totally unacceptable to me and no doubt others. The artist's rendition of the cluster development is not unattractive, but cluster homes just aren't a good solution. Cluster homes might be acceptable on another, more appropriate piece of land.

There have been complaints about traffic noise on Seven Lakes Drive, particularly by residents of the townhouse area. Yes, the abandoned driving range has many attractive pines and a stretch of beautiful Bradford pears. With 20-20 hindsight, wouldn't it have been wonderful if when the Bradford pears were originally planted, they had been extended to the South Side exit? Lovely as the pines and Brad-

ford pears are, they are not in the right place to complement cluster homes or, for that matter, any other type of home. With lots of tree plantings or large shrubs among the cluster homes, it might just be attractive. But, it would be many years before it really became attractive. Or it would require mega-bucks up front.

What alternatives, if any, has the SLCC board considered and, for whatever reason, rejected? What about a bank loan, extending or increasing the mortgage, an assessment or some combination of these? There must be other alternatives to selling a valuable asset. They need to be identified and debated by the SLCC board and the membership.

Some alternatives may suggest debate by the whole community. An alternative we have recently read about would relocate SLCC's tennis facilities on the abandoned driving range, then sell the abandoned tennis facilities to a developer for homes of some type. Yes, having the tennis facilities near the clubhouse would make tennis-playing members feel more a part of the family. And that's desirable. But, wind screening of courts on the

abandoned driving range would not be attractive. This too needs to be debated.

There is another alternative that I proposed to the two boards and discussed briefly among friends. It goes like this: SLCC sells the present driving range to SLLA and uses the funds to pay for, partially or entirely, the new driving range. SLLA converts the abandoned driving range into a park with walking trails, benches, shrubs, a few trees, and gardens. This could be a beautiful setting, a wonderful introduction to Seven Lakes.

SLLA funds the purchase of the abandoned driving range and the cost of the park, partially or entirely, by selling to a developer the piece of land of roughly the same acreage located on the south side of Lakewood

Court. Lakewood Court is the unpaved road off Edgewater Drive which provides access to the stables. The north side of the road has one home and a few vacant lots. The south side of the road is presently pasture land.

Yes, this proposal reduces the size of the pasture, but it should leave enough land for our horses. Yes, this proposal sells off a SLLA asset, a common area. At first look, this may seem a bad move. But it is mitigated — and this is an important point — by SLLA gaining a new roughly equivalent asset, a new common area.

Certainly the path to implementing this proposal has many obstacles, obstacles that would lead some folks to very quickly reject it. Instead, let's look at as

(See "Alternatives," p. 31)

Speed

(Continued from page 29)

have no points on your record. However, you will have to pay the attorney, plus the fine and court costs in order to have this wiped away. But don't be mistaken that Moore County gets all of your money. One hundred percent of all fines collected by the courts in this county go to the Moore County School system. I hope that will make the fine a little easier to swallow, knowing you are helping out the kids in our county.

In essence, Mr. Resident, you were caught, red-handed, speeding. Period! Now, Mr. Resident, you should be a man and pay your fine and be happy you were only cited for speeding and not something much worse. You were wrong, not the deputy! It's just always easier to put the blame on the most visible.

H.M. Foster
Aberdeen, NC

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Keep the 'curb appeal' at South entrance

Dear Editor:

We all know the meaning of the expression "curb appeal." Preceded by an adjective it describes your house, the house next door or across the street. It describes the community as a whole and is indicative of the level of interest, the caring, and pride we exhibit in our surroundings.

Architectural Review Boards, Community Standards Committees, and carefully worded Rules and Regulations assist us but only if we all work in tandem to support them. It bears repeating that items that most believe adversely effect our image, such as unkempt

property, run-down housing, boats with bright tarps, cargo trailers, dump trucks parked beside houses, or tractors in driveways etc. must be recognized as having a negative impact on community values.

When the word "grandfathered" is used in the context of allowing these negatives to continue, we should all be concerned for they do indeed impact us all.

The founders also had "curb appeal" in mind when they wrote the covenants and set aside certain parcels of land as "green areas."

One such parcel is the five acres currently used by the country club as its driving range. Years ago, this was chosen as a "green area" and platted as such due to its location and its high visibility. Quite simply it was done to enhance the "curb appeal" and the value of everyone's property on both sides of Seven Lakes Drive.

The position of our Seven lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] negotiating committee as described in the March 30 issue of *The Times*, namely that of offering "little opposition to the development of the existing range for residential purposes" is, I hope, a misunderstanding.

How can we even negotiate this issue when the vast major-

ity of our residents, including our founders, intended this parcel to be protected by covenants originally written to preserve the integrity and welfare of us all?

Covenants are promises made to the landowner. They are formal agreements between two or more persons. Indirectly they are the reasons you and I chose to reside here.

We will be making a huge mistake if we simply ignore them and allow sixteen patio homes on this lovely, high profile, parcel of land.

Don't you agree? A simple "yes" or "no" would be most welcome.

Ron Erskine
Seven Lakes North

Letters to the Editor



Why not buy the range?

Dear Editor:

We are spending more time worrying about wages than we are the sale of the driving range.

Just as the open space on the Northside gate provides a nice impression as you enter, so the driving range has done for the South side.

We'd even venture it gives a favorable impression of the whole development just as the stables do.

So here's an idea that we cannot claim as our own but which we hardly endorse. Why not purchase the driving range our-

selves. Then there is no discussion about it falling under our covenants or about future development.

The price could be spread out over a number of years to minimize the impact on our dues.

This would be no different, in our minds, than keeping up the lakes as part of the whole Seven Lakes experience.

Ann and Elliott Frank
Seven Lakes South

Alternatives

(Continued from page 30)

a golden opportunity. Let's look carefully at any and all objections and obstacles. Beginning with the SLCC and SLLA boards, let's debate its many "pros" and "cons."

Remember, SLLA and SLCC are mutually dependent. One succeeds and thrives only as the other succeeds and thrives.

The existing driving range is a clear and present danger. So far, SLCC has been fortunate. There just have to be good alternatives for a final solution. They need to be identified, studied and debated now.

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Personnel issues warrant careful study

An Open Letter to the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

As Greg Hankins recently observed in an editorial in *The Seven Lakes Times*, numbers are being thrown around as citizens of this community discuss the cost of employees to the SLLA.

Charlie Oliver and Jack McCarthy recently completed a study of expenditures by the SLLA dating back to 1999 for Steve Hudson's Finance Committee. This report was not complimentary of our community manager. Since Hudson made this report public, charges have been thrown about and personal insults have been the rule rather than the exception.

It is past time that politics be taken out of the equation and a thorough evaluation done of our entire operation. Don Truesdell as president of the SLLA, has come closer to doing just that than any other president in my memory and I have been here from the start. In his year as President, more positive changes to position the community for future operation have been made than ever before. But Hudson's report, while touching off an ugly debate, clearly shows that the job is only partially done.

Back to the numbers for a minute. First, we wrongfully deny the membership the publication of what we pay our employees and the cost of their benefits. The membership should be shown what we pay each of our employees and the cost of their benefit package.

Second, comparisons that are made need to be to point. Look at Bud Shaver's article in the April 13 issue of *The Seven Lakes Times*. On the surface, Shaver's quotation of average

2003 salaries in the Southeast from The Foundation for Community Research sounds impressive. But when the source is examined a bit more closely, one finds out that the data is taken from mostly condo projects and are mostly management company employees who manage an average of seven different associations with an average of 1500 condominiums.

Shaver pays no attention to the most important question of all. Does a community like Seven Lakes need all of that management? In his comparison data, he does not tell us the responsibilities of those management companies? Do they include maintenance on condominiums and/or short-term rental responsibility for vacation packages? What is the average budget revenue for these associations and what are their responsibilities as compared to ours? The old adage of "Figures lie and liars figure" comes to mind – of course, I am not referring to Shaver specifically as I am sure his intentions are well meant even though politically motivated. In short, Shaver's comparison numbers were meaningless in an objective evaluation of our situation.

I am on record as thinking that it is past time that Dalton Fulcher, our paid manager, be held accountable. From my view we have wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars during Fulcher's watch. But this is my opinion and is just that, an opinion.

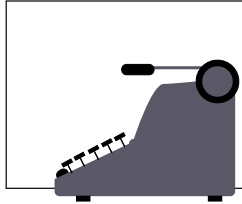
I challenge the current board to establish facts as best as possible and remove opinions as much as practical. Appoint an

independent group from former business owners and managers to evaluate all of our "human resource needs."

This committee should do among other things the following.

Your Turn

*D. Alan Shaw
Seven Lakes South*



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Area A developments merit your attention

Dear Editor:

Get involved and show concern! Area A had a rush of new development projects put on the agenda.

Four are slated for over 1,000 new homes on more than 3,000 acres, even while Area A committee members struggle to determine guidelines for future development as quickly as possible. The form these developments ultimately take may forever change the rural aspects of this area.

Therefore, thought it's been some time since we've written a letter to the editor, we'd like to share the thoughts that we expressed to the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on Monday, April 16, concerning the proposed building moratorium.

Members of the Board of Commissioners:

I find the necessity to stand here before you to request a six-month subdivision moratorium very disturbing. Only a little over one year ago, numerous landowners won a victory in denying rezoning for a development which is in close proximity to the largest proposed development – the Monroe property.

That Larsen/Blatco property was environmentally sensitive, the home of rare animals and rare plants. Once the denial took place, the developer left. The State of North Carolina then purchased the property as a plant preserve. This property is now a natural heritage museum, a showplace for different generations.

Before entrusting these new environmentally sensitive lands to developers, I urge you to please approve the recommended six-month moratorium and to:

1. review the concepts of conservation advisor Randall Arendt,
2. physically walk the properties, and
3. consult wetland specialists and botanists.

We must be the best stewards of our lands. Some of these properties you are considering for development are the "best of the best" from a conservation standpoint, and cannot be duplicated.

Please study the situation during the time granted by a moratorium, so that no irreversible

mistakes will be made.

Thank you for listening to a concerned citizen.

Please share your concerns with the Planning Department,

the Planning Board, and the Board of Commissioners.

Bob and Ruth Stolting
West End

Personnel

(Continued from page 32)

need to be addressed. Regardless of your position on their report, the issues can not be objectively resolved without a more thorough evaluation of our entire operation.

Making the committee's findings public will put the pressure on all of you to then eliminate the political garbage and replace it with objective reasoning. We should not allow another year to pass without finding out the scope of our problems and

addressing them without political rancor.

From my view, this will result in significant re-organization with increased productivity at a reduced cost to us which will allow our reserves to be built without dues increases. Regardless of the outcome, at least we will be dealing with facts rather than political hogwash.

Sincerely,
D. Alan Shaw
Seven Lakes South

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Camping with the Clampetts — and the CIA

If you dropped by the Bookshop or *The Times'* office last week, you might have noticed that Marcy and I have been away.

We've been camping.

For those of you reared on '60s counter-culture paradigms, that word — "camping" — may conjure up images of Kelty aluminum frame backpacks, leaky tents, and musty down-filled sleeping bags.

This is not the camping I am talking about.

We hitched up our 1974 Airstream to our 1989 Jeep Grand Wagoneer (192,000 miles and counting) and headed down south of Myrtle Beach to a state park called "Huntington Beach."

Situated on a barrier island purchased in 1929 by a couple of wealthy artists, it's become a popular layover for New Jerseyans, New Yorkers, New Englanders, and Canadians headed back north after their winter sojourn in Florida.

Camping, for some folks, means understanding your topographic map or your handheld GPS well enough to orienteer your way back to camp safely after dark. At Huntington Beach State Park, it means figuring out whether illuminated chili peppers or glow-in-the-dark Corona bottles hanging from your awning is a better guiding light when wending your way back from a 3:00 am trip to the restroom.

Fashion flash — Cutting edge campers now eschew the pedestrian awning light display and

instead outline the entire campsite with multi-colored mini-lights in a plastic tube.

Lots of folks come here with their trailers or RVs, set up camp, and never go to the beach. They have very neat campsites. Sometimes, they spend the week waxing their camper.

I surf fish every day — except the days I go crabbing. Compared to the shiny RV set, we look like the Clampetts — fishing poles, and nets, and crab traps everywhere.

We have two very large, very shaggy dogs and their dog crates — of a size suitable for circus animals — are a part of our campsite. We even have one of those accordion-style fold-out canopies to provide shade for the dogs. It's emblazoned with a Dale Earnhardt NASCAR logo. Our campsite is not exactly neat.

There is something about campers and dogs. Every other camper has a dog or two in residence. In fact, it would probably be more accurate to say that every fourth camper lacks a dog — probably because their beloved Golden Retriever succumbed to old age in the Fall and they are now looking for a replacement.

This commonality of campers and dogs extends to the backpacker set, often pictured with their arm draped around Fido

at some milestone on the Appalachian or Pacific Coast Trail.

But RV campers take dog-devotedness to new extremes. We saw a couple this week who had one of those little long-haired yippers and transported

Digging Deeper

Greg Hankins



it in the front basket of their bicycle. When they took the dog to the beach, they had a special cart for it to ride in — something like one of those funny Fresh Market shopping carts that you can use to push your handbasket around the store.

About midway into our week at the beach, the campsite across the street from us sprouted an extremely austere, top-of-the-line white motorhome, with a white Jeep Cherokee to match.

Though we never saw the inhabitants, Marcy noticed their elaborate satellite dish. A day later we discovered we could log onto their unprotected wire-

less network with our laptops and access the internet — which saved a drive down to the coffee shop in Litchfield Beach to do our daily *Times* email.

Looking at the available servers on their network, I found one called "White House," which I figured was either a pun on the appearance of their RV or an indication that I had Carl Rove or Dick Cheney in the space across from me.

A nighttime walk of the dogs revealed the occupants of the "White House" had three or four television screens mounted on the back wall of their RV. At that point, we knew: they were CIA!

They're CIA! And they can't figure out how to keep us from stealing internet access from their satellite setup?

Kind of makes you wonder, doesn't it?

After that discovery, we decided it might be safer to drive down to the coffee shop in Litchfield for our caffeine and email fix, just so as we don't find ourselves testifying about unprotected government networks before the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Anyhow, we're back, and so far we haven't noticed any suspicious-looking vans bristling with antennae parked near the house or the office. And I haven't had any mysterious clicks on the telephone line at either place.

I just hope all those Canadians in the campground didn't make the same discovery we did about the "White House" and steal all the Bush administration's plans for repelling an invasion across our northern border.



Geoffrey M. Gower,
CLU, ChFC

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Bumps in the road

Yes, that's it. Letting life come in. Getting out on the street. Talking to a stranger. Going to a lecture, concert, play, or ballgame.

Reflecting visibly, and audibly, to the emotional nourishment sent your way by family and friends. Sinking your teeth into a conversation that makes

your point with goodwill, then listens to that of others, respectfully, and you and your able neighbor emerging still very much in the good friend's category.

Bumps in the road can, and do, reach all of us from time to time, causing us to at least temporarily rue the glitches in the patch-

work of our journey, succumbing to the festering of thoughts of what might have been.

But we can emerge and concentrate on the fresh breeze of indelible moments that each of us has felt, holding them close to our hearts.

So, as time moves quickly on, my timidly offered advice is —

don't walk past that neighbor's bush without noticing, and marveling at, its exquisitely, delicately created form and the beauty of those blossoms.



Plenty of opportunities to give the 'Gift of life'

The Moore County Chapter of the American Red Cross report fifty-two productive units of blood were collected during the recent Blood Drive in Seven Lakes. This represents a new low, though it exceeded the newly reduced fifty-unit goal. Due to some equipment failures and a scheduling deficiency, processing was aggravatingly slow at times.

The scheduling problem will be rectified for the next Seven Lakes blood drive, scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, from 1:00 pm to 6 pm at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Register at 673-4931 for a desired time to minimize waiting and remember to bring a photo ID.

Other upcoming blood drive locations include Fox Hollow Senior Community on Monday, April 30, from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm, at 190 Fox Hollow Road, off Morganton Road near Turnberry Woods in Pinehurst. To schedule an appointment call 695-0011.

Seven Lakes donor prize winners were: Maren Anderson, Lee Connelly, Emil Johnson, and Joanna Lukonis. Please join blood drive regulars William Carl, Robert Hittepole, Ellie Lyons, and Susie Stanislawek with your "Gift of Life."

Blood drives will be held at these locations in May:

Friday, May 11, 2:30 pm to 7:00 pm, Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter Day Saints on Hwy 15-501 in Pinehurst. For appointment, call 245-7022.

Monday, May 21, 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm, Moore County Red Cross Chapter House at 244 SW Broad Street in Southern Pines. For appointment, call 692-8571.

Tuesday, May 22, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm, First Health Center for Fitness and Health in Pinehurst. For appointment, call 715-1478.

Saturday, May 26, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, Acorn Ridge Baptist Church in Robbins. No appointment needed.

Thursday, May 31, 1:30 pm

to 6:00 pm, Penick Village at E. Rhode Island Avenue Extension in Southern Pines. For appointment, call 692-8571.

There is no longer an upper age limit. Donors must be at least seventeen years old and 110 pounds. To reach a donor counselor, please call toll-free at 866-562-7156.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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7 Tomato Basil Soup Meatloaf Dinner	8 Black Bean & Sausage Soup Chicken Tarragon Dinner	9 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Beef Enchiladas Dinner	10 White Bean Chicken Chili Bourbon Salmon Dinner	11 Shrimp & Corn Chowder Swiss Steak Dinner
14 Potato Florentine Soup Baked Spaghetti Dinner	15 Split Pea with Ham Soup Apricot Orange Chicken Dinner	16 Chilled Cucumber Soup Pot Roast Dinner	17 Chicken & Dumpling Soup Tortilla-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	18 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo Pork Paprikash Dinner
21 Vegetable Soup Honey Pecan Chicken Dinner	22 Tomato Dill Soup Ginger Beef Dinner	23 Mushroom & Wild Rice Soup Herb Roasted Turkey Dinner	24 Asparagus Vichyssoise Sesame Salmon with Wasabi Mayonnaise	25 <div>CLOSED</div>
28 <div>CLOSED</div>	29 Broccoli & Spinach Soup Cuban Chicken with Rice Dinner	30 Beef Vegetable Soup Sausage & Cheese Manicotti Dinner	31 Cream of Cauliflower Soup Lemon Shrimp Oriental Dinner	June 1 Manhattan Clam Chowder Smothered Pork Chops Dinner

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Rogers

(Continued from page 16)

with the hospital's Teddy Bear Fair for Moore County school children and with its pregnancy fairs. She is also a charge nurse and a mentor for nurses who are just entering the profession, as well as a Neonatal Resuscitation

Program instructor.

"Dorothy is an exceptional nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit," says Cheryl Batchelor, executive director of Clinical Operations at Moore Regional Hospital. "Her knowledge, skills, leadership, and mentoring abil-

ities are outstanding. Nurses like her represent the essence of professional nursing. We are extremely proud of Dorothy's selection into the 2007 Nursing Institute. She is truly deserving of the recognition."

Commissioners

(Continued from page 4)

Chairman McKenzie suggested that the Commissioners and MCS Board should meet for a work session on Tuesday, April 24, to discuss the budget.

Airport

A quarter million dollar asset has been on the books of the Moore County Airport Authority since 1995. Whether this represents seed money owed back to the county or is unresolved debt held by the Airport Authority was debated at the meeting.

Commissioner Larry Caddell addressed the controversy, "This is a journal entry done when the airport changed from a county facility to the Airport Authority. We transferred the debt," He continued, "The authority runs the airport but the county owns the property."

Property values from planes housed at the airport exceed \$16 million. "If the airport grows those numbers will grow," said Caddell.

"Don't make them [airport authority] pay back a debt that preceded their ownership."

Commissioner Tim Lea disagreed, "The issue is taxpayers' money. The buyout cost was \$525,000, the new hangers cost another \$225,000."

He continued, "I applaud the job of the airport authority, the airport is in good shape but this is the taxpayers money. When the airport was purchased, they assumed responsibility of that debt."

Lea favored action requiring the Airport Authority to repay the full \$242,677 due to the County's General Fund. His motion, seconded by Commissioner Cindy Morgan was defeated three to two.

Commissioners McKenzie, Caddell, and Melton approved the action to release the Airport Authority of any obligation to

repay the county.

Skate Park

During the public comment portion of the April 16 meeting, supporters of the new skate park in Pine Bluff and William Dean, President of Skaters for Moore, a skateboarding advocacy group, addressed the Commissioners.

"Skaters for Moore is com-

mitted to providing a safe, fun environment to skate," said Dean. "We are a non-profit organization and after three years of fundraising were able to open a skate park located in a warehouse. We have 700 registered skaters and 80% of those are Moore County residents."

Dean said that as the only facility in the county to provide a safe skateboarding surface,

that is legal and off the streets, the skate park should receive public funding.

A speaker identifying himself as a parent, a citizen, and a social worker and mental health therapist characterized skate-

boarding as provided an exercise and social outlet to all kids, especially those at risk. "There are no bench warmers, or second stringers in skating. This sport creates self-confidence," he said.

Master Gardeners at Buggy Festival

Celebrate the rich history of Carthage with the Master Gardeners of Moore County during the Carthage Buggy Festival, on Saturday May 12, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Visit the Master Gardeners at booth #53 on Monroe Street near the roundabout. They can help you with problems such as Fire Ant control, tomato spotted wilt virus, whiteflies, soil fertility, and much, much more. You bring the questions; Master Gardeners will help find answers.

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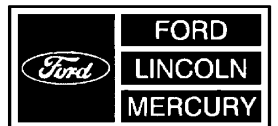
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Real Estate

By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

SHORT OR LONG – TERM LOAN?

In the old days, when you financed your home with a fixed rate mortgage, it was a long-term loan -- period -- usually around 20 or 30 years. However in today's super market selection of mortgages, even the fixed rate variety has a choice. A major fork in the road now involves the term (length of loan) of fixed rate mortgages. Do you choose a long term, fixed-rate loan or a short-term, early ownership variety that usually runs in the 15-year range?

The principle of leverage separates the two borrowing philosophies. If you want to borrow as much as possible for as long as possible, for the lowest monthly payments,

you want the leverage and should select a 36 year loan. On the other hand, shorter term, fixed rate mortgages can achieve significant savings in total interest payouts and faster equity buildup.

Those who can afford the slightly higher monthly payments would be wise to consider the shorter term program and its money-saving, earlier retirement of the debt.

• • •

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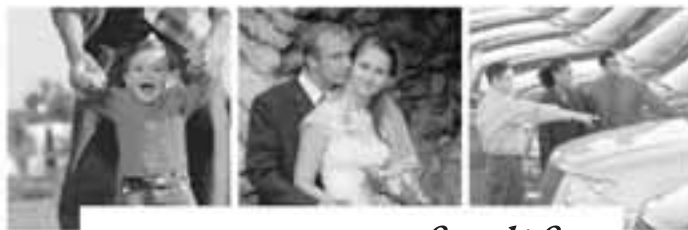
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GOLF FRONT ON 3RD FAIRWAY - Like new golf front has spectacular view of 3rd Fairway. All brick home boasts an open floor plan with split plan bedrooms and Carolina Room. Immaculate condition. Great for entertaining! **\$274,900**



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LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT - Super lot with 179 ft of waterfront and spectacular views of the lake. Split BR plan, kitchen with hardwood floors, Corian countertops and desk, gas logs in fireplace, workshop below. **\$665,000**



GREAT TOWNHOUSE - Located on Sandham Court close to club house and gate. Three bedrooms, two baths with large screened porch. Super floor plan and priced right — to sell. **..... ONLY \$154,500**



LAKE AUMAN - All brick 5 BR, 4 BA with spectacular views of the lake. New hardwood (LR) and tile flooring (Baths) 12/06/2006. Great rec room below. Bulkhead with dock and boat lift **..... \$697,500**



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228 Firetree - Under Contract
Lot #885 - Under Contract
251 W. Devonshire - New Listing
112 Forest Square - New Listing
122 Cambridge - Under Contract
Lot #1006 - Under Contract
Lot #2474 - SOLD!



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West Side

(Continued from front page)

Haggard said the Board hoped that opening the work session would "reduce the misunderstandings and inadvertent miscommunications that have happened in the past."

Communications Committee

In addition to opening the work sessions, the Board also decided during its April 10 work session to appoint a Communications Committee, charged with developing independent reports on matters that are up for debate or under consideration by the Board or community at large.

Mary Price will chair the committee, Haggard said. Its role will be to "be an independent and impartial voice within the community to provide you with information and reports on issues that are significant to the community. It also will report on major issues that come before the board for action and any other types of major issues that need an impartial independent voice."

Another objective of the committee, Haggard said, is to develop "innovative channels of communication" that will allow landowners to communicate their ideas and questions to the board — and to get a response to those ideas and questions.

A third effort to increase openness will be the formation of a finance and audit committee, to be chaired by Treasurer Kathy Kirst.

Planning

Haggard said he and other board members had been asked a number of questions both during and after the recent election season, for example, How high will SLWLA dues go? When will a fire hydrant be installed on my street? When will we have home delivery of mail?

"The best answer I can give to those questions, right now, is 'I don't know,'" Haggard said. "That's not a satisfactory answer, but it's a truthful answer. The Board is committed to working on a process that will result in the answers to those questions."

Haggard said the community needs a comprehensive long range plan that will bring together the objectives in each of the functional areas of board responsibility — environment, infra-

structure, security, and so on — apply cost projections to those objectives, develop revenue projections, and begin to develop a timeline that will reflect when the objectives can be accomplished.

"If we build a fully-integrated, dynamic plan then we can show you what this community is going to look like in the future and what it is going to cost," Haggard said. "Then you will be able to look at it and provide input."

To get the ball rolling, the Board has asked the existing Long Range Planning Committee, chaired by George Jenner, to begin building the plan using inputs from each of the directors concerning their functional areas. As the plan is developed, the committee will make presentations to and gather input from both the board and the com-

munity, Haggard said.

"I'm excited about the prospect of using this plan to see where this community is going," he added. "I am concerned that our reserves may not be sufficient to pay for everything we need to have done. But that is the advantage of doing the plan."

Friendly disagreements

Perhaps mindful of the level of acrimony that erupted during the debate over the SLWLA agreement with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission [NCWRC] and carried over into the recent election, Haggard began the meeting with a statement about the board.

"This is an exceptionally talented Board," he told members. "Each and every Board member has the best interests of this community uppermost in their minds."

"We are going to have disagreements on this board, but they are going to be friendly disagreements. You won't agree with everything we do and every position we take. Hopefully, those disagreements will be friendly as well."

Annual registration

Community Manager Tony Robertson said annual registration and dues packets will be mailed to all landowners in about a week. In addition, the upcoming issue of the SLWLA Newsletter will contain a detailed explanation of the procedures for registering vehicles and boats.

Robertson encouraged residents to read the information in the packet and in the newsletter carefully, in order to avoid any problems when they come to the office to pay their dues and

register. In person registration will be handled in the Activity Room in the Community Center at West Side Park from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday and on Fridays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

He noted that registration is a "tedious process," but added that the SLWLA staff is dedicated to "making as few mistakes as possible." He asked landowners to be patient as they go through the process and encouraged them to call the office with any questions. "We will try to make it as painless as possible," Robertson said.

Robertson noted that one of the by-products of registration this year will be the development of a substantial database on the membership.

(See "West Side" p. 39)

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West Side

(Continued from page 38)

Water Tower

Robertson noted that Moore County Public Utilities has completed the painting of the Seven Lakes West water tower — including the addition of a SLWLA logo to the structure.

Residents had been allowed to store boats, trailers, and recreational vehicles at home rather than in the boat and trailer storage yard while the tank was painted. Now that the painting is complete, Robertson said, those boats, trailers, and RVs must be returned to the storage yard.

Speeding

Security Director Blaine Rowland said a crew led by Gus Danielson had recently used a radar gun to measure vehicle speeds at a large number of locations in the community. While they found most vehicles respecting posted speed limits, they did clock vehicles traveling at up to 55 miles per hour over Lake Auman Dam and in excess of 50 miles per hour on Smathers Drive. The speed limit in both locations is 25 miles per hour.

Rowland said information about problem areas has been shared with Moore County Sheriff Lane Carter in order to begin targeted enforcement activities, including issuing speeding tickets to violators.

Transponders

Rowland said that a vehicle transponder that works perfectly to open the front gate will not always function as well at the back gate. He said he is ready and willing to help landowners identify the optimum transponder placement for their vehicle and encouraged those folks having problems to give him a call.

Rowland said the front gate video cameras had recently been readjusted and now provide a clear image of license plates, which will ensure any vehicle breaking the gates or entering the community without authorization will be recorded.

Boating rules

Environment Director Mary Anne Fewkes reviewed changes to SLWLA lake usage rules proposed in order to bring them into compliance with the lake management agreement

between the NCWRC and SLWLA. Fewkes noted that the changes had been posted on the website and carried in a recent issue of *The Seven Lakes Times*. Briefly, the changes are as follows: (See “West Side,” p. 40)



Sunday, May 6, 2007
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Official Registration

All proceeds from the Seven Lakes 7K and May Follies will benefit Northside Park and will be used to purchase new playground equipment and improve the landscaping.

I am registering for the:

☐ 7K Race ☐ 1- Mile Fun Run & Walk ☐ “Hot Shot” Basketball Competition

Fun Run and 7K racers registration fee is \$10 before Friday, April 13, and includes a May Follies T-shirt. Late registrants will be charged \$15 per person and T-shirts will be available on a first-come first-served basis. There is no charge for entering the “Hot Shot” Basketball Shooting Competition.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
D.O.B: _____ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female
List any medications you may be taking: _____
List any allergies: _____
Do you wish medical personnel to be informed of any medical problems? _____
Additional Comments: _____

Release and Waiver

In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, & assigns, release and discharge the Seven Lakes Landowners Association, sponsors, employees, officials, and volunteers from any and all claims of injury or liabilities of any kind, illness, or damages suffered by me as a result of participation in this event. I also give my permission for the use of my name or picture for broadcast or publishing of information on this event. I further state that I am in proper physical condition to participate in this event.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent’s Signature (if under 18): _____ Date: _____

Please return this registration form and address checks to:
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West End, NC 27376

For sponsorship information or to volunteer,
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Companion Animal Clinic receives grant

Companion Animal Clinic of the Sandhills [CAC] has received a grant of \$5,890.00 for the purchase of anesthesia equipment from the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation.

CAC is a low-cost spay neuter clinic scheduled to open in the summer of 2007. Renovations

to the CAC building are now underway to convert it into a state-of-the-art spay/neuter clinic. Companion Animal Clinic will only offer spay and neuter services. CAC will not shelter or board cats and dogs. CAC will have its own staff of veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

CAC is currently in the process of hiring for these positions.

Companion Animal Clinic has received numerous grants from foundations and the community has also been very supportive of the CAC mission to reduce the overpopulation of companion animals in a nine-county region

including Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Chatham, Richmond, Randolph, Moore, Montgomery and Lee. To date, CAC has raised 70% of the monies in donations and pledges needed to open the doors.

The Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation supports

the care of domestic animals through its grant program. The Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation is a private foundation funded by gifts from Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc., the only global company that offers an interactive make-your-own stuffed animal retail-entertainment experience. Founded in St. Louis in 1997, the company currently operates more than 270 stores in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

For more information, go to the CAC web site at www.companionanimalclinic.org or call the clinic at 692-FIXX (3499).

West Side

(Continued from page 39)

- Boats required to be registered under state law must display a valid registration sticker when in use on Lake Auman.
- Anyone being pulled behind a boat — on skis, a tube, etc. — must wear an approved flotation device.
- All boats must comply with navigational rules and regulations, including display of appropriate marker lights.
- Operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants is prohibited.
- Boating accidents resulting in \$2,000 or more in damage must be reported to the Community Manager within 24 hours and to the NCWRC within 48 hours.
- Littering — as well as adding liquid substances, including aquatic herbicides to the lake — is forbidden.

- Anyone required to have a fishing license for the type of fishing they are doing in Lake Auman must have and possess a license when fishing in Lake Auman.

On fishing license, Fewkes explained that a license is not required when fishing from shore or a private dock but is required when fishing from a boat.

There was little public comment on the proposed rules changes. In response to a question about boat registration, Fewkes said state boat registrations are not available from the SLWLA but are available from Seven Lakes Hardware, Carthage Farm Supply, and other local vendors. A list is available on the NCWRC web-site.

Public comment

In the public comment segment of the meeting, Dr. Lionel Kuhn asked that the Board

authorize a referendum that would ask Westside landowners whether the community should attempt to "maintain its sovereignty over Lakes Auman." If a significant majority want to abrogate the agreement with the Wildlife Commission, Kuhn said, the Board should explore strategies for doing so.

Charlie Flinchum said he had seen a real estate advertisement in *The Times* for a Mor-

ganwood property that noted access off Lucas Road for delivery of grain and hay. He asked the Board to clarify whether the covenants allow for such access, noting that he has been asking SLWLA Boards for three years to respond to this issue.

President Haggard told both Kuhn and Flinchum that the Board would investigate their concerns and get back to them with an answer.

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3tp 3/30

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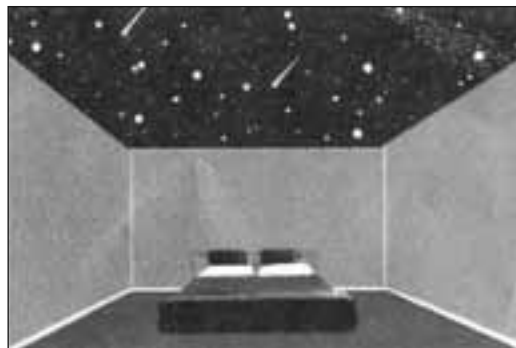
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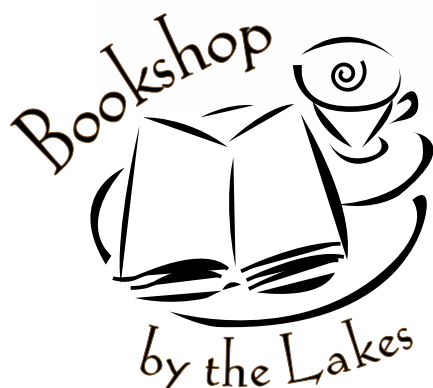
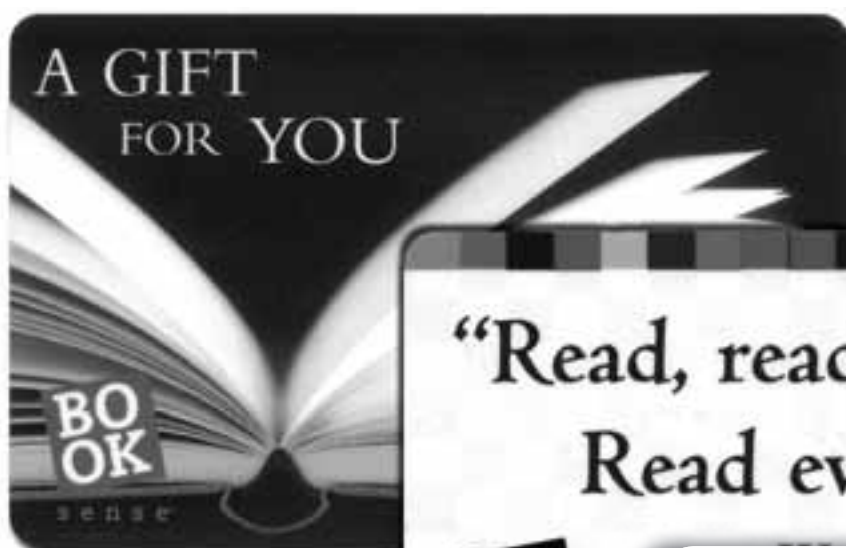
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