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Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

September 28, 2007

Westsiders debate trail

by Greg Hankins Times Editor

The Loop the Lake [LTL] Committee rolled out its proposal for a walking trail along Longleaf Drive during the Tuesday, September 25, General Meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA].

The group had previously presented the idea to the SLWLA Board of Directors in a work session, asking for Board permission to use SLWLA right of way for the trail. The Board decided to defer action and allow the group to present the concept to the public for comment.

Committee Chair Sherry Niewald explained on Tuesday Night that the LTL Committee is a sub-committee of the SLWLA Long Range Planning Committee and had help and input from LRP Chair George Jenner and Gerhard Hergenhahn, who has been exploring the possibility of a Westside trails for some time.

LTL Committee member Jeremy Rust, a Westside resident and land-use planner by pro-

fession, presented the details of the trail plan, dividing his presentation into five parts: Why, What, Who Where, When, and How.

Why LTL?

Rust noted that Longleaf Drive is a very busy roadway with an increasing amount of traffic and

a speeding problem — depsite the fact that the community is only half built out. At the same time, it is the only route that connects the various cul-de-sac strewn neighborhoods of Seven Lakes West, so walkers and cyclists must use Longleaf to get from one neighborhood to

(See "Loop the Lake," p. 35)

Crossing upgrade is back on track

by Greg Hankins Times Editor

Danny Gilbert of Rail Safety Consultants made a return visit Seven Lakes West on Tuesday, September 25, to update landowners on a North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] project that would put crossing gates at the rail crossing at the intersection of Lakeway Drive and NC Highway 211—by the Westside's front gate. Gilbert's presentation was part of the agenda for the September

General Meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA].

Gilbert had presented the project to the community more than a year ago, but said Tuesday night that progress had been slowed by personnel changes at NCDOT.

Upgrading the Lakeway Drive crossing is part of a larger "package deal," the West End Safety Corridor Project, which will upgrade some crossings and (See "Rail crossing" p. 34)

To never forget . . .



Joe Kristek, President of Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America bows his head during the Friday, September 21, POW/MIA Ceremony the Chapter hosted at the Veterans Memorial in Carthage. [See page 15.]

Boards need more time on subdivision regs

by Laura Douglass Times Reporter

The controversial six-month moratorium period imposed on subdivision development in Small Planning Area A is coming to an end. At the behest of the Moore County Board of Commissioners, the county planning office used this period to hire a

design consultant firm to review and revise County Zoning Ordinances in an effort to encourage conservation subdivision design standards.

On Monday, September 20, Andrea Surratt, Planning & Community Development Director, along with the Meg Nealon, a partner with Land Design Inc, presented a detailed explanation of the proposed changes before a joint meeting of the Moore County Planning Board County Commissioners.

Acknowledging the sheer volume of materials presented, and the short review time available prior to this meeting, both boards unanimously agreed to continue the public hearing through to the Monday, October 15, Board of Commissioners meeting. The meeting, to be held at the Historic Courthouse in Carthage, was rescheduled to 4:00 pm, to accommodate the time required to properly discuss such enormous changes to the Zoning Ordinances.

Describing the past few months as "a fast and exciting, and challenging, process," Surrratt reminded the Commissioner's of their request to her office.

"You said you wanted new ordinances that will encourage higher quality development," said Surratt. "Land Design has (See "Subdivisions" p. 33)

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NEWS Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

Skateboard Demo



Sonia Wienstroth, of Seven Lakes North, and William Dean, President of Skaters for Moore. Dean brought his N2Flow Skateboard Demonstration Team to Northside Park on Thursday, September 13, to provide local skaters with advice on safety, responsibility, and how to perform a few tricks.

Playground to be dedicated

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to dedicate the new children's playground at Sequoia Point will be held on Sunday, September 30, at 4:00 pm.

Funded through a generous gift from the Women of Seven Lakes, the new playground is a wonderful addition to this lakefront park and this event is the perfect chance to come out and thank them for their contribution.

Before and after the dedication, a bake sale full of goodies and a Make-Your-Own-Scarecrow activity will be held with all proceeds to benefit playground improvements at Northside Park in Seven Lakes.

The Make-Your-Own Scarecrow table will have everything you need to create your own unique figure - from straw to clothes.

Come to the dedication and plan to stay awhile, perhaps even bring a picnic supper, as you enjoy a Fall afternoon with friends and neighbors.

For more information or to make a donation to the Seven Lakes Playground Fund, please contact Amanda Keller at 673-3892, or Laura Douglass at 673-

Westside to host beer fest

Eight different beers including beers from Germany, England, and American microbreweries will be presented by Tad Braun of Elliott's on Linden at the Beer Tasting Event to be held on October 5 at 7:00 pm, at the

West Side Park Community

Sponsored by the Seven Lakes West Landowner's Association [SLWLA] Recreation Committee, light appetizers will be served

and tickets cost \$10.00 per person. For further information and tickets, please call Janet Baker at 673-1644, or Sandi Carl at

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CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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NEWS September 28, 2007 **Seven Lakes Times**

Board rejects skateboarding on streets

Seven Lakes' skateboarders will not be cruising the streets of the community anytime soon, despite the best efforts of Recreation Director Laura Douglass. But it looks as though they, and the hoops-shooters, may get a little more space to play instead.

The skateboard issue was not among those listed on the agenda for the Wednesday September 26 General Meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], but President Don Truesdell brought it up during Douglass' Recreation Committee report. The Board had discussed in its September 12 Work Session a proposed rules revision that would have allowed skateboarders on the streets but continued to keep them away from parking lots and other common areas. During that meeting, Treasurer Steve Hudson asserted that allowing skateboarders on the streets would expose the Association to significant liability risk.

After Truesdell brought the issue up in Wednesday nights meeting, Douglass read a prepared statement in which she argued that any liability associated with skateboarding is not different in kind from the liability the Association faces from having pedestrians and bicyclists on the street.

"The question should be, is it whether Douglass, Nuti, and

fair to single out skating?" Douglass said, citing federal data that ranks basketball, bicycling, football, baseball, and soccer as all more dangerous than skateboarding.

Recalling that Hudson had said in the work session that "Streets are for cars, not kids," Douglass said Seven Lakes, as

a community without trails or

sidewalks, will inevitably have

children — and adults — walk-

with his own federal informa-

tion, reading from a Consumer

Product Safety Council bulletin

that discourages riding skate-

boards in the street. "I don't think

our streets should be used as a

Director Ed Nuti supported

Douglass' position, while Randy

Zielsdorf said he could go along

with it if some time-of-day restric-

Donna Stephan, Michael Flo-

rence, and Hudson all stated

their opposition to skating on the streets. Hudson asked

tions were added to the rule.

playground," Truesdell said.

Truesdell followed Douglass

ing in the streets.

Zielsdorf would be willing to cover the cost of the additional liability, prompting Zielsdorf to say, "I am getting tired of hearing the liability flag thrown up every time we want to do something

When Douglass called the question, she and Nuti were alone in favor of the rules change;

> Zielsdorf abstained; and Hudson, Florence, and Stephan voted against, defeating the motion.

After the vote, Douglass read another statement in which she questioned the fairness of taking recreational opportunities away from children in Seven Lakes without replacing them with an alternate opportunity.

Noting that SLLA budgets because long-term planning failed to provide this community with adequate dam and road reserve funds."

She then asked the Board to vote on the spot to provide funding to install an asphalt halfcourt in near the existing volleyball court. After some discussion about the state of SLLA capital expenditures, President Truesdell expressed support for the idea and promised to bring it up for a vote in the October Work Session.

Other Business

In other business, the SLLA Board:

· Heard a warning from Trues-(See "SLLA," p. 25)



New half court instead

stretching into the future "will be burdened with deferred maintenance costs," Douglass said, "I will not sit idly by and allow our children to pay the penalty of playing on outdated and overcrowded recreation areas



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4 Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007 NEWS

Lakeway Drive repaving is on schedule

by Greg Hankins Times Editor

Progress on the widening and repaving of the lower portion of the Lakeway Drive entrance road is "moving along nicely," Director Ray MacKay reported during the Tuesday, September 25 General Meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA].

The meeting also included major presentations on the proposed Loop the Lake trail and the prospects for a gated railroad crossing at the entrance to Seven Lake West [See front page.]

MacKay said the concrete work on the Lakeway drive curbs was finished on Tuesday. Currently, October 10 is the target date for completion of the project, and the detouring of traffic may not be required after October 5.

MacKay said he is looking for volunteers with golf carts to assist in this year's pavement inspection.

Lake Auman Dam

Director Mary Anne Fewkes reported that errors contained in a story about the closing of Longleaf Drive across Lake Auman dam that appeared in the Southern Pines *Pilot* newspaper had resulted in a visit from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources [NCDENR].

The *Pilot* reported that earth on the back side of the dam was slumping, which is not the case, but the article caught the attention of Steve Cook Regional Engineer of NCDENR's Division of Land Quality, which is charged with the inspection of dams. Cook paid a visit to the West Side to check out the situation, Fewkes said, and was briefed on problems with the Lake Auman Dam and the Board's plans to have it repaired.

"He realized that we are being pro-active and applauded the community for that," Fewkes reported. Fewkes said she was tempted to tell landowners "Don't believe what you read in the *Pilot*; read *The Seven Lakes Times* instead."

Though Fewkes contacted the Southern Pines paper about other errors in their article on the dam, a promised correction has yet to be printed.

"I was on the dam road last night," Fewkes told Landowners. "There was a young family there teaching their child to ride a bike with training wheels. It really is a nice gathering place at night... Watching the sunset from the dam is wonderful." She

a committee to look at the slips and boat ramp at Johnson Point, as some boaters are having trouble launching from the ramp with the current low water level.

Public comment

During the public comment

portion of the meeting, Charlie Merical asked whether the Board had investigated whether the Association could obtain liability insurance on the dam.

President Haggard said the insurance committee had investigated that point and found that the Association's existing liability policy and associated umbrella would in fact cover a dam failure, provided the Association has diligently maintained the dam.

During the public comment period, Jeff Snell strongly object-

ed to the closure of Longleaf across the dam. "The Board sits and makes decisions and then tells us what they have done rather than asking the community as a whole," Snell said. "Where was the pre-planning on shutting the road down a year before the repairs were to

Snell said the road closure added substantially to the travel time of some residents — particularly young families who must make multiple trips in and out of the community each day. "It has had a huge impact on a portion of this community, and no one decided to talk to that com
(See "Westside" p. 32)

West Side Landowners 9/25 Meeting

encouraged the community to make lemonade from the lemons of the road closure.

Fewkes said she had been asked whether it was still necessary to follow lake rules even though the lake patrol is not patrolling. It is, and shore-based observers on the lake patrol will still be reporting violations.

Fewkes said she has formed

year before the repairs were to be done?" one decided to talk to that complete the done?" (See "Westside" p. ...

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AREA A September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

Committee gets input on plan for Area A

A crowd of seventy or so citizens filled the Media Center of West End Elementary School on Tuesday evening, September 18, to get a look at the "rough draft" of a Small Area Plan for Area A.

The proceedings began with a brief presentation by Moore County Planning Director Andrea Surratt, who traced the history of the Area A planning process thus far, and presented the eight principles that the Steering Committee had distilled from that process. Those principles are:

- 1. Protect wetlands.
- Create open space in both commercial and residential developments.
- 3. Protect watercourses
- 4. Protect farmland.
- 5. Protect working forests.
- 6. Promote quality of life.
- Promote economic development.
- 8. Sustainable growth.

County Planner Chris Armstrong then took the floor to provide an overview of the Future Land Use Map [the "FLUM"], a map developed by the Steering Committee that depicts the ideal zoning for Area A.

Armstrong explained that the Area A Planning Process is not aimed at actually rezoning parcels, but the FLUM will provide a guide for the Planning Staff, Planning Board, and Commissioners to consider rezoning and development requests in the future.

Much of the land in Area A is currently zoned RA-Rural Agri-

cultural, which allows land to be subdivided into one-acre parcels. The Area A FLUM, in more rural areas, suggests that RA-2 or RA-5, which have two and five acre minimum lots sizes, be used instead. Around more developed areas, like Seven Lakes, the FLUM expands the area zoned RA-USB, a desig-(See "Area A," p. 15)



Planning Board Chair Nancy Roy Fiorillo discusses Area A objectives with Bob Stolting and Gerhard Hergenhahn.

Jennifer S. Massey, DDS, PA

Area A Committee Member David Wilson discusses the

Future Land Use Map with Trevor Bourne and Alan Casavant.

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— Jennifer and Rebecca

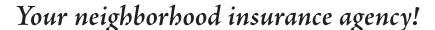


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Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007 WATER

County targets biggest water wasters

Still watering your lawn every day?

If so, you might be getting a visit from a Moore County Public Works employee.

As Moore County - and almost every other county in North Carolina — looks toward a deepening drought with no relief in sight, Public Works has begun quietly visiting some of it largest — and most stubborn — water users.

"We've been targeting people who use over 100,000 gallons per month," Utility Operations Manager Ben Vaughn told the County Board of Commissioners during their September 17 meeting, responding to a question from Chairman Colin McKenzie. The Chairman noted that he still sees a lot of folks "watering the pavement" during his morning walks in Pinehurst. "Have we done any enforcement at all?" McKenzie wanted to know.

Vaughn said Public Works is targetting the high volume for personal visits by department employees who explain that customers are under mandatory water conservation and ask for compliance. "We explain that we want to see an immediate reduction," Vaughn said, noting that the water conservation ordinance provides three remedies for non-compliance: a \$50 per occurrence criminal penalty, a \$500 civil penalty, or shutting off the customer's water for up to 48 hours

Interviewed by The Times on Tuesday, Vaughn confirmed that he is talking about residential customers - not commercial water users. "We have a few homes using over 300,000 gallons per month," Vaughn said, noting that that amount of water would fill both Seven Lakes water tanks.

The average household uses less than 20,000 gallons per month. The folks using more than 100,000 gallons are not using the bulk of that water to drink, cook, or take showers, of course. "These folks have very attractive lawns," Vaughn told The Times. "You can just about tell which ones they are when you drive by."

Vaughn said most of these big users are in Pinehurst, though "we have seen 100,000 gallons used in Seven Lakes," he added.

The county charges \$3.05 per thousand for the first four thousand gallons a customer uses and \$3.55 for the next 4,000 gallons. After that, the rate escalates to \$4.30 per thousand. Add in the monthly base rate of \$4.55 and a household using 100,000 gallons would have a monthly water bill of \$426.55.

Those water hogs using 300,000 gallons are spending nearly \$1,300 per month to keep their grass green. "The yards look it, too," Vaughn says. "They're immaculate."

Though fines are possible, Public Work has yet to levy any, Vaughn said.

Next Year

"This is no longer just about 2007," Vaughn told The Times on Tuesday, repeating a point he made during the Commissioner meeting. "We're concerned about 2008."

The lack of rain and high water usage has begun to deplete the aquifer that the county's wells tap into. As The Times reported last issue, the groundwater level has dropped 2.2 feet since March. A three foot drop would trigger Public Works to move to Stage Three mandatory conservation measures, eliminating all outside watering. The next official groundwater reading will be taken in early October, Vaughn told The Times. But Vaughn has checked it recently and found that it has in fact fallen further.

Counties and towns right across the state of North Carolina find themselves in the same condition. The city of Concord was scheduled to move to Stage III conservation and eliminate all watering for irrigation on Thursday. Raleigh, Charlotte, and Greensboro all have restrictions in place that limit outside watering. Governor Mike Easley has asked all local governments in the state to implement water conservation measures.

In the past, when dry summers in Moore County have resulted in the implementation of water conservation measures, September has often brought enough rain to correct the problem. But rain is still scarce, and Vaughn says the county could be looking at water restrictions running right through the winter months.

Compliance in Seven Lakes

The past two weeks have seen a drop in water use in Seven Lakes, due in part to a total of 2.8 inches of rain.

Seven Lakers have used an average of 506,000 gallons per day in the past 14 days, well within the 577,000 gallon level that represents the targetted 30 percent reduction. "I was glad to see that," Vaughn told The Times. "It's holding steady where we are wanting to see it."

Still, some folks aren't getting the message. With the prospect

(See "Water," p. 8)

Richard S. Pasko, D.C., D.A.C.B.R.

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MOORE COUNTY September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

Transfer tax reserved for building projects

If a proposed land transfer tax passes in Moore County, the proceeds will go largely toward building and upgrading schools.

The Moore County Board of Commissioners voted during their Monday, September 17 meeting to reserve revenue from the new tax for major capital projects, with Moore County Schools projects first in line, followed by Sandhills Community College, then county government facilities, and, finally, water and sewer infrastructure needs.

County voters will have the opportunity to accept or reject the new tax on Election Day in November, when they will also be asked to approved \$69.5 million in education bonds — \$55 million for Moore County Schools [MCS] and \$15.5 million for Sandhills Community College [SCC].

The new resolution, in effect, dedicates the new tax largely to paying off those bonds. The precise language approved by the commissioners says proceeds from the new tax will be "deposited in the County Major Capital Reserve Fund to pay the debt service of county major capital projects and prioritized to the extent of funding resources as follows: Moore County Schools major capital building projects, Sandhills Community College major capital building projects, major capital government facilities and water and sewer infrastructure needs."

In North Carolina, county government is a creature of state government - i.e., counties only have the authority to do what the state permits them to do. The General Assembly decided to allow counties to seek voter approval for the transfer tax this summer; that state legislation allows counties to do whatever they chose with the money, if the tax passes. Moore County's Board of Commissioners had discussed during their September 4 work session reserving any tax proceeds for major capital projects.

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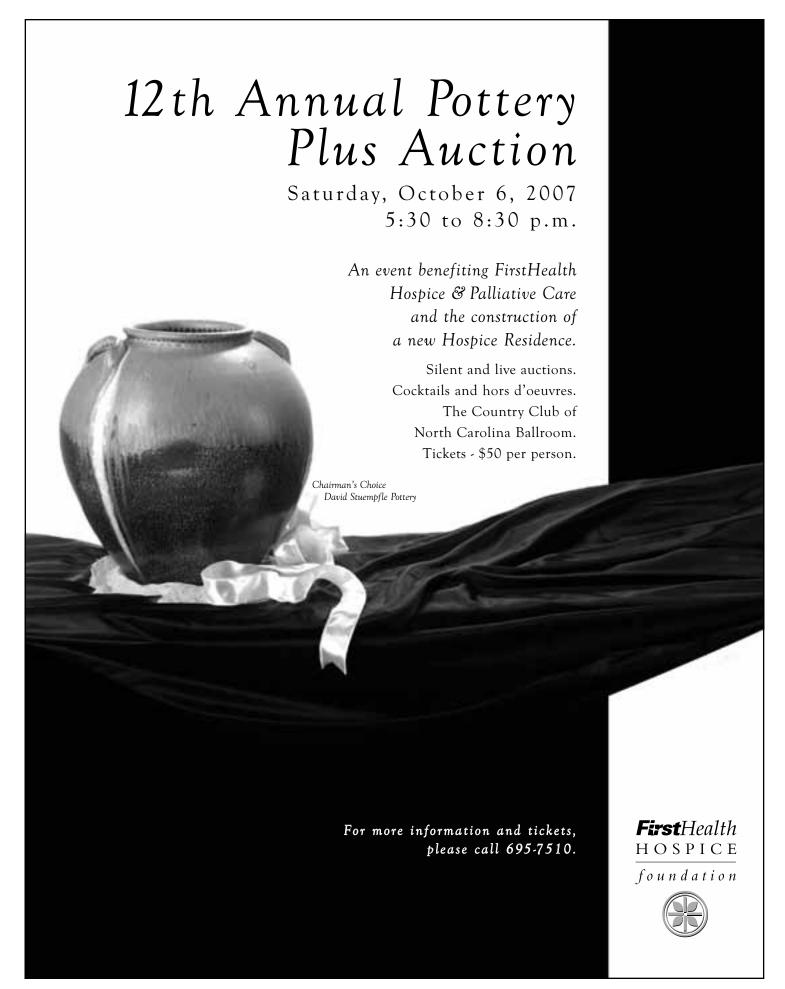
The pending school and college bonds would allow the county to borrow money to pay for new middle and elementary schools, the updating of schools throughout the system, as well as a new classroom building and a

number of other facilities at SCC. In addition to these projects, the county has recently acquired land in Carthage to build a new government facility and a new jail.

The proposed transfer tax would be levied on all real estate

sales in the county, but would not apply to land transferred through wills, bequests, or gifts. The 0.4% rate would amount to \$400 on the sale of a \$100,000 home. County officers estimate the new tax would bring more than \$3 mil-

lion in additional revenues to county coffers. That alone will not be enough to pay the debt service on school and county projects; and increase in property tax rates will likely be required to make up the difference.



NEWS Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

Meet the Merchants 2007



Seven Lakes Massage gets the kinks out.



Debbie Miriello Stewart of Whelan Realty, LLC



Susan Marks of Phoenix Fashions shows her style.

Water

(Continued from page 5) of cooler weather on the horizon, some Moore Countians are already overseeding their warmseason grass with winter rye.

grass all year round," Vaughn told The Times. "So the irrigation

"We have quite a few cus-

tomers who like to have green continues."



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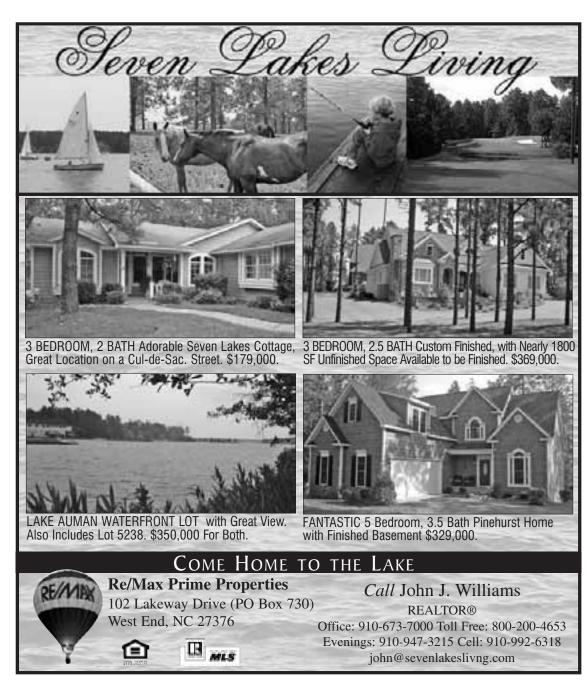
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NEWS September 28, 2007 **Seven Lakes Times** 9



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107 WHITE DRIVE 7 LAKES WEST

New Construction, 3BD, 3.5BA home with lots of space. Each bdrm has bath & walk in closet, bonus room above garage, computer room, breakfast nook, family room, master suite w/ tray ceil-ings, double sink, garden tub, and a huge walk in closet. Nice screen porch on back. Call Gene today! Act fast, this home is priced to sell!

\$369,000



159 NATIONAL DRIVE NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Location Location! Newly renovated inside and out. Custom-designed home. Open floor plan, laminate & hardwood floors, formal living and dining room, master with sit ting area, walk-in closet Three other bedrooms with baths

\$479,000 Call Gene for your private showing today!



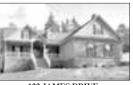
121 JAMES DRIVE / LOT 5180 3BD/2.5BA New Construction in Beacon Ridge. Split Plan, Two car garage, Huge master suite with tray ceilings, large walk in closet. Vaulted family room with fireplace, Spacious kitchen with plenty of room and a breakfast nook. **Call Gene for your** showing today! Priced @ \$279,500



Call Gene White 910-315-1777

AT OUR 7 Lakes Office

4347 NC Hwy 211 • Seven Lakes (910) 673-1884 1-866-673-1884



122 JAMES DRIVE 7 LAKES WEST

Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Split plan, New Construction, Upstairs Bonus Rm, Great room with fireplace. Master with double sinks, garden tub, shower, huge walk-in closet, Breakfast Nook



120 JAMES DRIVE 7 LAKES WEST

New Construction, Three Bedrooms 2.5 Baths, Split Plan, Single Level with Upstairs Bonus Room, Two-Car



150 OTTER DRIVE 7 LAKES WEST

Seven Lakes West, Three bedroom/2.5 split plan!
Call Gene! \$319,500



7 LAKES WEST

struction on a Lakeview Lot in Seven Lakes West, Three bedroom, 2.5 bath with stone fireplace in great room!!! This home is priced to sell !!! \$330,000

OUTSTANDING HOMESITES

SEVEN LAKES WEST	GOLF FRONT	GOLF FRONT
Lot 14 SOLD! \$269,500	Lot 412\$89,000	Lot 34\$57,500
Lot 5691View of Auman \$93,500	Lot 9TBD Paula Ct.,	
Lot 5172 James Drive \$53,500		PANORAMIC WATERFRONT LOTS
Lot 21\$49,500	Lot 6190 Banbridge Dr \$69,000	Lot 3207 1.46 Ac.
Lot 5502 Fawnwood Drive \$48,500	Lot 8\$62,500	
Lot 4259TBD Callis Drive\$54,500	Lot 6118 Under Contract! \$61,500	Lot 3390\$293,500

BUSINESS Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

Corrie Ameigh joins Premier Property

Broker-Realtor, Corrie Ameigh joins Premier Property Real Estate. As a member of both the Pinehurst - Southern Pines Association of Realtors and the Fayetteville Association of Realtors, she will specialize in military and relocation clients as well as investment properties. Ameigh can list and sell properties in

both real estate markets and participates in both MLS services.

"Corrie's family is active military, which makes her the perfect choice for any military and relocating family looking for a knowledgeable and understanding agent to help them with their real estate needs said Lisa Stewart, Broker/Owner of Premier Property.

692-8571.

"She personifies everything positive that a good real estate agent should be. She is a genuine people person with a strong commitment to excellent client service and all the energy needed to guide her clients through the buying and selling process with ease."

Premier Property Real Estate is centrally located at 10 Parker Lane and Blake Blvd. in Pinehurst, next to the Pinehurst Post office one block in from Route 5. You may reach Ameigh directly at 910-691-2760 or throuh her website at CorrieAmeigh.com.

reach a Donor Counselor, call

866-562-7156.



Corie Ameigh

October Red Cross Blood Drives

The Moore County Chapter am - 1:30 pm. Agricultural Buildof the American Red Cross will hold Blood Drives at these locations in October.

West End Ballfield

ing in Carthage. Appointments 947-6362.

Monday, October 15, 1:30 pm Thursday, October 11, 9:00 – 6:00 pm. Southern Pines Unit-

Monday, October 22, 1:30 pm - 6:00 pm. Woodlake Club House. Appointments 245-3538.

ed Methodist Church at 175

Midland Road. Appointments

Wednesday, October 23, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital conference room. Appointments 715-1478.

Tuesday, October 30, 7:00 am - 11:30 am. Village of Pinehurst Assembly Hall. Appoinments 295-1900.

There is no longer an upper age limit. Donors must be at least seventeen years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. To

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O'E Interest

Financing

Available

For information or to volunteer contact Sandi Burrell at 673-0901.

West End Elementary [WEE] would like to say thanks for all

the support they received during the renovation of the WEE Base-

ball Field. Sponsorship and donations not only provided children

of WEE with a great place to play, but also gave the communi-

ty a nice place to use for events. Recent improvements include

a newly installed pole light in the parking lot, making it safer and

A committee is forming to help plan and implement projects

at the park. There are only a few sponsorship sign spaces left.

5050 Hwy. 211 • West End

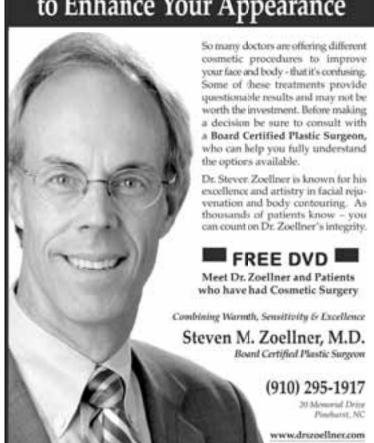
Soup and Packaged Dinner Calendar for October

Monday	Tuesday	We dnesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Lentil Soup ♥	2 Roasted Corn & Tomato Soup ♥	3 White Bean Chicken Chili	4 Beef Barley Soup ♥	5 New England Clam Chowder
Baked Spaghetti Dinner	Chicken Divan Dinner	Herb Roasted Turkey Dinner	Lemon Shrimp Oriental Dinner ♥	Beef Stroganoff Dinner
8 Broccoli Cheese Soup	9 Tomato Florentine Soup ♥	10 Goldies Chili	11 Crab & Shrimp Bisque	12 Chicken & Dumpling Soup
Italian Meatloaf Dinner	Chicken with Artichokes Dinner ♥	Broccoli Manicotti Dinner ♥	Spice-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	Smothered Pork Chops Dinner
15 Potato & Bacon Soup	16 Vegetable Soup ♥	17 Mexican Meatball Soup	18 Mushroom & Wild Rice Soup ♥	19 Corn & Crab Soup
Beef Enchiladas Dinner	Chicken Parmesan Dinner	Pot Roast Dinner	Sesame Salmon with Wasabi Mayo ♥	Swiss Steak Dinner
22 Tuscan White Bean Soup ♥	23 Creamy Chicken Vegetable Soup ♥	24 Beef Vegetable Soup	25 Broccoli Spinach Soup ♥	26 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥
Sausage & Cheese Manicotti Dinner	Chicken Tetrazzini Dinner	Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	Shrimp Stroganoff Dinner	Pork with Apples Dinner
29 Corn Chowder	30 Split Pea with Ham Soup	31 Butternut Bisque ♥	Nov. 1 Potato Leek Soup	Nov. 2 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo
Salisbury Steak Dinner	Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	Ginger Beef Dinner ♥	Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	Walnut Pork with Cranberrries Dinner

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NEWS September 28, 2007 **Seven Lakes Times**

Softball Tourney raises more than \$15,000

Dear Friends,

I just wanted to take the time to sit down and write a note to everyone that was affiliated with the tournament this year. I would personally like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone involved.

From the sponsors to the volunteers to the participants, this would not have been as successful without you. The amazing generosity of this communi-

ty allowed us to not only meet our goal but to exceed it. Our final count on Sunday came up to \$15,400 for the weekend. Words do not express my gratitude to all of you who made this possible.

This is an amazing community and I am proud to live here. You have proven once again that miracles do happen.

I look forward to working with all of you again next year and doing this again. I am not sure if we can top this but as some- end, we have a year to think one reminded me over the week-

about it.

Thank you ever so much, Matt McNeill

11



Jennifer, Noah, Connor, and Chris Jones with Tournament organizers Judy, McNeill, Matt McNeill, Kimberly Tew, and Bill NcNeill.

Tournament Champions Roly-Poly from Southern Pines

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October 2 • 7:30pm North Clubhouse

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Massage Thei



Join us Friday, October 26th, 4-7 pm and receive a

FREE Chair Massage

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10% Off any Full Service

Seven Lakes Professional Park Building 980 Seven Lakes Drive (Next to Stables)

910.673.2000

12 Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007 NEWS

Beware of email scams

If you are a Time Warner customer be aware of a fraudulent e-mail representing to be from Time Warner requesting your billing information. Please do not respond. This is a scam. If you have any questions concerning your account status with Time Warner please call them at 866 489-2669.

Remember never provide any personal information to an e-mail, FAX or telephone request. If you do get a telephone request please ask for the caller's name and phone number. Then check with the company for whom the calling is purporting to work for to verify employment.

You can never be too careful. Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in this country and will cause you financial headaches for the length of time it takes to resolve your case. Please be careful.

Canoes stolen

We have had two reports of canoes and paddles being stolen

Seven Lakes Assisted Living October Festival

Come and celebrate Mother Nature's bounty by having some good old-fashioned fun with the entire family.

The first annual October Festival at Seven Lakes Assisted Living will be held on Saturday, October 13, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Many great activities are planned including live music, a jumping castle, cake walk, dunking booth, ring toss, 50/50 raffle, face and gourd painting, plus plenty of food and drink.

Bring your chair and sit down to enjoy a fun and relaxing afternoon with the staff and meet the residents of Seven Lakes Assisted Living. Tours of the facility will also be offered. from properties on Lake Sequoia. I urge all residents to maintain a vigilant watch.

If you suspect any unusual activity then please call the North Gate at 673-4938 and request roving patrol to investigate.

If roving patrol is not on duty then please call the Moore County Sheriff's office dispatcher at 910 947-2931. If you suspect imminent danger then please call 911.



The Property Center

125 West Plaza Drive, Seven Lakes, North Carolina

Featured Homes



OUTSTANDING HOME

413 Longleaf Drive – 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Nearly new home close to back gate. Breakfast nook, sun room, great room, many special upgrades.

Call Tom!\$274,900



GREAT FAMILY HOME

171 West Devonshire – Four bedrooms, 3.5 baths, This southside home overlooks the 5th green. 2 decks, den, bonus room, Carolina room, rec room, and workshop.

Call Phil\$329,900



BEAUTIFUL VIEW



CUSTOM BUILT HOME



SPECTACULAR LAKE VIEW

164 Baker Circle – Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, like new home, fenced in back yard, quiet street, large lot, large rooms, large brick patio. A must see.

Call Angel!\$429,000



NEAR COMPLETION

104 Lakewood Court – Three bedrooms, 2 baths, hardwood foyer, kitchen nook & dining room, ceramic tile master bath, open & bright plan.

Call Norma!\$220,000



CUSTOM BRICK HOME

106 Morris Drive – 3 BR, 2BA, 5min. from 1st tee at BR, skylight in kitchen & MB, 2 sided fpl. Cathedral ceilng in Carolina Rm. 2 Car plus golf cart garage.



OUTSTANDING LAKEFRONT

467 Longleaf Dr. – 3BR, 2.5BA, ceramic & wood floors, upgraded kitchen granite counters, new cabinets, boat lift, dock, irrigation system & much more.

Call Judy!\$717,000



CUTE COTTAGE

119 Sunset Way – 2 bedrooms + large office, 2 baths, enclosed porch, fireplace surrounded with built-ins, attached storage shed, large lot, well landscaped.

Call Norma!\$148,000

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NEWS September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

In memory of . . .

Eleanor S. Frank, 92, formerly of Seven Lakes, died Thursday, September 6, in King of Prussia, PA.

Mrs. Frank was born in New York City. She married Thomas J. Frank, they were married for fifty-six years until his death in 1991.

She was preceded in death by her husband, and a sister, Geraldyn Dickstein.

Mrs. Frank is survived by her children, Barbara Nelson, of Gladwyne, PA and Jeffrey Frank of Schaumburg, II.

A private memorial service was held for family and friends.

Memorial donations may be made in the name of Eleanor Frank, to Heartland Hospice, 4070 Butler Pike, Suite 100, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.

Bacchi Courtney Funeral Home in Bridgeport was in charge of the arrangements.

Evelyn Sharkey Althen, 76, of Seven Lakes, died Monday, September 10, at her home.

Mrs. Althen the daughter of the late Archibald and Elizabeth Williamson Sharkey. She worked for many years in the travel industry. She and her husband moved to Seven Lakes in 1993.

Survivors include two sons, Bob Althen of Southbury, CN, and Harold Althen III, of Ridgefield, CN.; two sisters, Barbara Bowman, of Salem, MA, and Martha Simmonds, of Bayville, NJ and five grandchildren. A memorial service was held Saturday, September 15, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Seven Lakes.

Memorials may be made to FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.

Manuel "Manny" Garcia, 87, of Foxfire Village, died Wednesday, September 12, at his residence

Mr. Garcia was born in Spelter, WVA, and was a graduate of East St. Louis Senior High School in 1938, and Ranken Technical School in 1941. He retired from Aluminum Company of America [ALCOA] after thirty-nine years of service, and was a lifetime member of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jose and Flora, nee Gonzalez, Garcia; a brother, Ted Garcia.

Mr. Garcia is survived by his wife of sixty years, Betty J. Garcia, nee Leezy; four daughters, Kathleen Watkins, of Pinehurst, Karen Derzack of Wexford, PA, Carol Drake of Magnolia, TX, and Teresa "Tisa" Lynn of Lexington, SC; eight grandchildren, three stepgrandchildren, andsix step great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday, September 17, at Kassly Mortuary Chapel, in Fairview Heights, II. The Rev. Jeff Bealmar officiated. Burial followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in Fairview Heights.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, Hospice of Moore County, NC, and at www.eyefund.org.

Kassly Mortuary, Ltd. in Fairview Heights assisted the family.

Paul Leonard VonCanon Jr.,

71, of West End, died Saturday, September 15, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. VonCanon was born in West End. He was a son of the late Paul L. and the Rev. Mary L. Rhyne VonCanon. He was a graduate of West End High School and a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Mr. VonCanon retired from the North Carolina National Guard after twenty-nine years of service. He worked at his family's business, Sandhills Furniture, and later retired from the insurance business. He was a former member of the West End Fire & Rescue Department, and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 83, in Carthage.

He is survived by his wife, Sylvia H. VonCanon; two daughters, Janiece V. King, of Henderson, and Amanda V. Robertson, of West End; a brother, Thomas D. VonCanon, of Charlotte; two sisters, Dorothy V. McDonald, and Angelina VonCanon, both of Southern Pines; five grandchildren; and one greatgrandson.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 18, at West End United Methodist Church. The Rev. James K. Stalnaker and the Rev. Bruce Allen officiated. Burial with military honors followed in West End Cemetery. Memorials may be made to DAV, P.O. Box 154, Southern Pines, NC 28388.

Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes assisted the family.

James Everett Haywood, 78, of West End, died Thursday, September 20, at his home.

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Mr. Haywood was born in Montgomery County, and was a son of the late Joseph and Michie Dunn Haywood.

He graduated from Carthage High School, and was a veteran with the U.S. Army during Korea. He retired from the North Carolina Department of Transportation after forty-three years of service.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Earnest Haywood.

Mr. Haywood is survived by his wife, Joyce Frye Haywood; two sons, Tony Haywood of West End, Allen Haywood of Greensboro; two daughters, Hope H. Maness of West End, and Barbara H. Kelly of Carthage; two sisters, Lois H. Atkinson of Whispering Pines, and Evelyn Watson, of Robbins; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were held Saturday, September 22, at

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Attorneys
MICHAEL GORENFLO

MICHAEL GORENFLO ROBERT BIERBAUM

105 SEVEN LAKES COURT 6355 SEVEN LAKES VILLAGE WEST END, NC 27376

TELEPHONE: (910) 673-1325 FAX: (910) 673-1327

E-MAIL: GorenfloLaw@AOL.COM

14 Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007 NEWS

In memory of . . .

Christ Fellowship Church. The Rev. James A. Thyne officiated. Burial followed in Culdee Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Kenneth Clarence Burgoon Jr., 80, of Seven Lakes North, died Friday, September 21 at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

A visitation will be held from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 25, at Boles Funeral Home Chapel in Seven Lakes.

Mr. Burgoon was born in Columbus, OH, and was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Burgoon Sr. He was a veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict, serving with the Merchant Marines and the U.S. Army. He was a retired supervisor with the Ohio-Bell Company, which later became Bell-South and AT&T. He was also a member of the Telephone Pioneers Club, with Ohio-Bell while working in the telecommunications industry.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Margaret Poling.

Mr. Burgoon is survived by his wife, Nancy E. Burgoon, of the

home; two children, Michael Burgoon, of Paeonian Springs, Va., and Shelley Lynn Garcia, of Simi Valley, Calif.; one brother, Albert A. Burgoon, of San Antonio; and four grandchildren.

The family requests that memorials be made to UNC Hospitals, MICU Unit, 101 Manning Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is serving the family.

Horace George "Ace" LeClerc, Jr., 92, of Seven Lakes, died on Saturday, September 22, at First Health Moore Regional Hospital.

Born in New York City, he was the son of the late Horace G. LeClerc, Sr., Dorothy LeFavre LeClerc.

Mr. LeClerc studied engineering at Northeastern University in Boston.

He retired from his position as Chairman of the Board of the Cox Company, in New York, NY, in April 1996, capping a multi-faceted career extending more than sixty years. Upon his retirement, a state-of-the-art aircraft testing facility, the H. George LeClerc Icing Research Laboratory, was named in his honor and memorializes his contributions to this day. Other manufacturing firms that benefited from his engineering and general management included Link Aviation, Universal Match, Weyerhauser, and Joy Manufacturing Company.

Survivors include his wife of seventy years, Nonie LeClerc, and two daughters, JoAnne LeClerc of Lexington, MA, and Nonie LeClerc Ward of Scottsdale, AZ; three grandsons, and eight great grandchildren.

No local services are planned at this time. Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family. Eileen Roberts died Sunday, September 23, at First Health Regional Hospital after a short but vigorous battle with renal cancer

Mrs. Roberts was born to Lawrence and Grace Brown on a farm near Waynesville, Ohio. She held state offices in the 4H Club, was valedictorian of her high school class and worked her way through Miami University in Oxford, OH, earning a degree in Business Administration.

After a short career with the DuPont Company, she focused on raising her family and managing the home. She belonged to several service organizations and clubs. She had twenty plus years dedicated to singing with

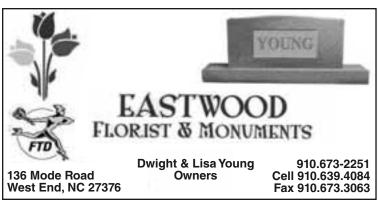
the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines choir.

Survivors include her husband of fifty-three years, Dennis Roberts; two daughters, Margaret Walence and Beth Yorgen; two brothers, Gene and Larry Brown, and five grandchildren.

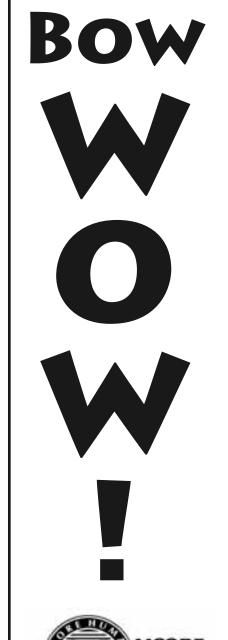
A memorial service was held Thursday, September 27, at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines followed by a reception at the Seven Lakes County Club. Burial will be in the family cemetery in Waynesville, OH.

Memorials may be made to First Health Hospice & Palliative Care, 150 Applecross Drive Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.







MOORE HUMANE SOCIETY'S First Annual Walking & Wagging Dog Walk-a-Thon was a tremendous success in having over 100 participants, in the amount of funds raised, and on-site adoptions!

WE THANK EVERYONE from, individuals, to families, to community leaders and their companies and especially their canines who participated and all the wonderful sponsors who gave so generously in making this such a successful fund raising event.

SPECIAL THANKS to our Top Three Fundraisers in the amount of pledges they secured:

- "Top Dog Honor" Denise Roberts with ERA Real Estate followed by
- Liz Giri with Precision Builders and
- Jamie McDevitt with McDevitt/Sothebys Realty

SOUVENIR WALKING & WAGGING T-SHIRTS can be purchased for \$10 with 100% of sales going to benefit Moore Humane Society.

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact MHS President, Gary Kunce at 692-8303 or Email MHS@embarqmail.com and be sure to visit www.moorehumane.org to learn more about MHS and the work we do. Be sure to join us for our next event!

Announcement paid for by FCIG (First Casualty Insurance Group)

NEWS September 28, 2007 **Seven Lakes Times** 15

Vietnam Vets host POW/MIA Ceremony

Forty-four North Carolinians who served in the Vietnam War are still unaccounted for.

In their honor — and in honor of prisoners of war and service men and women still missing in action from all conflicts, the Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America hosted a POW/MIA Ceremony on Friday, September 21, at Veterans Memorial Park in Carthage.

The ceremony focuses on a table set with symbolic objects, a rose, salt, a slice of lemon, an inverted glass — each with a specific meaning that is explained during the ceremony. Chapter President Joe Kristek read the the ceremony text.

Laud Pitt offered the invocation,

Gary Bobbitt read a reflection, and Larry McCallum and Jim Schrum each read 22 names of the North Carolinians still missing in action from the Vietnam War.

Edward Bator closed the ceremony by reading Jeremiah 31:

This is what the Lord says: "Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work will be rewarded," declares the Lord. "They will return from the land of the enemy. So there is hope for your future," declares the Lord. "Your children will return to their own land."

The Vietnam vets were joined for the ceremony by representatives of other veterans organizations in the county. Kristek said the VVA chapter

expects to hold the ceremony each year. Next year's obser-

vance will include an all-night vigil.



Jennifer Dwiggins, Broker

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2123 CRESWELL DRIVE TALAMORE VILLA! Bright and Airy! 2 BR, 2 Bath. Great Location in the Pinehurst area! \$197,000

118 Schever Drive South Lakes West One of a kind in SLW. Top of the line! 4 BR, 3 Bath. Upstairs Bonus PLUS Bedroom & full bath.

Walk to the Marina! Offered at \$445,000!



105 PINNACLE COURT 7 LAKES WEST PATIO HOME Newly remodeled and renovated — like walking into a new construction! 1950 sq. ft. offers Living Rm with marble fireplace & high ceiling. Open Dining Rm, Carolina Rm, Large Kitchen & Breakfast Nook with granite counters.



259 Longleaf Drive Over an Acre! 2900 sf home in SLW. 3 BR,

2 BA plus Guest Suite with BR & full BA plus kitchen-ette. Carolina Rm, Solarium, Large patio, screened porch, workshop, 2 car garge. Owner/Broker. .92 acre lot also for sale! \$375,000

Area A

(Continued from page 5)

nation used to delineate areas where "urban services" - principally county water — is expected in the future.

After the presentations, attendees broke into smaller groups to provide input to the planners and Steering Committee members. That input will be incorporated into the planning process as a final draft is developed for presntation to the Planning Board and Commissioners.

When asked about the meeting, Area A Steering Committee Chairman Dave Kinney described it as "a real success but"

The success was the level of interest shown in the Area A Future Land Use Map and the

number of good guestions Chris Armstrong ably handled," Kinney said. "Certainly the lively discussions around the three committee tables (Preservation/Conservation. Growth Management and Infrastructure) indicated great interest. The 70 or so folks who stayed for two hours provided comments we will be fully looking into."

The "...but" in his reply refers to Kinney's observation that "it was a busy evening for many folks with the Business Guild's Merchant's Night and two school meetings. I'd be very concerned if rather than these other important events, it's apathy that kept another 70 folks from partici-

FEATURED HOMES: LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT -



179 Morris Drive

Immaculately landscaped 3/4 acre lot. Picturesque lake views from every room. 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 3200 sf. Updated by current owners (builders) - no expense spared! 2-Boat dock, sand beach area, Huge deck and patio! \$899,900



108 Barnes Point

Cul de Sac point lot! 5 bedrooms & 3 full baths. 4600+ sq. ft. Hardi Plank, Tin Roof, Stamped concrete drive & parking. Lower level walkout. Landscaped grounds & gardens. Workshop off of garage...Too much to list!

Take a tour at www.jenniferdwiggins.com



120 Shagbark Court Lake Ramapo Home! Over 3320 sq. ft., all brick, 2 levels with lower level walkout, new kitchen ppliances, roof, landscap ng, workshop, storage, WATERFRONT! Reduced to Sell \$314,000!



389 Longleaf Dr.

Harris & Sons Construction. Three bedroom, two bath split plan, ALL BRICK, quality throughout. Offered at \$309,000



GREAT BUILDING LOTS! Lot 5442 – SL West. One acre homesite - perk

Lot 5132R - SL West. Beautiful .92 acre lot cleared of scrub oaks & full of gorgeous tall pines. Staked. Owner/Broker - \$67,500 OBO

testing underway - cul-de-sac location – \$69,000

Lot 2005 – Seven Lakes South – \$19,500

Lot 5445 - Seven Lakes West. Large .74 acre homesite - BEAUTIFUL! - \$59,500

> Lot 7017 - Carriage Park, SL West .80 acre property - \$79,000



110 Rector Court

2900 +/- sq. ft. of exceptional quality! Cul-de-sac location, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, custom features, Carolina room, large bedrooms, unfinished bonus room Don't Miss this One!



228 Longleaf Drive South Lakes West Beacon Ridge CC Golf Front on the 18th fairway. All one level, 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. Bright Carolina Room, formal Dining. Great buy at \$295,000!

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16 Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007 PEOPLE

7 Laker Art Dykeman: A Marine's Marine

by Mason Gould

There are several definitions of the word "pride" in Roget's Thesaurus – the right source for the right word – but the one that fits best for the history of the U.S. Marines contains these words: patriotism, national pride, honor, loyalty, allegiance, love of country.

You can see these qualities come out in short order as you discuss his twenty-five year career in the Marines with ninety-two year old Art Dykeman of Seven Lakes North.

Like other teenagers intrigued with the service, he enlisted at age nineteen in the Marine Corps Reserves in 1933 during the depth of the national depression. Among other things, he was treated to the an old saying, "If it can be moved, pick it up. If you can't pick it up, paint it. If it moves, salute it!" He transferred to the Regular Marines that same year.

Dykeman's 250-page narrative entitled "My Marine Corps," is loaded with evidence of his recall ability. You come away reading it with an immediate recognition of someone's complete devotion to all of the elements of his career. A career that took him to the rank of Major in charge of aircraft maintenance of a Marine Air Group.

As he recalls, "We never lost a plane due to poor maintenance."

Dykeman served four years

on North Island in San Diego Harbor, and later was assigned as an aircraft mechanic to an operating squadron which flew the Naval version [F4B-3] of the Army Air Corps P-12, built by Boeing. They were small fighter biplanes equipped with thirty and fifty-caliber machine guns. He performed maintenance checks every twenty hours of flight time.

He also directed maintenance operations to help keep our planes flying during the first U.S. offensive of World War II, at Guadalcanal. The strength of the Marine Corps reached nearly 500,000 during that war.

Dykeman also performed a variety of maintenance duties during War Games Exercises in the Hawaiin Islands, Midway, and Majuro Atoll, as well as similar duties during the Korean War.

Yes, ever since the U.S. Marine Corps was founded by the Continental Congress in 1775, it has served our nation with honor and a steadfast adherence to duty, dependability, and love of country.

Art Dykeman helped it stay that way.

As he puts it so coherently, "Every time one of our planes rose into the sky, lives were on the line, and victory was a vision to be turned into reality."

Following his retirement from the Marines, he spent nineteen years with various duties related to aircraft maintenance at Chance Vought Aircraft Corporation in Texas, retiring in 1977.

These days, he likes to do "books on tape." Reading as well as making gifts out of wood. He maintains his membership in the Military Officers Association of America in Washington, DC.

Dykeman's wife, Anne, met him while living in Havelock, North Carolina, near the Marines Air Station there. At the time, he was Group Maintenance Officer at the Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point. She was advertising manager and occasional reporter of a newspaper and radio station in a community near the coast.

He says, "As the Corps lives on with Esprit de Corps, there's no such thing as an ex-Marine. The spirit is always there."

Dykeman comes from a military-related family going way back. His father was a National Guardsman in World War I. His cousin served in World War II, his aunt was a World War II nurse, and another cousin was a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve in World War II.





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Art Dykeman

EVENTS September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

Kindsvatter plans 'Murder at Seven Lakes'

Murder at Seven Lakes – that's the title of the Seven Lakes Country Club mystery dinner production, to be held on Friday and Saturday, November 16 – 17.

Written and directed by Sally

Kindsvatter, it's the story of Anna Nicole Jones who comes to Seven Lakes to find a rich, old husband and finds death instead.

The men can't keep their eyes off her and their long, suffering wives are jealous. And her ever

suffering secretary is tired of being mistreated, so when Anna is murdered – everyone is a suspect. It will be up to the audience to find her killer.

Reservations for members may be made in person at the

Seven Lakes Country Club on Monday, October 15 at 10:00 am, or by phone after 11:00 am. Call 673-1100.

If reservations are still available, non-members may call on or after October 22.

The Country Club will not be able to accommodate tables of ten for this event.

Chairmen are Charlie Peterson and Nancy Sabo, assisted by Helen Yedniniak, and Barb Campbell and Mel Keiffer.

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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 & ½ bath, 3 fpl, scrn porch, 2 car garage, golf cart storage. Call for plans & spec. Ready Summer '07. \$595,000







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Seven Lakes Lots

104 Bexley Ct \$31,000 Cul-de-sac, good building lot

174 Cardinal Dr \$39,000 Rare North Side Waterfront

104 Brown Ct\$35,000 Interior, West side 207 Longleaf Dr\$48,000 Excellent building lot, West Side

120 Pittman Rd \$285,000 Waterfront, Lake Auman

Sandhill Realty



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- WEFD Open House 10
 am 7 pm, West End Fire
 Department. Featuring an
 auto extrication demonstration at 2:00 pm. BBQ and
 Fried Chicken plates by
 Jordan's BBQ available for purchase.
- Weymouth Woods: Bird Walk – 8 am, Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines. Join a park ranger for a 2 miles hike to look for southbound Fall migrant birds. Bring binoculars & bug spray. Meet at park office. Information 692-2167.
- Xeriscape Workshop –
 10:30 am Noon, Pinehurst
 Village Hall, 295 Magnolia
 Rd. Sponsored by Pinehurst
 Conservation Commission
 Greenway Wildlife Habitat &
 Water Conservation Committees, features Master
 Gardener Arlen Hantjis.
 Xeriscape is a cost & waterefficient style of landscape
 design. Free & open to all.
 Marisa Back 673-4239.



through America's Mental Health Madness. Lecture sponsored by National Alliance on Mental Illness for Moore County [NAMI-MC]. Free and open to the public. 245-3132, after 6 pm.

<u>SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20</u>

 Dust & Ashes Concert – 9 am, The Chapel in the Pines. Tom Page and Mary Lou Troutman special service music program.

weymouth Woods: Bugs and Blooms –3 pm. Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines. September brings cooler temperatures and some

showy fall flowers that attract lots of butter-flies and other insects.

Join a ranger for a leisurely hike to learn to identify some common blooms and bugs. 692-2167.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

 County Commissioners Meeting – 4 pm, Historic Courthouse in Carthage. Open to the public.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Moore Co. Literacy Council Volunteer Orientation –
 11 am until 2 pm,

Emmanuel Episcopal Youth House, S. Ridge St and Indiana Ave., Southern Pines. Tutors must complete a one-hour orientation and a twelve-hour training class to begin Tues., October 16. 692-5954.

• Sandhills Pointing Breeds
Club Meeting – 7 pm, 3280
Jackson Springs Road in
Jackson Springs. Open to
anyone interested in the
pointing dog breeds. Bonita
Austin 246-0926 or at
boaustin@aol.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Art Gallery at Seven
 Lakes – 1pm – 4pm, Art
 Gallery in the St. Mary
 Magdalene Episcopal
 Church. Opening day for
 new showing of works
 displayed by your friends
 and neighbors who love to

paint and draw. Come meet the artists and enjoy refreshments. Open every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1 pm – 4pm.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

- Moore County Planning Board Meeting – 6 pm, Carthage.
- Human Rights Celebration

 6 pm to 8 pm, Douglass
 Community Center,
 1185 W. Pennsylvania Ave.,
 Southern Pines. Sponsored by Church Women United, all are welcome to attend this program to recognize special people who have served the community. A light supper will follow.
- Women of Seven Lakes
 Meeting 1:00 pm, Seven
 Lakes North Clubhouse. Cal
 Loy, SL Fire Chief will
 speak on, "Fire Safety -

Dr. Pete McKay — Family Dentistry

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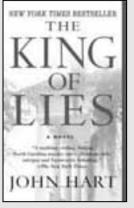
October Book Group

Friday, October 26, 7:00 pm At the Coffee Scene in Seven Lakes



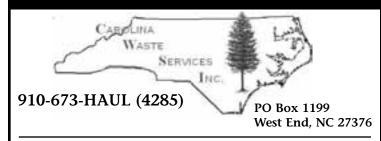
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STOP IN AND VISIT YOUR LOCAL FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Equipment Will Be Displayed From 11 am to 7 pm

Thanks For Your Support!!!

WHAT'S WHEN September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times 19

Protect Yourself from Fires and Falls." Bring any of the following items to support the men and women of Seven Lakes Assisted Living: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, after shave, body wash, or powder.

 Seven Lakes Lions Club Meeting – 6 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Dr. Darrell Simpkins, emergency room physician, will discuss how CPR can save lives. Dinner buffet offered at 6:30 pm, cost is \$8. Ray Lambert 673-3006, Howie Pierce 673-2087.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

- Beer Tasting Event 7 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Sponsored by SLWLA Recreation Committee, Tad Braun from Elliott's on Linden will present eight different beers including beers from Germany, England, and American microbreweries. Tickets \$10/person. Janet Baker 673-1644, or Sandi Carl 673-7711.
- UMW Fall Smorgasbord 6 pm, West End United Methodist Church. THE WEUM Women host their annual event with proceeds to benefit mission projects. Tickets for adults are \$8, children twelve years and under \$4. Tickets must be purchased in advance, no tickets sold at the door. Kitty Slazas 673-3827.
- Ballroom Dancers of the Sandhills 7:15 pm 10 pm, Olde West End Gym. A supportive, non-competitive environment that emphasizes the fun of ballroom dancing. Group class at 7:15 pm, and a line dance class mid-way through the evening. New & prospective members welcome. Helen & Ray Pardue 673-6347.
- WEE Fall Festival 5:30 pm 8:30 pm, West End Elementary. Bring the family for a fun-filled evening of games, food, a bounce house, and more.

<u>SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6</u>

SL Volunteer Fire Department Open House – 10 am until 2 pm, Seven Lakes Fire Station. All area residents invited to attend. Demonstrations & displays from

representatives of Moore Co. Public Safety, NC Forestry Service, Seven Lakes EMS, Moore Co. Sheriff's Department. Hands on activities for adults and children to enjoy, free refreshments and a chance to meet the members of your volunteer fire department.

- 2007 Walk from Obesity 10 am, Cannon Park in Pinehurst. On-site registration will begin at 9 am for the one and three-mile walks. Sponsored by American Society for Bariatric Surgery. Proceeds will benefit education and research. Cost to register is \$25. Information 715-5742.
- Petite Sirah: Wine Tasting

 Kitchen Essence, 905
 Linden Road, Pinehurst.
 Free event with delicious nibbles from the kitchen of Elliott's on Linden. Come taste why this is one of Tad's favorite varietals. Tad Braun 255-0665.
- DeSex Under the Stars
 Fundraiser 6 pm 10 pm,
 Companion Animal Clinic,
 5071 Highway U.S. 1 North,
 Vass. Featuring Caterino's
 Bakery and Catering, with
 music provided by the Java
 Mules. Silent auction.
 Tickets are \$50/person or
 \$100/person for Voucher
 Sponsor Tickets which
 underwrite the cost of one
 spay/neuter procedure plus
 a rabies vaccination. Tickets
 692-3499.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

 MCS Board of Education Business Meeting – 7 pm, Schools Central Office in Carthage. Open to the public.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

- Seven Lakes West
 Landowners Association
 Work Session 8 am,
 West Side Park Community
 Center. Open to the public.
- Foxfire Village Council
 Meeting 7:30 pm, Foxfire
 Town Hall. Open to the
 public.
- Computer Club of Seven
 Lakes Meeting 3:00 pm,
 Game Room at Seven
 Lakes North. Featured
 speakers are Buck Mims
 and Gregg Prigg of Affordable Computer Solutions,
 Aberdeen. They will demon-

strate Microsoft Vista operating system. Time permitting, also a hands-on activity in repairing and networking. Visitors are welcome.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

- Seven Lakes Landowners
 Association Work Session
 - 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes
 North Clubhouse. Open to the public.
- MC Department of Aging 3 pm – 4:30 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.
 Terri Prots, Director of Dept of Aging, and Peggi Kennedy, Family Care Giver Advisor, will make presentations on the resources that

are available in Moore County. Open to all Seven Lakes residents. Fran Stark 673-5493.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

 October Festival at Seven Lakes Assisted Living – 11 am to 3 pm, Seven Lakes Assisted Living, 292 Mac-Dougall Dr, Seven Lakes. Activities: dunking booth, cake walk, face painting, jumping castle, live music, food and drink, and more! Bring a chair and enjoy a great time. Tours of facility will be offered.

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— Johnny L. York, O.D. Winston-Salem, NC

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20 **Seven Lakes Times** September 28, 2007 September 28, 2007 **Seven Lakes Times**

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Seven Lakes West - \$329,900 bedrooms/3.5 baths • Enter Code 8144



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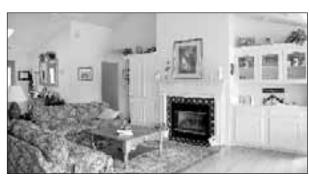
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130 Vanore Road
138 Carrington Square7 Lakes West (Golf Front)\$55,000
55 Morgan Trail
Carriage Park Drive . Quiet wooded street with 3/4+ acre lots\$75,000
Lot #'s 8001, 8002, 8003, 8004, 8027, 8028,
8029, 8036, 8037, 8038, 8039
Carriage Park Drive Quiet wooded street with 1+ acre lots
Lot #'s 8031, 8035
Acreage Lot 3E <i>Gelding Gap Lane, Carolina Equestrian</i>
Arbor Creek Off Hoffman Road



Seven Lakes North - \$259,000 4 BR/ 3.5 BA/ 3-car garage • Code 9234



Seven Lakes West - \$299,500 3 hedrooms / 2 haths • Enter Code 9364



Seven Lakes North - \$248,000 3 bedrooms / 2 baths • Enter Code 9574



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PEOPLE Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

John Nickerson joins Seven Lakes Baptist

Seven Lakes Baptist Church recently welcomed John Nickerson as their new Youth and Associate Pastor. Along with his wife, Heidi, and young son, Riley, Nickerson relocated to Seven Lakes South from Burlington, North Carolina.

"I am just excited to see what God's going to do with this great

group," said Nickerson.

A graduate of the Baptist College of Florida in Graceville, Nickerson's primary focus at his new post includes working with the church youth group including young teens up to college-aged.

"Our Sunday Night Service, from six to eight o'clock, is especially for the kids with music,

games, activities, and fellowship, followed by a youth sermon and Bible study," said Nickerson. "And we have an open door policy for visitors."

Nickerson said he is looking forward to growing his ministry, "I always wanted to work with kids and am so happy to be here."



John Nickerson

Open House at the firehouse

The Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire Department will host an Open House at the fire station at Seven Lakes Drive on Saturday, October 6, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

There will be various demon-

strations and displays, as well as representatives from Moore County Public Safety, N.C. Forestry Service, Seven Lakes EMS, and the Moore County Sheriff's Department, There will be hands-on activities for adults

and children to enjoy, as well as free refreshments and a chance to meet the members of your volunteer fire department.

All area residents are invited to attend, so mark your calendar and come enjoy.

Learn about Microsoft Vista

The next meeting of the Computer Club of Seven Lakes will be held on Tuesday, October 9, at 3:00 pm in the Game Room, located next to the Seven Lakes Landowners Association offices at Seven Lakes North.

Featured speakers are Buck

Mims and Gregg Prigg of Affordable Computer Solutions of Aberdeen. Mims and Prigg are in the business of building and servicing computers and computer systems. Their presentation will include a demonstration of the new operating ystem [OS], Microsoft Vista.

Mims and Prigg will provide a summary of the differences between Vista and the previous Windows OS. Time permitting they will also demonstrate some hands-on activity in repairing and networking.

The Vista OS presentation should be of interest to all because most newly purchased personal computers now have Vista installed as the OS. Visitors are always welcome.



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4015 NC Highway 73, West End, NC 27376 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am

Pastor F. Bruce Allen • Phone: 673-1371

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See the box on page 2 for contact info and deadlines.



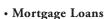
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MEMBER EDIC

Garden strategies for beating the drought

Again this month, drought and dry weather are the main topic of discussion among Sandhills gardeners. It is rather repetitious to discuss this situation again, but it's one of the most important aspects of gardening.

Although recent rain showers have helped to revive and rejuwatering program.

Try Marisa Back's suggestions for xeriscaping.

Another method, suggested by a Southern Pines resident originally from the semi-arid area of California, is to apply three to four inches of well decomposed, wet hardwood mulch around

plants. This will greatly reduce your watering needs.

If you irrigate with lake water, use only as needed. Don't irri-

gate with lake water randomly when plants may not require it.

September is normally the time for Fall planting but weather conditions have prevented it. When designing and adding plants to your yard, make sure to select plants that are adapted to our area.

Since the rains came, the Bermuda, Centipede, Zoysia, and Fescue lawns have greened up and become presentable.

Several questions have been raised on how to manage lawn fertility. The answer is to take soil samples. This is a free service: materials and information may be obtained from the county Agricultural Extension Office in Carthage. The samples are taken to a state laboratory in Raleigh for analysis. A report will be sent to you in a few days. Follow the recommendations.

In the absence of a soil test, a general recommendation is to use a premium slow release 5-10-10, or equivalent for maintenance, at the rate of five pounds per 1,000 square feet for warmseason established grasses of Bermuda, Centipede, and Zoysia. Established Fescue stands

should receive five pound application of 10-10-10, per 1,000 square feet, or another suitable lawn special may be substituted.

Another suggestion is if you have failed to lime your Bermuda, Zoysia, or Fescue lawn during the past three years, use twenty-five pounds of powdered or granular dolomitic limestone per 1,000 square feet.

September and October are the normal time I recommend seeding and reseeding the Fescue lawn. If you desire to do it, remember to water it adequately to ensure germination, but don't water excessively.

23

Other suggestions for October:

Reports of insect infestation continue to a problem and when populations are heavy it is necessary to use two chemical insecticide controls. There are many on the market, therefore,

(See "Gardening" p. 24)



venate plant growth, our lake levels, soil moisture, and water sources continue to be much below normal levels. We must continue conserving water on our landscape plants.

Remember, it takes approximately an inch of water per week to maintain the growth and development of most plants: whether it comes from natural rainfall or by applying it artificially. This includes established lawns, shrubs, and trees. Hand-watering flower pots, baskets, and beds require more frequent applications which should be done when needed.

Here are a few things you might consider doing to help the

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- Lubricate Engine Pivots & Control Cables

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TIME TO WINTERIZE!

TIME TO WINTERIZE!

GARDENING Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

Xeriscape workshop offered Saturday

the title of a special xeriscape Pinehurst Conservation Com-

"It's not just rock and cacti," is workshop sponsored by the

Gardening

(Continued from page 23)

it is important to identify the insect and use the effective treatment. Granular Sevin is an effective insecticide against grubs, worms, and other lawn and soil insects; whereas, liquid is adapted to spray for foliage plant use in the vegetable garden and on shrubs and trees.

Sevin is a good, general, safe larvaecide but is ineffective against mealy bugs, spider mites, scaled insects, and others. An effective method for controlling these is a solution combined mixture of two teaspoons of malathion plus one tablespoon of horticultural oil per gallon of water. The treatment may be necessary more than once for satisfactory control.

Some have reported borers on tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, cantaloupes, and other curabits. The recommended control is thiodan. Don't forget that insecticidal soap will give control of a light infestation of some insects.

Grasses and weeds always become a problem this time of year in order to produce seed for survival. There are several brand named phenoxys [broad leaf weed killers] on the market. The most familiar combination of a weed and grass control chemical is various formulations of Round-up. A recognized, widely used grass killer is Pozst.

When using any chemical pesticide, use it safely and according to the specific directions, and keep residue out of the lakes.

Now is a good time to repot any of your houseplants that are root-bound: doing it now will give the plants time to grow new

roots before they are moved indoors for winter.

A few suggested vegetable plantings include mustard greens, turnips, onion seed, onion sets, and radishes. Keep sowing lettuce, spinach, and other leafy green seeds.



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mission Greenway Wildlife Habitat and Water Conservation Committees. Featuring Master Gardener Arlen Hantjis, the program will be held Saturday, September 29, from 10:30 am to Noon, at the Pinehurst Village Hall located

at 295 Magnolia Road. The workshop is free and open to all.

Xeriscape gardening is a costeffective method of landscaping that conserves water and fossil fuel energy. Hantjis will describe seven common-sense

steps for making a landscape more water efficient and will provide examples of drought-tolerant ornamental plants.

For more information, call 295-1900, or Marisa Back at 673-4239.



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NEWS September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times 25

Ballroom dancers begin seventh year

The Ballroom Dancers of the Sandhills began its seventh year of dancing and instruction on September 7, at the Olde West End Gym.

The session featured a group dance lesson followed by rhythm and smooth dancing to live and recorded music. About halfway through the evening, line dance instruction was offered.

With a significant number of its members hailing from Seven Lakes, Foxfire, and Pinewild, the group meets twice each month at the gym in a highly supportive, non-competitive environment that emphasizes the fun of ballroom dancing.

Upcoming scheduled danc-

ing will be held on Fridays, October 5 and 26, November 9 and 30, and December 14, followed by nine additional dates in 2008. The group dance lesson is held at 7:15pm, and dancing continues from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

New members, whether beginners, mid-level, or accomplished dancers, can be assured they will

receive a cheerful reception. Prospective members are welcome to drop-in for a complimentary visit. For additional information, please call Helen and Ray Pardue at 673-6347.

Women of Seven Lakes Card Party and Fashion Show Luncheon

Mark your calendar for "It Was Only a Paper Moon," as the Women of Seven Lakes present a luncheon-fashion show-card party on Thursday, November 8, at West Side Park Community Center.

Goldie's Gourmet will cater the luncheon with fashion presentation from Phoenix Fashions.

Tickets will be on sale at the Women of Seven Lakes October 5 monthly meeting. Reservations may be made at the meeting or by calling Ginger Finney at 673-1330.

SLLA

(Continued from page 3)

- dell about an email scam in which the scammer attempts to extract personal information from Time-Warner customers [See page 12.]
- Approved a \$1,500 Refundable Compliance Fee that will be levied on builders before they can begin construction in Seven Lakes. Failure to follow community rules may result in the deduction of fines from the fee.
- Approved new rules governing lot clearing that limit the type and size of trees that can be removed when a lot is cleared for construction.
- Approved a rule governing the use of irrigation water from community lakes. When Moore County implements Stage I or Stage II Water Conservation measures - and the water level in Lake Sequoia is twelve or more inches below normal — lakefront lot owners will be asked to voluntarily comply with the irrigation restrictions required of county water customers. If the County moves to Stage III Mandatory Water Conservation, the Board wil revisit the issue.
- Discussed the possibility of using two Association-owned lots near the corner of Firetree and Primrose Circle for boat and trailer storage. Director Stephan cautioned that the Northside covenants may prevent the use of the lots for other than residential purposes, and President Truesdell said neighboring property owners should be consulted before plans are developed.
- Heard that several canoes

have been stolen from residences around Lake Sequoia.

- Heard that the installation of the new pool fence is underway and should be completed in a matter of days.
- Learned that a plan to reroute the path used for trail rides by using the ten-foot buffer strip that surrounds the community may have hit a snag. Survey documents disagree about whether the buffer strip exists in the Ramapo area, so additional investigation will be needed.
- Heard that the Community Standards Committee is still combating cars parked in yards — and is about to take on unkempt yards and boats parked in yards.
- Heard that the Architectural

Review Board [ARB] has approved one spec home and has approval pending on another spec and one custom home. A roof, a dog run, and two additions were approved this month.

- Heard that the new debris dump structure has been completed in maintenance yard.
- Learned that year-to-date revenues as of August 31 totalled \$1,135,000, while expenses were \$448,000. Treasurer Hudson reported that both revenues and expenses are tracking reasonably well with budget.

The last item of business on the agenda was a quick review by Director Nuti of significant changes in sections 8-13 of the SLLA Rules and Regulations.

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Real Estate

By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

15 Versus 30 Year Mortgage

Among the diverse home financing options, is the 15-year mortgage. It has been very popular depending on the difference in interest rates between the 15 and 30-year mortgages. If the spread is small, there is not that much difference between the two.

Perhaps the most attractive features of the 15-year mortgage are a lower interest rate, more rapid equity buildup and lower total interest payments over the life of the loan. However, the 15-year loan also has some drawbacks.

While home buyers might save more in interest, their monthly payments would be greater. Also, the 15-year mortgage might not be the best instrument for borrowers who move before their loans reach maturity. Because most people do not live in their homes for the duration of their mortgage loans, it might make sense to examine interest savings over THAT time frame. Since monthly payments are

higher, homeowners might want to explore whether the extra money could be better invested.

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Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

OPINION

Editorial

A profoundly bad idea

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board is making a big mistake.

In their September 12 work session, the Directors decided to hold a once-a-quarter closed meeting.

Actually, "decided" does not precisely capture the event. There was no motion, no second, no vote — just a little desultory discussion and a nod of assent from each Director when President Don Truesdell polled the room. Only Ed Nuti put up a credible fight. (Michael Florence, who managed to deflect this idea when it came up last month, was absent from the September 12 meeting.) The first secret confab was apparently held prior to the monthly General Meeting on Wednesday night.

No one has offered the barest whisper of a respectable rationale for this closed session. "So we can let our hair down," was Truesdell's justification last month. This month it was Director Donna Stephan's "so we can sit across the table and look each other in the eye" — an objective that would be more readily achieved by shifting the furniture than by eliminating the audience.

So, with a nod of the head, each member of the SLLA Board of Directors — save Florence — gave their assent to a closed meeting that not only deprives landowners of their right to see the Board at work, but violates the spanking new set of by-laws the Board approved less than twelve months ago.

That document is pretty plain. Section 6.9.2 on Special Closed Business Meetings says, "A closed session may be held **ONLY** when necessary to . . ." and then lays out the valid reasons, which are limited to legal matters, criminal matters, personnel matters having to do with an individual employee, and the acquisition of real property. The "only" in that sentence in the by-laws is boldface, in all capital letters. There is nothing in the by-laws that gives the Board the authority to call a closed meeting for any other reason — let alone schedule a regular closed meeting for no reason at all.

The language in that section of the by-laws is modeled on a commendable portion of the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina commonly called "The Open Meetings Law" or, sometimes, "The Sunshine Law." "Public bodies," that is, boards of commissioners, town councils, school boards, and the like, are allowed to go into closed session only under a relatively narrow set of circumstances.

The SLLA Board is not a "public body" under North Carolina law. It is, instead, the Board of Directors of a private, non-profit corporation. But it owns roads, dams, and playgrounds; it has the authority to tax homeowners; and its members are elected by popular vote. For all prac-

tical purposes, it's a town council. The General Assembly recognized as much last year when it began, with the passage of House Bill 1541, to regulate and limit the powers of landowners association boards. It's just a matter of time before the legislature sees fit to make these "private governments" subject to open meetings and public documents laws.

But let's put all those legislative considerations aside. The Directors of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association are the representatives of the landowners who elected them. And those who elected them have no way to evaluate Directors' job performance unless the Board operates in full view of the public. For years, the SLLA Board made all its decisions behind closed doors — and every unpopular decision was immediately suspect. A few years ago, one set of Directors had the vision to realize that, as Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis wrote, "Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman." Board work sessions were opened, and the charges of closed-door shenanigans ceased.

Do we really want to go back to the bad old days?

"But it's only one meeting a quarter — four times a year — and the Board has said no votes will be made in the closed sessions."

All that is true. But closed meetings are like potato chips — you start out with a couple and pretty soon you've eaten the whole bag. No votes will be taken in closed session — until Board members find it convenient to do so.

The current SLLA Directors already have a track record on this point. They held a whole series of legitimately closed meetings, in which they discussed with the Board's attorney on-going negotiations with the Country Club on the driving range issue. Then, when a deal was in hand and it was time to vote, did they present the matter to the landowners and gather input before voting? They did not.

Closed meetings are addictive. It is much easier to govern without an audience. So, discussions held in private inevitably become decisions made in private.

Their easy assent to a regular closed meeting that violates their own by-laws suggests this Board is too willing to set aside rules they find inconvenient. Their promise to take no votes in the proposed closed session will be as easily cast aside.

The public's business should be done in public. The members of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board should abandon the misguided notion of holding a regular closed session and focus, instead, on functioning more effectively in the light of day.

I know something good about SLCC

With all the recent letters to the editor pertaining to the Seven Lakes Country Club's plans for a new driving range and the sale of the current property along East Devonshire, I am reminded of an adage by the popular 1930's comedian, Will Rogers.

Appropriate to the Country Club's situation, Rogers has a famous quote, "It isn't what

we don't know that gives us trouble. It's what we know that ain't so!"

It appears the courts will have to decide

whether the Club has the inherit rights to do what they wish with their property. In the meantime, a vociferous minority of letter-writers have published a lot of so-called information regarding the Club and its membership which just "ain't so." Foremost is the assertion that the Club is having financial problems.

Initially, the Club was bought out of bankruptcy for \$2 million in the Spring of 1987. Barbara and I have been members since August of 1993. In the course of these fourteen years, I have been witness to a sizeable series of investments by the membership – both in cash and in "sweat" equity – to help make the Club into the prestigious four-star

asset to the community which it is at this time. During our membership, the following capital additions have augmented its value. [Dollar values are close approximations.]

Winter '97 - Replacement /enlargement of septic system: \$100,000

Spring '98 - Renovation /enlarge-

Rollin' Along

Rollin Tomberlin Seven Lakes South

ment of dining room and kitchen: \$450,000

Winter '99 - Renovation of pro shop and offices: \$75,000

Winter '01 – Began "Emeriti" program [ongoing members' equity gifts]: \$275,000

Summer '03 – Built the full complement of eighteen greens: \$150,000

Summer '05 – Repave main parking lot: \$21,000

Spring '06 – Re-roof cart barn: \$17,000

All year '06 - Renovation of entire course watering system: \$600,000

Note that none of the above amounts include the routine investment and replacement of costly tractors, mowers, trucks, and other maintenance equip-

(See "Rollin" p. 26)

SEVEN TIMES

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Founded in 1985 by Seven Lakes Times, Inc. J. Sherwood Dunham, Alfred C. Gent, William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker **OPINION** September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times 27

Ballons, candles & slot cars!

by Laura Douglass

No one knows the art and finesse of planning birthday parties better than a mom. And in my generation's ever escalating quest to ensure our kids have a unique and special day, the process has become downright daunting.

If you think throwing a child's birthday includes blowing up a few balloons, lighting the candles, and sharing in song, well, let's just say you probably haven't spend much time lately in the Wal-Mart toy aisle either.

Birthday parties have become competitive sport out here in Suburbia. And I, Douglass Family Team Captain, am surely headed for the play-offs in this race to nowhere.

I think it all started with my son's third birthday when a firefighter friend offered to bring the 'real deal' right to our house. Nothing says birthday like a massive fire engine terrifying the neighbors and crushing your landscaped driveway plantings.

As my children have reached each successive milestone, I have attempted to provide equally amazing thrills and chills. We've rescued stuffed animals from peril in the yard, blown up mountainous bouquets of pink balloons, and laid acres of train track throughout the house.

In my defense, I do eschew the glitzy store-bought cakes in favor

Rollin

(Continued from page 26)

ment.

Seven Lakes Country Club contributes many hours of lessons and rounds of golf to local juniors. Similarly, the Tennis Club members are extremely active in their support of Seven Lakes' youngsters as well. They offer the best junior tennis program in Moore County. Additionally, the Club donates hundreds of rounds of golf to local charity organizations to assist in

Seven Lakes Country Club is a truly marvelous asset to our community. We would think it fitting that our non-member residents would appreciate the no-cost enhancement which it adds to the value of their prop-

of much simpler Mommy-made fare. Perhaps I feel compelled by the memory of my own mother's heroic effort to craft the fantasy castle cake featured on the cover of one of her massive cookbooks: I had begged for years. Truly, it was a work of art with chocolate bars for doors and a roofline turreted with mini-marshmallows.

This year — utterly swamped with life and laundry - my fab-(See "Laura," p. 29)



Laura's -**Learning Curve**

Laura Douglass

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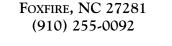
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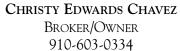


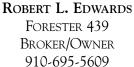
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OPINION September 28, 2007 **Seven Lakes Times**

Little J residents need relief. Let's pump!

Ed Nuti's offering in "Board Notes" appearing on page 9 of the September 14 issue of The Times expressed concern about the many coves in our seven lakes and the manner in which sediment brought about by drainage and wave action over time has rendered

board and staff over the predicament of the twenty some odd residents and their families who reside on Little Juniper. This lake is contained by a dam with excess seepage. The residents of Little J are aware of the costs associated with its remediation

and they haven't

requested that they

Ron Erskine Seven Lakes North

these coves virtually useless to the resident. The plight of those living in these coves has been ignored for years, and cost estimates to dredge should indeed be solicited and a long-range plan developed for their continuous care. Unfortunately dredging is expensive and dam maintenance must receive top priority.

At the same time equal concern should be shown by both

Laura

al storefront.

your off hours!'

(Continued from page 27)

ulous Mommy varnish was duly

threatened as I was flat out

stumped and the clock was tick-

A moment of inspiration!

der towards our county seat -

getting ready to improve the

view at a recent Board of Com-

missioners meeting — when I

happened upon a most unusu-

'Wow,' I thought upon entering,

'How little we chicks know about

what you men-folks do during

I had discovered the under-

ground world of outlaw slot-car

racing. Eyeing up this hundred-

foot long, eight-laned monster.

the words couldn't tumble out of

I was headed North, up yon-

such repairs be made. What do request and rightfully so, is fair and equitable treatment

as it relates to water and this is possible at very little cost.

From the recovery from the drought of 2002 until July 3 of this year the Little J residents have had little cause to complain. They knew they were losing water through their dam but they were getting it back and retaining their water level by pumping thirty-two hours a week from Big Jupiter as well as from nor-

my mouth quick enough.

of seven year olds?"

a picnic, right?

"Can I reserve THIS for a herd

To my surprise and enormous relief, the deal was sealed with

only a fair hit to my purse. Hey,

it's not as if hosting eight kids in

my living room was going to be

my self-imposed birthday party

ante. As my poker friends would

I'm thinking come March, on

the occasion of my daughter's

next big day, I'll be forced to

conjure something even more

outstanding — like delivering

say, "The pot is good."

So once again I have kept

mal precipitation. Then came the drought, and with it came reduced water levels in Big J and management's decision on July 3 to reduce or eliminate pumping from this lake and to commence pumping right away from lake Longleaf.

The problem with this decision was that the pump at Longleaf was inoperable and for almost three months it has remained so. It is still inoperable. When asked, the response was always that the parts were ordered, or were coming in today, or had arrived yesterday, and the words "today", "soon" and "tomorrow" were used with abandon. Recently, the story changed

and we were advised that during the drought of 2002 the board decided not to pump when the lakes were down more than four inches or during a period of drought.

This 2002 board decision has not yet been rescinded. Perhaps it will be on September (See "Little J." p. 30)











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OPINION 30 **Seven Lakes Times** September 28, 2007

Development threatens our water supply

[Ruth Stolting of Save our Sandhills offered the following testimony at a public hearing on new subdivision ordinances held during the September 20 join meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners and Planning Board.]

Water concerns are paramount in Moore County, but we're only hearing about immediate problems - irrigation water flowing down streets or being programmed for mid-day, and people not conserving enough. We're still not facing the fact that rampant growth will make the situation worse.

As we know, there is a tremendous amount of water "borrowing" because munici-

> Ruth Stolting Save Our Sandhills

palities do not have enough water to serve their constituents. Other counties have been sought out, such as Harnett County, to service the East Moore Water District. We've been told that these counties have a tremendous excess of water. Then why has Harnett County now issued water restrictions to its own resident? What happens when BRAC housing increases in Harnett County? Will it be forced to renege on its obligations to Moore County if its own citizens face desperate straights?

Look also at Whispering Pines, Southern Pines, Pinehurst, and Seven Lakes, "borrowing" water from Drowning Creek. First of all, the updated water pipeline from Pinehurst to Seven Lakes is incapable of providing water requirements to Seven Lakes at build-out of only eighty percent

of currently proposed homes. What happens when new developments in Area A are approved?

More importantly, we at Save Our Sandhills [SOS] have just become aware that Drowning Creek was so stressed in late August that it was basically using all available flow during periods of withdrawal. It is not an infinite source of water. For several days, the flow was well below that needed to supply the daily average of 4 million gallons per day [mgd] usually withdrawn from Southern Pines. A minimum steady flow of about 6.2 cubic feet per second is needed to supply 4 mgd. The flow dipped to almost zero flow on August 20 and 21,

> entire flow in the stream was being withdrawn during a significant portion of those days.

indicating that the

What happens if South-

ern Pines completes the Pine Needles PUD, thereby increasing its own water needs by twenty-five to thirty percent? Where will the water come from for the proposed Pinehurst Ritz Carlton development off Route 211, or the proposed Seven Lakes projects, including Seven Lakes East and Holly Grove?

Remember Summer flows are commonly well below median values, and a quick perusal of the Drowning Creek data shows that the creek cannot supply current needs during an extended drought, much less support a substantial increase in population. It appears time for a reality check. Our water resources are precious and must not be depleted by irresponsible growth. PUD's have been suggested as a wonderful panacea that promotes additional open space. That open space comes at a price, however, because it permits increased density. That is a real benefit to builders, but not to our natural resources, and to our infrastructure.

We need to be realistic. We should encourage ecotourism, agri-tourism, forestry - open spaces rather than intense development - to assure that when we turn on the faucet, we really will have running water.



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Little J

(Continued from page 29)

26. I certainly hope so, but this letter won't wait.

Little Juniper, a shallow lake to start with, is down 26 inches or more, while Longleaf, a far deeper lake, is down about 6 inches. In addition, Longleaf has a much larger drainage basin to aid it in

its recovery. It is the richest of all our lakes in terms of water. One inch of water out of Longleaf is the equivalent of adding almost four times that amount to the water level of Little J.

How can we not be fair and share? Let's repair that pump and start pumping now!

OPINION September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

Area A could become another Fayetteville

Dear Editor:

Approving developments that will eventually encompass several thousand homes can be done individually, with little fanfare, and with little thought to overall infrastructure and water needs. It's rather ironic when homeowners face fines and censure for watering lawns and flushing toilets when no one is focusing on how these future projects will affect the water situation. It's interesting how things change when money and

investors are involved.

And who will pay for all this development in the long run? What about the cost of building future schools? What about the cost of an additional trash transfer statin? What about the cost of additional fire, rescue, EMS, and police services, which include additional personnel, vehicles, and buildings? The builders will be long gone while the taxpayers continue to pay for these expenses.

They'll be paying in ways other

than purely monetary terms as well. They'll be paying with increased traffic. The ambiance will change. Competing drug stores will be on opposite corners, along with a Home Depot or Lowe's somewhere nearby. The mom-and-pop stores, owned by those who have become our friends, will slowly disappear. A way of life will be gone. Is this what we really want?

Bob Nelson Seven Lakes West



31

enhance your health, balance mind & body

Lions clean up on Hwy 211

Dear Editor

On Wednesday morning, September 19, the following Seven Lakes Lions and Lioness's picked up twelve bags of assorted trash on Highway 211 in Seven Lakes; Dan Flint, Jerry Genaw, Barb & Ray Lambert, Jean & Elmer

Parker, Dave Petrie, John Slazas, Don Truesdell, and Keith Wood.

I would to take this opportunity to thank the above for their willingness to participate.

It was a good turnout which makes the job that much easier.

Our final pickup for this year will take place in early December.

At that time, I hope that our Club will once again turn out in numbers.

"We Serve!" Dan Flint Seven Lakes North

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Blue Monkey helps soldier and Mobili

Dear Editor:

Sergeant Keneth "Cale" Christian will be off for a second deployment to Iraq sometime in October.

Cale entered the Army in December 2004, graduating from Basic Training in April 2005. His wife, Angela, and daughter Jesica live on base at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, home of the 101st Air Borne Division Screaming Eagles. Born and raised in Moore County, the only thing Cale wanted before his deployment was a North Carolina flag for display to represent his home state.

After making a few calls to see if anyone would make a donation, I finally got lucky. The Blue Monkey Gift Shop owners, Bruce and Ruby Prichard, did not hesitate. They donated a fullsize North Carolina flag.

I am Cale's mother-in-law and am so thankful for the support that someone from Moore County cared enough to donate a flag to this soldier.

Deborah Carter Seven Lakes North

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NEWS 32 **Seven Lakes Times** September 28, 2007

Recovery

The aspiring young pianist was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to Korea.

Soon after, his left arm was blown off by an enemy grenade. One of his tent mates was particularly shaken by the victim's misery - the prospect of a promising career blown to bits and encouraged him to use the magic that still existed in his good hand.

Arriving at the camp hospital, the musicianturned- soldier began



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

ing to accomplish with his good hand as much as was possible. His skill gradually increased with each self-imposed drill until his handful of buddies began to recognize much of the original beauty of the composition he had played that time in the mess hall. Yes, he had to improve a bit. But soothing beauty could still emanate from those remaining fingers.

No, his world had not ended. Returned finally to his native soil, he worked and worked until he found his surviving hand could do much of the work of his former two. His determination, his touch, and his love of the inherent nature of music, brought him and throngs of music lovers back together again.

Despite seemingly despairing setbacks at times, the elasticity of the human spirit, with its unquenchable flame, can come to the fore.

Yes, his pals reacted. They could see him coming alive again.

They felt good about it.

Westside

(Continued from page 4) munity about it," Snell said.

Director Fewkes read Snell the the engineer's recommendation that the road be closed "on September 1 or as soon as practicable," but Snell argued that the practical impact on residents had not been taken into account.

President Haggard told Snell, "I recognize that it is incovenient. We can inconvenience people or we can risk having the back of that dam falling down. I am willing for you to be inconvenienced in order to avoid that risk."

After the conversation grew more heated, and the audience began to call for Snell to leave the mic, Haggard asked Snell to meet with him privately after the meeting and allow other comments to be heard.

Other business

In other business at the meet-

· Both President Jim Haggard and Fewkes thanked Betty Milligan for leading a beautification effort at Johnson Point that was funded by a sizable contribution from an unidentified donor.

Haggard reported that a financial audit is underway and the outside auditors have completed the on-site portion of their work. Treasurer Kathy Kirst will give a report on the audit once the work is done.



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NEWS September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

Subdivision

(Continued from front page)

developed a plan that is cuttingedge and market-tested, which is incentive-based rather than punitive."

Nealon's presentation addressed three key areas; conservation subdivisions, rural and hamlet PUDs, and a few specific recommendations which did not fall into either category.

Conservation Subdivision

The Conservation Neighborhood Option is proposed as an alternative to Conventional Subdivision for developers. The proposed ordinances included many suggestions made by Randall Arendt, a conservation design expert brought in by Moore County this past Spring to provide guidance for future planning and zoning.

Conservation subdivision, according to Nealon's recommendation, provides a tiered approach to open space and should be allowed in more zoning districts. She said developers would see cost benefits by reduced infrastructure expense and through faster sales and value appreciation. The community would benefit through better protection of natural resources, more diverse housing options and products on the market, and in reduced demand for new public parkland.

The proposed ordinance requires a thirty percent minimum of open space of which at least sixty percent is contiguous, and all areas must meet a minimum width requirement of fifty feet. Subdivision open spaces should adjoin, or acknowledge, neighboring green spaces to support connectivity and create wildlife corridors.

The proposal also suggests minimum project edge buffers around subdivisions and discourages large gated communities.

"Gated communities prohibit traffic flow and connectivity," said Nealon. "We are trying to avoid areas with dead or closed-end streets."

The ordinances also suggest the county could offer incentives to developers. Density bonuses for additional houses with increased percentages of land set aside as open space.

Dave Kinney, Small Area Planning A Chair and a member of the County Planning Board,

asked "What about the costs to maintain this open space?"

Nealon responded that while she was aware that many Property Owners Associations [POS] are experiencing financial issues, at the end of the day they must bear those costs.

"Our short term call is to preserve open space," said Nealon.

Land Design, Inc.'s presentation included a list of future recommendations for consideration including the suggestion that private community roads be required to be built to North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] standards so that, if at some later date, the county or state needed to take over maintenance that they would be in a position to do so.

Also under future recommendations, Nealon suggested that

private sewer and water systems be consistent with public utilities for the same reason.

PUD

Currently, Moore County Zoning Ordinances prescribe one type of Planned Unit Development [PUD] that requires a conditional use district site plan approval. The newly proposed ordinance provided by Land Design Inc, recommends the county implement two types of PUD; rural and hamlet.

Development in the rural area would benefit from being planned within a PUD framework but the density and amount of open space would reflect more of the rural character than the current PUD.

Development in urbanizing areas of the county would benefit from a hamlet PUD by allow-

ing higher density and a greater mixture of uses while still requiring open space.

For the county to develop this two-pronged PUD approach, an Urban Service Boundary would need to be drawn to distinguish where rural and hamlet PUDs would be allowed.

Additional new PUD ordinances recommended would require a neighborhood meeting prior to the public hearing process.

A hamlet PUD would need a minimum of fifteen contiguous acres with at least fifty percent inside the Urban Service Boundary, and access to a major thoroughfare.

A rural PUD would require a minimum of twenty-five contiguous acres, with more than fifty percent outside the Urban Serv-

ice Boundary.

Other Recommendations

Several issues identified as important during the process which did not fit under either the conservation subdivision or PUD revisions were discussed at the meeting.

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Specifically, Land Design Inc., recommends that the Conventional Subdivision ordinance be revised to maintain an equal review process – allowing either conservation or conventional subdivision reviews to proceed in equal paced fashion.

The proposal also recommends that Conventional Subdivisions provide buffers and meet minimum open space requirements, as well as limit clearing, grading, and building areas.

(See "County," p. 34)



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NEWS Seven Lakes Times September 28, 2007

Rail crossing

(Continued from front page)

close others from Lakeway Drive to Hoffman Road. Gilbert described the project as a "partnership" involving NCDOT Rail Division, the NCDOT Division of Highways, and the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway.

The plan would add crossing gates and lights — as well as upgraded intersections — at Lakeway Drive and at the intersection of NC Highway 73 and NC Highway 211 in West End, near the West End Fire station. The crossing at Edgewood Terrace — a small crossing between NC 73 and Hoffman Road, would be upgraded but would not have gates. The crossings at Knox Lane and at Mode Road would be closed.

County

(Continued from page 33)

Nealon's presentation also stressed the need for the county to strengthen agricultural protection, to develop and support agri-tourism programs, and to increase efforts to establish agricultural conservation easements. **Public Comment**

Ruth and Bob Stolting, representing the Save Our Sandhills [SOS] organization, both addressed the Board of Commissioners. Ruth read a statement that said, in part, "Water problems are paramount...We're still not facing the fact that rampant growth will make the situation worse." [See SOS comments in full on page 30.]

Denzel Williams and John Harvel addressed the Board as representatives of the area's building contractors.

"Forty-eight hours time is not enough to really evaluate. We need time to have people who can advise us and get professional input," said Williams. He continued, "We want to look at the cost of the benefits as described in the proposal, and who is going to pay to maintain all this open space?"

Harvel. President of the Moore County Homebuilders Association, said, "It's going to be a bumpy road and with change comes conflict, questions without answers. We see change as a good thing as long as it is taking us forward in a positive fashion."

Gilbert said tapping into federal dollars to pay for the project requires a cost-benefit analysis. The benefit in that equation is those closed crossings, which will not require the expenditure of federal safety dollars in the future.

The West End Corridor project initially included Hoffman Road, but NCDOT decided that intersection needed immediate attention and pulled it out of the larger project. Crossing lights have been installed, and a traffic light is in the works.

Gilbert said he had meetings with representatives of West End Presbyterian Church and the adjacent cemetery who asked that the Mode Road crossing be left open and the Edgewood Terrace Crossing closed instead. He said he would recommend that NCDOT present both options in public hearings on the project and make a decision based in part of community input.

In order for the Lakeway Drive crossing to be included in the project, that crossing will have to be turned over to the state. It is currently a private crossing under an agreement between the railroad and Seven Lakes developer Lakeside Development. Gilbert said Lakeside supports the project.

In addition to upgrading the

crossings themselves, Gilbert said, the project is likely to involve additional turn lanes at Seven Lakes West and at NC 73 in West End, provided those enhancements can meet the "warrants," that is, the technical demonstration of need, that NCDOT requires to implement

In addition, because of the truck traffic on NC 73, the western intersection of that Road and NC 211 — at the traffic light in West End — will likely need to be upgraded. The turning radius is too tight there for trucks turning onto NC 73, Gilbert noted.

In addition to the SLWLA presentation, Gilbert's visit to Moore County included a meeting with NCDOT District Engineer Chuck Dumas. The consultant said he hoped to have the district's contribution to the project in hand in a month or so, at which point the design can be completed and public hearings scheduled.

"That's where I am going to need your support," Gilbert told Westsiders, noting that this project is the best chance for the installation of gates at the Lakeway Drive crossing. The project is likely to cost \$500,000 to \$700,000, Gilbert said, noting that neither the developer nor the

(See "Crossing," p. 35)

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Loop the Lake

(Continued from front page) another. The combination of

vehicle, pedestrian, and bike traffic is dangerous — and made more so by blind curves and rolling topography.

The solution? Separate the pedestrians from the automobiles by providing a pedestrain trail along Longleaf Drive.

Rust pointed out that the municipalities in Moore county are now requiring walking paths or sidewalks in all new subdivisions that they approve. Both Southern Pines and Pinehurst are actively building out trail systems. A recent article in Golf Digest reported that walking trails are the number one requested amenity in new golf course communties, Rust said.

Crossing

(Continued from page 34) railroad is likely to be interested in bearing that expense. So obtaining federal funding is essential.

Assuming the public hearings go well, funds could be allocated within a year and construction started shortly thereafter, he said.

What is LTL?

The Loop the Lake trail is envisioned to be a six-foot wide path separated from the roadway pavement by a two-to-five-footwide planting strip. The pathway will be constructed in most areas of granite fines, a stone product that is easy on the knees and ankles yet provides a sturdy enough surface to accommodate family bicycling. In areas with a greater than five percent grade, a tar and gravel surface would be used instead.

The granite fines surface, which is being used for paths in Pinehurst and Southern Pines, is projected to cost \$9-\$14 per linear foot to install, depending on the amount of clearing and grading required. The tar/gravel surface is more expensive — \$19 per linear foot.

Who?

Rust said the LTL trail is primarily designed for pedestrian traffic, with family biking as a secondary use. It is not designed for aggressive cycling or golf cart use. The granite fines surface works great for baby strollers, he said.

Where will LTL be built?

The LTL Committee has asked the Board for permission to place

the trail along Longleaf Drive within the 60-foot right of way owned by the Association. That right of way is not an easement on the private property of homeowners, but is actually Association property.

The six-foot width of the trail is designed to be comfortable for two people walking side-by-side, Rust said. The planting strip between it and the roadway could ultimately accommodate street trees and other plantings.

Rust and Niewald, along with Niewald's husband, Tim, conducted an inventory of Longleaf and developed a map that shows the trail sometimes on the lake side of the roadway and sometimes on the outside of the loop, depending on the topography of each area.

When?

Rust said the trail — with a projected cost in excess of \$500,000, would be a multi-phase project built out over a number of years. "This is not something that we are asking the Board to issue bonds or take out a loan and borrow to build," Rust said.

Which portions would be built first would depend on factors such as traffic patterns, the location of any new mailhouses, and so on, he noted. The Committee believes building the portion of the trail from the Beacon Ridge Clubhouse to West Side Park Community Center would be a good first choice. "That would connect a lot of neighborhoods to amenitites," Rust said, noting that traffic has increased over that section of Longleaf as a result of the closure of the roadway across the Lake Auman Dam.

How?

The first thing the LTL Committee needs to start the project is the Board's approval to utilize the right-of-way, Rust said. The group has set a fundraising goal of \$5,000 for Phase I and will use a variety of fundraising events to come up with the money, which it is asking the Board to match.

"We hope that some of our

resident contractors can donate time, equipment, and resources to help build the project," Rust said.

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The Board will also need to approve the design of the path, Rust said.

Issues

Rust said the cost of the trail is obviously an issue — though it will cost significantly less than West Side Park and probably be used by more residents. Noting that the Association already pays to mow and seed roadsides, he said maintenance costs of the trail should not add to these existing costs.

Finally, acknowledging that some concerns had been raised about increased liability to the Association, Rust said he thought separating pedestrians from

(See "Loop the Lake" p. 36)

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Tim Niewald, Owner

Loop the Lake

(Continued from page 35)

vehicular traffic could actually reduce liability and the chance of an accident. Because the trail would lie on Association property, there would be no liability for the homeowners whose property it passes in front of.

Public comment

The Loop the Lake presentation elicited considerable public comment, both from supporters and from those opposed to the project.

George Mercer, a 14-year

resident of Longleaf and the Area Representative for the homes on the West Side of Longleaf from Beacon Ridge Drive to Banbridge said that all the residents that he had contacted in that area were opposed to a path or trail that would be placed

in front of their homes. He said the presence of a trail would hurt property values. He suggested instead routing pedestrian traffic through more lightly traveled interior roads. "A trail might have been a good idea when the property was being developed, but at this stage, it is not approriate."

John Hoffman told Board members that they should have "pulsed" the community on the issue, i.e., gathered community opinion on the desirability of a

(See "Loop the Lake" p. 37)



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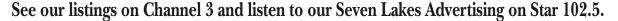
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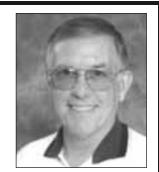


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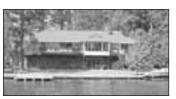


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#3389 - Lake Auman - \$299,000

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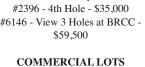
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SEPT 2007 ACTION

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113 Winsford Circle -Under Contract Lot #3157 - Lake Auman -New Listing Lot #2483 - SOLD! Lot # 2211 - Under Contract Lots # 2510/11/12/13 - SOLD! Lot #3388 - Auman Waterfront -New Listing Lot #3389 - Auman Waterfront -New Listing

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Veronica & Alexandra Whelan

NEWS September 28, 2007 Seven Lakes Times

Loop the Lake

(Continued from page 36)

trail, perhaps by using the Area Reps and other committees, before putting in all the work that went into Rust's presentation.

Tim Williams of Owens Circle noted that "walking is the number one recreational activity in America," and said many people do walk in Seven Lakes West. The division of the community into a number of separated neighborhoods does not promote a cohesive sense of community, he said. A trail connecting those areas would help bring people together.

Another Longleaf resident said the trail should properly be called a sidewalk, which he had in New Jersey and doesn't think the West Side needs. "I am vehemently opposed to any sidewalk in front of my property," he concluded.

Clara Simon, a Longleaf resident, said she walks her two dogs on Longleaf daily and has no trouble with traffic. "I am against walking paths," she said. "I don't think they are needed... ."We have enough expenses

with dam repair coming up. We have to have the roads repaved at some point. We just had an increase in dues."

Jim Bram of Wertz Drive said the trail was "a great idea and noted he would like to see it extended up Lakeway Drive to provide pedestrain access to Village shops.

Dee Foreman, said she had Googled walking trails looking for evidence that they hurt property values and could find only evidence that they increase property values. "You might not want to have one in your front yard, but you can't find anything negative about their impact on property values," she said.

A Morris Court resident agreed that the path would increase property values and enhance safety. He asked that residents "not consider themselves, but consider that a lot of young families are moving into this neighborhood."

Taking note of the notion of "pulsing" the community, former SLWLA Director Jan Patton cautioned the Board to be careful about how it gathers information from the community. "If you are going to gather feedback on a question like this, please have someone do it who knows something about random samples and statistical analysis," Patton said. Otherwise, the Board is apt to get badly skewed information, she added. "You will hear from the loud people. You have to do it right to get good information. And good information is not what you get if you ask the Area Reps to go to the neighbors and give you feeback."

Former SLWLA Director Bill Schmidt — a 22 year resident, said he agreed with Patton's point on getting accurate feedback. "My personal feeling is that there is a lot of support for this," Schmidt added.

Jeremy Rust added, "This area is being over-burdened by development. It's a dam about ready to break."

"The folks who are coming are the baby boomer generation — active adults," he said. "And we have a very, very limited

amount of open space available to walk on. We can't walk on water or on the golf course. This trail would be an extension of amenities that will improve our property values."

Next steps

President Jim Haggard, interviewed on Wednesday, told The Times that he didn't feel the Board was ready to vote on the matter at this point.

Some Board members are concerned about the cost and others are concerned about the objections raised by some residents to have the trail in front of their house.

"I know we need to move one way or the other, to give committee the go-ahead or not," Haggard said. "But I don't think that the Board is ready to do that at this point in time. I think the Board is going to have to gather more input from the community before acting."

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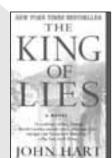
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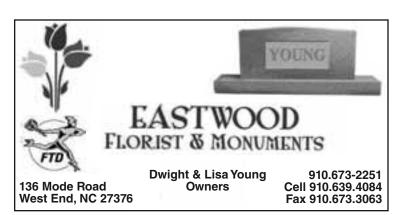
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