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Volume 23 Number 9

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

March 7, 2008

Firefighters at Kiwanis



Seven Lakes volunteer firefighters Tyler Cheek, Seth McConnell, and Steve Cox recently joined Ken Jenkins and his fellow Kiwanians for a refresher on fire safety in the home. [See story on page 32.]

300-home development planned near Seven Lakes

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

A 131-acre, 316-unit, mixed residential development that will lie on either side of Holly Grove School Road and abut Seven Lakes North was on the Moore County Planning Board's Thursday, March 6 agenda as *The Times* went to press early Thursday morning.

The proposed Planned Unit Development [PUD], located approximately 2.1 miles east of Rt. 211, adjoins the perimeter boundary of Seven Lakes North near Timber Drive, Cedar Lane, and Seminole Court.

Beardslee Engineering, a New Jersey-based firm owned by Bill

Beardslee, a resident of Seven Lakes North, is seeking a zoning change from RA and RA-USB to PUD Rural and PUD Hamlet for the two subdivisions, to be called Southwick and Northington, which make up the project.

Water is a key concern and Beardslee said he believes "it is appropriate and reasonable" that preliminary approval for the subdivision plan will hinge on

the ability of the county to provide water to the development. Planning and infrastructure concept documents submitted by Beardslee Engineering noted that potable water should be sufficient but a new water tank would be appropriate to provide fire protection and stabilize pressure.

Moore County Public Utilities issued their own review suggestion. (See "Development," p. 32)

Old affidavit may undermine lawsuit

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The suit over Seven Lakes Country Club's old driving range comes down to a simple question: Was the five acres on which the range sits reserved in perpetuity as open space, in the intent of the original developers, through the maps, plats, and covenants they filed, and by the promises they made, verbally and in sales materials, to those who purchased lots in Seven Lakes?

It now appears that the lead plaintiff in the suit, D. Alan Shaw of Seven Lakes South, has, under oath, come down on both sides of that question.

The complaint filed by Shaw and co-plaintiffs Steve and Mary Hudson, Tom and Roberta

Robinson, and Chuck and Jane Leach, says the old driving range property "was never intended for residential use or development and has at all times since the recordation of the subdivision plats been shown as part of the open areas protected by the restrictive covenants of the subdivision as undeveloped, green area for the protection and enjoyment of the residential lot owners."

In a deposition taken last month, Shaw reiterated that claim, testifying that the original developer had never considered using the old driving range property for anything other than green space and had never planned to use the property for residential development.

(See "Suit," p. 35)

Guild plans Chili Cookoff

by Kim Tew

Seven Lakes Business Guild

The Seven Lakes Area Business Guild will heat things up on Saturday, April 12th in the Commons Area with the Guild's first annual Chili Cook-off and Street Fair.

Everyone is invited to come out and participate in this inaugural event. Dust off your cook books and crock pots and whip up your finest chili to compete against your friends and neighbors.

Judges will choose the best overall chili, while "peoples

choice" awards will be given for best One-alarm (mild), best Three-alarm (medium), and best Five-alarm (hot) Chili, as well as best-decorated



booth. A cash prize will be given for best overall chili.

The Cook-off and Street Fair will help raise funds for the repair of village streets. Modern Wood-

men of American is co-sponsoring the event and will match up to \$1,000 of the local monies raised.

In addition to the chili cook-off, this is also a street fair. Local businesses and organizations are invited to use this opportunity to promote themselves, sell their wares, hold a membership drive, or thank their customers. Whether you make chili or not, your organization can participate in the booth decoration competition.

There will be fun for the entire family, so bring your children (See "Cookoff" p. 2)

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Gardeners hear from Weymouth ranger

by Dale Schmidt

Seven Lakes Garden Club

In February members of the Seven Lakes Garden Club were treated to a very informative and picturesque presentation about Weymouth Woods Nature Center, by Ranger Billy Hartness of the Division of Parks & Recreation. Hartness described how Weymouth Woods was established to preserve and protect a small segment of the special adapted plant and animal communities of the Sandhills region.

The Sandhills are flat-topped sandy ridges separated by broad level valleys that make this one million acres area unique. Most

of the extensive longleaf pines that once covered the Sandhills were removed by lumbering, naval stores operations, and fires. Today, second growth longleaf pine and turkey oak stands cover the slopes of the ridges and drop away to hardwoods that fill the bottomland.

Hartness' management practices are dedicated to preserving primitive ferns, lichen and

mosses, brilliantly hued wildflowers, shrubs and trees. British soldier lichen, cinnamon fern, Indian pipe, trailing arbutus, wild orchids, dwarf iris, fall gentian, blueberry, and wild azalea are just a few of the colorful species to delight the nature enthusiast. Fascinating insectivorous plants are located in the moist areas. Among these are several species of pitcher plants and the diminutive sundew. In some areas formerly occupied by the pines are red and white oaks, American holly, dogwood, hickory sweetgum, sourwood, yellow poplar, persimmon and red maples.

Weymouth Woods is home for many animals, while others pass through at various times of the year. Chattering gray squirrels and their larger cousins, the fox squirrels, can be seen scampering across the hiking and bridle trails that wind through

the preserve. Other common mammals include deer, red and gray foxes, raccoons, opossums, and rabbits. Less common species are mink and otter.

Birdlife is also abundant at Weymouth Woods. Large numbers of migrating songbirds pass through and often spend the winter in the preserve. Quail, mourning doves, hawks, and owls can be seen throughout the year.



Weymouth Woods Park Ranger Billy Hartness with Les and Nancy Englehart, program planners for the Seven Lakes Garden Club.

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
March 21	March 14
April 4	March 28
April 18	April 11
May 2	April 25
May 16	May 9
May 30	May 23
June 13	June 6
June 27	June 20
July 11	July 3*
July 25	July 18
August 8	August 1
August 22	August 15
Sept 5	August 29
Sept 19	Sept 12
October 3	Sept 26
October 17	October 10
October 31	October 24
Nov 14	Nov 7
Nov 26*	Nov 20*
Dec 12	Dec 5
Dec 23*	Dec 18*

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

Cookoff

(Continued from front page)

and your parents and stay for the afternoon. Pinatas will be on hand for younger children.

Chili tasting will begin at 1:00 pm with judging at 3:00 pm. Tasting tickets will be sold at the event for fifty cents each or three for one dollar. Commemorative mugs will also be available — while supplies last — for unlimited tasting.

Check the next issue of *The Seven Lakes Times* for further

information about the schedule of events. Come and join join us to make this a fun and successful event for all.

To enter the chili cook-off, download an entry form and the rules and regulations at www.7lakesbusinessguild.org — or call JuBilee Screen Print at 910-673-4240.

For more information or to reserve a booth space please call JuBilee or email jubileeads@earthlink.net.



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Board revamps nominations, legal access

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors adopted several new policies — and rejected others — during its Wednesday, February 27 business meeting.

Nominations Committee

The Board approved a revision to Bylaw 6.3, which deals with the Nominations Committee, making several changes to the existing process:

- First, the Nominating Committee Chairman will be named in September, in order to give the panel more time to work.

- The Members of the committee will have to be approved by the Board of Directors.

- The Committee will consider "the current needs of the

community," in addition to subdivision representation in selecting nominees.

And, finally, though the committee is expected to seek out candidates, "any resident may

Legal Expenses

After some debate, the Board approved a policy document that requires Directors to obtain Board approval before contacting an attorney on the Association's behalf.

Secretary Michael Florence proposed the new policy in the wake of Treasurer Hudson's criticism of mounting legal expenses.

Though the President, Vice President and Community Manager are designated as the Board's primary legal contacts, once the expense trigger is reached, attorney contact may be made only after the Board has approved the framing of the question on which an opinion is sought, and the attorney's answer must be presented to the Board. Failure to follow the prescribed process could result in the Director who makes the legal contact being held responsible for the expenses incurred.

The new policy makes an exception for the Community Manager, who may incur up to

\$500 in legal fees for "normal community business."

President Truesdell opposed the new policy, arguing that recording the legal question and the attorney's answer in the Board's minutes would make it discoverable and thus destroy attorney-client privilege. Secretary Florence argued that the question and response could be handled in closed session and the minutes of that session could be sealed.

He also asked where in the "Green Book" of Association legal documents the new policy should appear, since it appeared

(See "SLLA," p. 31)

Seven Lakes Landowners Association Meeting

2/27

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Speeding still a problem in Seven Lakes West

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Speeding on community streets continues to be a problem reported President Jim Haggard at the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Open Meeting held on Tuesday, February 26. Of high concern was a recent incident at the mail house when a pedestrian was struck by a vehicle.

"They [the pedestrian] were not hit hard...but we need to give some latitude between a car and a person. People exiting from the community seem to think it's appropriate to get out of here really fast," said Haggard. "When people get hit it is time to pay attention to the issue!"

Haggard said he looks to the new board to address the problem of speeding over the coming year.

Traffic Count

In a related discussion, Security Director Blaine Rowland presented the results of a recent traffic count study conducted at the front entrance of Seven Lakes West. The study was undertaken to provide information to the county and state as part of the community request for a railroad crossing upgrade.

Rowland said traffic entering and exiting the community at

peak travel hours was counted, as well as all traffic traveling through the Rt. 211 intersection for a frame of reference.

"The numbers surprised us," said Rowland. He reported over 15,000 vehicles traveled through the main intersection with approximately 3,800 vehicles entering or exiting Seven Lakes West,

West Side Landowners Meeting

2/26

including sixteen county school buses.

This count included traffic from all directions; Pinehurst, Candor, and those traveling straight across from Seven Lakes Drive.

Forty-five percent of exiting vehicles turn right reported Rowland, suggesting that a right turn only lane should be considered in the upgraded railroad crossing proposal.

"It was a worthwhile count," said Rowland. The last traffic study, conducted a decade ago, at the front entrance counted 800 vehicles.

"There are going to be several railroad crossings terminated over the next few years," said Rowland. "We did not want our

entrance to be one of those that might get terminated."

Ballot Counting Process

Director Jo Nicholas, chair of the Nominations Committee, provided a detailed report of the election ballot counting process. All ballots received are placed in a locked ballot box and, at the end of each week, sealed in an envelope and placed in a vertical locked file.

The Nomination Committee will meet for two half-days and again on the Friday before the Annual Meeting to count bal-

lots. Residents have until 2:00 pm the day of the Annual Meeting to deliver their ballot.

Nicholas said that during the counting process, one volunteer checks the name against the list of dues paying members using lot numbers and names. The ballot is then handed to another individual for counting. All ballots are tallied by two people to ensure an accurate count.

Manager's Report

Community Manager Tony Robertson reported that some residents have been placing personal trash in construction dumpsters belonging to contractors.

"If you are doing it, please

stop because when household stuff, tree clippings, or prunings goes in and to the landfill – they won't take it," said Robertson.

"Please take your garbage and dispose of it in the proper manner," implored Robertson.

In addition, Robertson said the county has scheduled a Hazardous Waste pickup date. [See information on page 9.]

Robertson also suggested that all walkers and joggers in the community wear light or reflective clothing for safety.

SLW Volunteers

The database development team is close to completing their

work, reported Haggard. Preprinted forms will be sent out to residents during the next mass mailing. Haggard thanked the team for their efforts calling the database a huge asset to the community and said a volunteer with Access 2007 skills and experience administering a database will be needed to keep the records "fine tuned."

Haggard also recognized the twenty-four Lakeway Drive landscaping volunteers.

"We've had a whole bunch of people out there spreading 150 bails of pine straw," said Haggard.

"Thanks to them and Betty Mil-

(See "Westside," p. 5)

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County Board creates financial advisory panel

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The Moore County Board of Commissioners has appointed two new committees aimed at ensuring county money is well-tended and wisely spent.

A new Major Capital Projects Task Force and a County Government Efficiency Advisory Board [CGEAB] were approved during the Commissioners Meeting on Monday, March 3.

The CGEAB has the broader mission of the two panels, charged with examining "specific projects and initiatives within county government for efficiency, options, and recommendations to make the best use of taxpayer money."

"The big thing to me on this was to make sure that we make every effort before we raise taxes," Commissioner Larry Caddell said of the new committee. "We put the Land Transfer Tax and now the Sales Tax on the ballot to give the people of Moore County every option before raising property taxes."

Members appointed by the Commissioners include Dick Westcott of Southern Pines, Jim Westbrook of Southern Pines, Bob Tweed of Southern Pines, Nick Picerno of McLendon Hills, and Densel Williams of Pinehurst. Picerno is a candidate in upcoming elections to replace Chairman Colin McKenzie on the Board of Commissioners.

A resolution describing the panel's duties, offered by Commissioner Cindy Morgan says they will:

- Accept projects recommended by the commissioners, county staff, and public, funneled through the County Manager,
 - Request information, review data, and communicate as needed with staff through coordination with the County Manager,
 - Work with the County Manager and staff on reporting their findings to the Commissioners.
- Chairman McKenzie expressed some concern that those provisions hemmed in the new panel

a bit too tightly, making a motion amending Morgan's resolution "to allow these people to come up with their own agenda if they see fit."

Morgan said she had researched the success of similar groups convened in other counties and found they tended to be more successful if given some guidance in terms of projects they should pursue.

After discussion, McKenzie withdrew his amendment, but said, "I want them to know that, if they want to ask the County Manager for something, he better have a damn good reason for not giving it to them if it's legal."

The Board ultimately approved Morgan's resolution establishing the panel unanimously.

Capital Projects Task Force

Explaining the new Major Capital Projects Task Force, McKenzie said; "Their mission is to go out and look at recently completed jails and look for the best points from each one and make sure that we get the most bang for our buck."

The county anticipates constructing not only a new jail, but also new a new public safety building and county administration building on a recently acquired parcel in Carthage.

Members of the Capital Projects Task Force appointed on Monday include Sheriff Lane Carter, Chief Deputy Neil Godfrey, Captain Eddie Johnson, Commissioner Tim Lea, Commissioner Larry Caddell, Coun-

ty Manager Cary McSwain, Public Works Director Dennis Brobst, Public Safety Director Carlton Cole, Fire Marshal Carlton Cole, retired architect Howard Warren, and a soon to be hired county building project manager.

CVB Presentation

Visitors spent \$346 million in Moore County in 2006, ranking it eleventh among North Carolina's one hundred counties in visitor spending, Convention and Visitors Bureau [CVB] Director Caleb Miles told Commissioners during Monday's meeting.

Miles was delivering the CVB Annual Report to the County.

Tourism directly accounts for
(See "Commissioners," p. 29)

Westside meeting

(Continued from page 4)
ligan's effort and gift of anonymous donor, it looks great."

Haggard thanked the eleven administrative volunteers who have assisted in the office this month.

"We appreciate their efforts

and will continue to need volunteers [in the office] until we make a determination where to go in future," said Haggard.

The Seven Lakes West Landowners office has been short-staffed since Holly resigned her position.

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SLCC goes 'Family-Friendly' on Fridays

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Forget any preconceived notions of stuffy, formal, white linen service of yesteryear. Seven Lakes Country Club introduces their new casual and welcoming Family-Friendly Fridays, beginning March 7, featuring their most popular dinner entrees coupled with a new children's menu and fresh attitude.

"Friday is a traditional night for families to go out to eat and we want to get the message out that our dining room is open to everyone, members and non-members alike," said Mike Spayd, General Manager of SLCC.

Chef Jacki Scotti has crafted a delicious menu featuring monthly specials along with regular favorites such as ribs, trout and Orange roughy fish, pot roast, shrimp kabobs, Oriental salad, and liver and onions. Entrees typically run \$9.95 and up. The children's menu, with prices of \$3.50 to \$4.50, includes chicken tenders, grilled cheese, and cheeseburgers served with a choice of side dish, or spaghetti and meatballs with toast. The new children's menu is also avail-

able during lunch hours and Wednesday night dinner.

Typically known for its lighter fare menu, Wednesday night dinners will again feature Grill Night beginning in April.

"People order their meat off the menu and everything is cooked outside on the grill," said Scotti. This very popular offering also

includes a hot buffet and salad bar.

Scotti said her menu selections always provide a vegetarian option on the menu and that she is sensitive to special diet needs and requests to be health conscious.

"As the weather warms, it's really enjoyable to stop over – you

don't have to drive far. Come and hang out, have some appetizers, and watch the golfers come in," said Scotti.

Spayd said their most popular lunch item is a grilled bacon and cheddar sandwich on raisin toast. "We can't make enough of them and when we tried to take it off the menu we had a rebellion!"

Their full menu is available on the website www.sevenlakescountryclub.com and this Summer, the club will also post menus at the Seven Lakes pool for take-out service.

"We offer a great view, a nice dinner, and a short walk home,"

said Spayd.

The lunch and bar menu is offered Monday through Saturday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, with extended hours during the golf season. Dinner hours are Wednesday and Friday evenings. Brunch is offered the third Sunday of the month and on Easter, Mother's Day, and Father's Day weekend.

The club hosts special social evenings throughout the year with both member and non-member pricing.

"We're very accommodating," said Spayd. "As long as we know you're coming, we can have a table waiting for you."



Seven Lakes Country Club's Chef Jackie Scotti

7th Green vandalized Club offers reward

On Friday, February 29, at approximately 9:00 pm, a small car was driven repeatedly over the Seventh Green of Seven Lakes Country Club. According to Mike Spayd, General Manager, the vehicle tracks will "take several months to grow out from the damage."

The Club's Board of Directors has authorized a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this vandalism. If you have any information, please contact Mike Spayd at 673-1088.

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Beacon Ridge Country Club Golf Front

Family is grateful for community support

by Laura Douglass, Times Reporter

Perhaps you've seen flyers posted around the community asking for support and prayers for a widowed young mother recently diagnosed with breast and bone cancer. You may have even wondered if this was could be another email-driven hoax. Unfortunately the call for help is all too real.

Heidi Patterson Chase, daughter of longtime Seven Lakes North residents Jerri and Pat Patterson "is a wonderful young woman who has always loved children," said her mother as she described the West End area after-school program, Kidz Zone, which Chase operated for several years.

Despite tragically losing her husband, Anthony "Tony" Chase, a sixteen-year veteran of the U.S. Army Special Forces, to an automobile accident three weeks after their wedding, Chase was determined to have her own family. She fostered and later adopted two sisters — both girls now attend West End Elementary School.

Diagnosed on January 6, her mother's birthday, Chase is under hospice care at her parent's home.

"Everybody has just been so wonderful," said Jerri. "Our neighbors are helping so much and people from our church are organizing covered dishes and someone to watch the children for periods of time on weekends — That's the biggest thing: we just don't have enough time to get everything done."

Pat agreed, "We're so appreciative of the help but we're very private people. All of these different clubs and people have been so kind."

In particular the Patterson's thanked Dave and Laurie Mitchell, George and Corrine Walls, Anne and

Harry Meeth, John Blake, and Steve and Lorraine Mallard for creating flyers and organizing benefit motorcycle rides in Heidi's name. They also expressed appreciation for the staff at West End Elementary and the girls' teachers, including David Landolt who with his wife and pastor has visited the hospital three times.

"It's been amazing to see the community come together like this," said Jerri.



Four generations — Lillian Pierce is surrounded by Jerri Patterson, Heidi and her two young daughters.

The Patterson's have lived in Seven Lakes North since November 1982. Pat is retired and Jerri works as a Nurse Practitioner for a Pinehurst-based pain management group. She expressed gratitude to Dr. Frances Corrigan. "He has not taken one dime out of my pay or docked me for sick leave for either my mother or Heidi's illnesses."

Jerri's mother, Lillian Pierce, a longtime resident of Foxfire, recently died of ovarian cancer. Patterson's sister is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

"The doctors think we may carry the [cancer] gene," said Jerri. Her other daughter, Colleen Weldy of San Diego, will undergo gene testing but Patterson said she will not. "I'm sixty-three. I'll be vigilant on my mammograms but the test is \$3,000 to \$6,000 and many insurance companies will not cover it."

Chase does have health insurance but Patterson said the co-pays and experimental procedures not

covered have been overwhelming.

She continued, "What's most important for us right now are the little things. This has made me appreciate how helpful a covered dish, a card, or just a prayer can be. I know I've learned to be more giving and how little gestures can help."

Anne and Harry Meeth of Sacred Heart Catholic Church are coordinating covered dishes for the family and contacting people within the church to help with the girls. They can be reached at 235-0988.

On Saturday, March 15, the Sandhills Hogs motorcycle club will participate in the Seven Lakes St. Patrick's Day Parade and will gather for a drive-by of the Patterson's home on Firetree Lane. Another benefit motorcycle ride will be held on Saturday, March 22. Registration begins at 12:00 pm at McDonald's Brother's parking lot in Southern Pines. Donations are suggested at \$10 per person or \$15 per couple, with a 50/50 raffle and door prizes to be awarded.

A bank account at BB&T has been set up to receive donations in Heidi's name.

"We ask that people be sensitive to the girls because they are such happy kids," said Patterson. "But the community outreach and support has been just wonderful."

Little Miss Seven Lakes

Ciara Dew of Seven Lakes South has been chosen to serve as Little Miss Seven Lakes for 2008. Along with her two princesses, Sarah Nadzan of Seven Lakes West and Northsider Laurel Caddell, Dew will ride in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 15. The parade steps off at 11:00 am from the North Clubhouse parking lot. Put on your best green and come out to enjoy the procession! Refreshments will be served after the parade.

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Puppy 'Lilly' recovering from inhuman cruelty

The black lab puppy pictured below was found discarded on the side of Old Barn Road near

its intersection with NC Highway 211 near the Montgomery County-Moore County Line on



'Lilly' is a black lab puppy found injured and abandoned near the Moore-Montgomery County Line. Her wounds suggest she may have been dragged behind a vehicle. Animal Advocates of Moore County is caring for Lilly and seeking information on the person who mistreated her.

Saturday, March 1.

The puppy's injuries suggest she may have been dragged behind a vehicle before being abandoned. The couple who found the puppy saw a small late-model black pickup truck leaving the scene just before they spotted the dog.

They transported the injured animal to the Small Animal Emergency Clinic in Aberdeen, where it was treated for very deep abrasions. The vets found that the puppy had a collar around its neck that was far too small and had to be cut away.

A representative of Animal Advocates of Moore County [AAMC] was contacted and came to the clinic to provide assistance. Saturday night, the organization sent out an "Email Blast" seeking any information that might help identify the perpe-

trators. Information may be emailed to AAMC President Annie Hallinan at AnnieHallinan@microcare.com. She may be reached by telephone at 910-944-5098.

The puppy, who has been named "Lilly," is now being cared for by AAMC past president Maureen Horansky-Burke and will be transferred to the care of Dr. Laureen Bartfield, the pro-

gram director for SNAP.NC, which runs a non-profit mobile spay unit.

AAMC is accepting donations to offset the continuing cost of Lilly's treatment.

The group is a non-profit, 501(c)3 charitable organization. Donations to the Lily Fund can be sent to AAMC at 229A Ridgeline Drive, Aberdeen, NC 28315 (910-944-5098).

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GET SLOW!

There is more to life than increasing speed.

— Gandhi

Who doesn't feel as if there aren't enough hours in the day? We rush through the day, running here and there, and end up exhausted. Somehow these days full of duties, obligations and busyness have begun to build up and become our lives.

We spend our time doing things we don't really want to do, yet feel we should. We've come to believe that being productive and crossing things off our to-do list is the ultimate goal.

The truth is, life on Earth is a brief gift, and our time is too precious to be used like this. If we want our lives to be balanced and healthy, we need to lessen our load and increase our down time. This means planning less in a day, prioritizing those things that make our hearts sing and de-prioritizing those things that are not imperative.

If we must accomplish many things each day, we can still change the quality with which we do things. Where can we find ease in the midst of stress? How can we culti-

vate the art of going slowly?

Take a few moments before you climb out of bed in the morning to remember your dreams and to think about what you want from the day. Leave your watch on the bedside table. Take the scenic route. Sit for a moment with your eyes closed when you start your computer. Check email twice a day.

Don't pack your schedule so tightly that there's no time for a short walk. Light candles before you start to cook dinner.

Add one moment here and there for slowness; it can be done simply and will have a profound effect on your well-being.

*Adapted from an article
by Marco Visscher
& Jay Walljasper,
Ode Magazine, Issue #15,
www.odemagazine.com*

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Saturday, March 15, 2008

4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

West Side Community Center

Pig Pickin' barbecue tickets are available
from EMS members at \$8.00 each
for those who want to eat.

Dispose of hazardous waste March 18

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Almost 2,000 pounds of unwanted pesticides were collected in the Spring of 2006 during a Hazardous Waste pickup

Celebrating 62 years



Longtime Seven Lakers, Rosemary and Wally Campbell will celebrate their sixty-second wedding anniversary on March 9. Residents since the early 1980's, the Campbell's are part of a sizeable contingent of former residents of Fredonia, NY, who settled in Seven Lakes in the early stages of the development of the community. The Campbells have lived on the twelfth hole of Seven Lakes Country Club on Dartmoor Lane for twenty-six years.

jointly sponsored by Cardinal Chemical in Aberdeen and the NC Cooperative Extension Office.

Thirty-three homeowners, five golf courses, and three commercial landscapers delivered hazardous and banned chemicals, including DDT, Chlordane, and Lead arsenate. These materials were then disposed of safely by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture at no charge to the homes or businesses.

On Tuesday, March 18, Hazardous Waste may again be delivered for proper disposal at no cost. Cardinal Chemical, located on Rt. 5 in Aberdeen will accept any item not accepted at a Moore County Waste Collection Center including old paint, pesticides, herbicides, etc.

For more information, contact Taylor Williams, NC Cooperative Extension Office in Carthage, at 947-3188.

Mixed Paper Recycling Drive Saturday

Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. is sponsoring a Mixed Paper Recycling Drive on Saturday, March 8, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, at the Kangaroo Station in the Fresh Market Shopping Center in Southern Pines. Acceptable items include anything that is paper: paper grocery bags, flattened boxes, telephone books, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, flattened corrugated cardboard, office paper, and newspapers. Other items accepted include any type of household batteries and Inkjet, Laser, or toner cartridges, and cell phones.

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Seven Lakes Tennis season is ready to go

by Barb Horan

Seven Lakes Tennis

And you thought tennis was just a summer sport...not so here at the Seven Lakes Country Club Tennis Center. In spite of the cold weather, several mornings a week tennis players pack those courts. Some have moved to the afternoon after the courts have thawed out!

A new program will begin this month, as soon as the weather is a little more consistent. This will be called "Mom's Nite Out," and is an introductory six month program. The initial trial clinics were so successful we have been asked, "What about Dad's Nite Out?" We will address that shortly.

Plans for the Tennis Summer Camps are in place. The first session will begin on June 23 and the second session on July 21. Last season's camps were extremely successful, thanks to several members who assisted on the courts. Campers were treated to an afternoon swim at the Seven Lakes Fitness Center. The two sessions drew about seventy-five children to the courts to learn and have fun.

The Ladies 3.0 Super Senior team continues to practice in spite of the cold weather. In just a little more than eight weeks, they will be off to Columbus, Georgia, to play for the Sectional Championships against

eight other southern state champions.

Additional social events are currently on the drawing board for the membership. The Polar Round Robin Mixed Doubles with "supper" following the play was extremely successful.

There are two ladies 3.0 teams

being formed to represent SLCC in the USTA spring leagues in the area. They will compete against two other local clubs. It was a big step for us to field two ladies teams and shows just how much growth SLCC Tennis has made. SLCC is the only tennis club to have two teams at the same

level!

The Tournament Committee is moving along with an important project to prepare for the upcoming USTA youth tennis tournament that will be held next September 25-27. An amazing amount of work has been completed, but there is so much

more to do. Volunteers are raising sponsorship money to subsidize the undertaking with donations from local businesses.

For further information you can call Bruce Adams, Tennis Professional, at the Tennis Center at 673-1096, or David Terry at 673-2829.



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Help the Project Linus Sandhills Moore County Chapter win \$500. Register on-line by March 31 for a free subscription to the Project Linus national quarterly newsletter, "Blanket Beacon." The chapter with the most subscriptions will receive the \$500 prize.

Go to the Project Linus website at www.projectlinus.org and page down to the Blanket Beacon information to subscribe. Be sure to identify the Sandhills Moore County Chapter, NC, as your affiliation.

For more information, call Pat Weber at 673-1457.



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Seven Lakes Computer Club wants you!

by Betsy Mikula
7 Lakes Computer Club

Are you a novice at using computers or...are you a veteran user with lots of computer expertise? Whichever you are, the Computer Club wants you! Why join? If you are a novice, you'll benefit by many of the programs. You will enjoy the five-minute tips presented at the beginning of each meeting because it is meant to be just that...a useful tip for all computer users.

You will also have a chance to meet more advanced computer users whom you might call upon to help you solve some problems. A monthly newsletter, edited by Al Nichols, is sent to all members via email.

More advanced users know that with knowledge of software or hardware you can benefit and understand more thoroughly and deeply the subjects that are presented. Besides it becomes very worthwhile to the club to be able to share your expertise with other members.

The following gives a brief history of the club:

The Computer Club of Seven Lakes [CCSL] was founded in the late fall of 1992 by a small group of computer buffs living in Seven Lakes. These men and women were primarily retired individuals from all sections of the country and of varied business and professional backgrounds. They all had an interest in computers. Ten to fourteen members were anticipated to attend the initial meeting so it was a huge surprise when thirty-six people showed up. As a result of this meeting the present organization formed in February 1993 and the 1994 membership roster showed forty-six members, primarily from Seven Lakes.

Currently we have about seventy members and would like to see this grow.

Except for July and August, the club meets every month on the second Tuesday at 3:00 pm in the Game Room next to the Landowners Office.

The programs differ between guest speakers, vendors, member presentations, or open forums with questions and answers by a member panel. The club's website <http://www.cc7lakes.org> is currently being updated.

The guest speaker for the March 11 meeting will be Sandy Berger, or her associate, on the subject of the new operating system VISTA. Future meetings

will include topics on Quicken and "Getting to know your Digital Camera."

If you want to develop your computer skills, or share your

expertise, we invite you to join CCSL at the very nominal cost of \$10 per family per year. You can enroll at the meeting. Our club is open to all persons inter-

ested in home computing. There is no charge for first time guests and no advance notice of your attendance is required.



CANCER EDUCATION FAIR

Wednesday, March 19 • 5-8 p.m.
Conference Center at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital

Take advantage of the opportunity to ask the experts questions about options available at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in the specialty of cancer. The educational fair offers free information sessions and exhibitors covering all aspects of cancer care from diagnosis through alternative ways to deal with varying outcomes.

Exhibitors:

Cancer Wellness Program; Oncology Dietary Care; Outcomes Management; Cancer Registry; CARE-Net Program; Clinical Trials; Radiation Oncology; Inpatient Oncology; Medical Oncology; The Foundation of FirstHealth; American Cancer Society; CyberKnife; FirstQuit; Volunteer Services; Specialty Centers; FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care

The event is free, floating and open to the public.
Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please call toll-free (800) 213-3284.



CANCER • CARE • FUND

Supporting Health and Hope for our Community

This event is sponsored by the Cancer CARE Fund,
a part of the Moore Regional Hospital Foundation.

www.firsthealth.org

Working Together, First In Quality, First In Health

Guest Speakers:

- 5:10 **What Caregivers Should Know**
Beth Dietrich, LCSW
- 5:20 **Side Effect Management in 2008**
Susan Bazinet, FNP
- 5:50 **Medical Oncology Care**
Ellen Willard, M.D.
- 6:10 **The CARE-Net Approach**
Laura Kuzma, LCSW
- 6:30 **The Chest Center of the Carolinas**
Andy Kiser, M.D.
- 6:50 **Clinical Trials at FirstHealth**
Alice Romans-Hess
- 7:10 **Radiation Oncology**
Sushma Patel, M.D.
- 7:30 **Wellness and the Cancer Patient**
Cinnamon LeBlanc
- 7:50 **Hospice Approach to Care**
Keith McDaniel, LCSW

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265 Magnolia Rd - \$350,000
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New Construction in Foxfire

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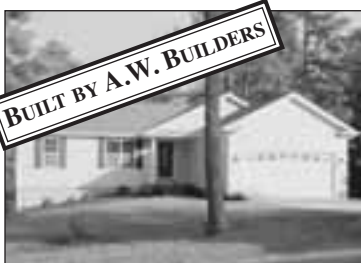
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New Golf Front Listing in Foxfire

51 Forest Lake Drive - \$399,900
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In memory of . . .

Lt. Col. Bernard L. Bottoms [U.S. Army Ret], 72, of Jackson Springs, died Saturday, February 16, at his home.

Mr. Bottoms was a veteran of the Vietnam War.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lester M. Bottoms; his mother, Mary Bottoms; a brother, L.M. Bottoms; and a son, Robbie Bottoms.

Mr. Bottoms is survived by his wife, Phyllis Bottoms; a brother, Ray Bottoms, of Pinehurst; a daughter, Donna Wilkie, of Leavenworth, KS.; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, February 21, at Page Memorial United Methodist Church in Aberdeen. Burial with military honors followed at Pinelawn Memorial Park in Southern Pines.

Reeves Funeral Home of Hope Mills assisted the family.

William N. Ritter, 65, of West End, died Wednesday, February 20, at Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital in Dunn.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Fry and Prickett Funeral Home of Carthage.

Henry F. Smith, 60, of Eagle Springs, died Monday, February 25, at Manor Care in Pinehurst.

Mr. Smith is survived by two sons, Keith Smith, of Star, and Roderick Smith; a daughter, Jennifer Smith; three sisters, Annie L. Smith, Joyce L. Smith, and Rosemary Spencer; three brothers, Frankie L. Smith, and Alonzo Smith, all of Eagle Springs, and Wendell Smith, of St. Petersburg, FL; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday, March 2, at Zion Grove A.M.E. Zion Church. The Rev. L. Brower officiated. Interment followed at Zion Grove Church Cemetery.

Bostic Funeral Service assisted the family.

Samuel Goins Jr., 59, of West End, died Monday, February 25, at his home.

Mr. Goins was born in West End, son of the late Samuel Goins Sr. and Edna Siler Goins. He worked in manufacturing.

He is survived by three sisters, Phyllis Goins, of Mount Gilead,

Josephine Allred, of West End, and Earnestine Clark, of Pinehurst; and three brothers, Larry Goins and Cecil Goins, both of Pinehurst, and Mitchell Goins, of West End.

A funeral service was held Saturday, March 1, at Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church, West End. The Rev. P.A. McNair officiated. Burial was held in West End Cemetery.

McLendon Funeral Home of Ellerbe assisted the family.

Caroline Russell Ryder, 85, of Foxfire Village, died February 26, at her home.

Mrs. Ryder was born in Plymouth, MA. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Simmons College and worked as a chemist for American Cyanamid Company.

Mrs. Ryder is survived by her husband of sixty-two years, Robert C. Ryder; a sister, Marjorie Aldrich; three daughters, Carol, Susan, and Barbara; and a son, Robert; and three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a future date in Massachusetts.

Memorials may be sent to Missions on Call, 8712 Aberdeen

Rd., Aberdeen, NC 28315.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Robert Shaw Fellows, 84, of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, February 27, at First Health Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Fellows was born in Saginaw, MI, son of the late Floyd and Alice Henny Fellows.

He graduated from Saginaw Arthur Hill High School. Following graduation he joined the U.S. Army, serving in Europe from 1942-1946. He was proud to be a member of the U.S. Army Dance Band, the first American band to perform in the Vienna Opera House in Austria.

Mr. Fellows graduated from Michigan State University in 1950 with a degree in Soil Science and Agricultural Engineering. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service where he held various positions, his last being Assistant State Soil Conservationist for the state of Michigan.

He retired to Seven Lakes in 1980 and was a member at Seven Lakes Country Club, and most recently at Beacon Ridge Country Club.

He is preceded in death by

his brother, Howard Fellows.

Mr. Fellows is survived by his wife of sixty-one years, Donna Skimin Fellows; son Robert of Winston-Salem; daughter Susan of Mosinee, WI; son Tim of Byron Center, MI; son David of New York, NY. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 8, at The Chapel in the Pines in Seven Lakes. Interment will follow at The Chapel in the Pines Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to First Health Moore Regional Hospital Foundation, 150 Applecross Rd. Pinehurst, NC, 28374 or to the charity of one's choice.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Boles Funer-

al Home.

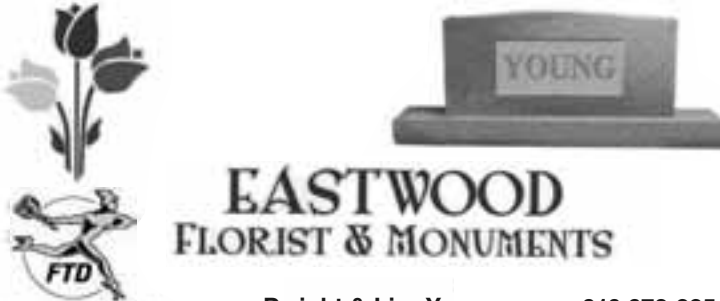
Myrtie Elgie Freeman, 95, of Eagle Springs, died Sunday, March 2, at Autumn Care Nursing Home in Biscoe.

Ms. Freeman was born in Montgomery County. She was a member of Eagle Springs Baptist Church and had worked at Robbins Mill for fifty-five years.

She is survived by a daughter, Geraldine Williams, of Eagle Springs; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, March 4, at Eagle Springs Baptist Church. The Rev. Charles Hinson and the Rev. Dawes Graybeal officiated. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the Eagle Springs Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, P.O. Box 118,



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Friday, March 7 1:00 - 5:00 pm
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Women get the lowdown on heart health

by Jo Nicholas

Women of Seven Lakes

A team from FirstHealth presented an informational program about heart disease and women during the Women of Seven Lakes monthly meeting on Thursday, February 7.

Special guest, Mrs. Nancy Frock, spoke first by sharing her personal story about having a heart attack. She is a heart attack survivor and a graduate of the FirstHealth Cardiac Rehab program. About having a heart attack, Frock said:

1. Age does not matter.
2. It not only happens to men.
3. Listen to your body.

Jean Barrett-Taylor and Betsy Young, of First Health Cardiac Rehabilitation, provided an overview of who is affected by heart disease and described the Cardiac Rehab purposes. The program assists heart patients to develop a healthy lifestyle, incorporate exercise and healthy eating, and to create a sense of camaraderie with other heart patients recovering from a heart attack or other heart ailment.

According to Barrett-Taylor and Young, risk factors for heart disease include family history, age, sex, smoking, hypertension, cholesterol, and diabetes. If a person has one risk factor, it doubles their risk of heart disease, if an individual has two factors, the risk is tripled, and those with three factors are ten times more likely to have a heart attack.

Exercise can help all risk factors. The team suggests some form of exercise three days a week for thirty minutes sessions. Barrett-Taylor and Young suggest walking is just as effective as running.

David Christaldi, Chief Perfusionist with the Open Heart Surgery team at Moore Regional also presented information at the meeting.

Christaldi runs the heart-lung

machine during open heart surgeries and discussed his role at FirstHealth and why women need to be more aware and knowledgeable regarding heart disease.

Many members shared questions that were discussed, and the heart health team also distributed several pamphlets.

At their next meeting on March

6, the Women of Seven Lakes will host interior designers Fancy Thompson and Paula Kamrowski-Poppen of Total Design Solutions to discuss "Designing on a Budget."

Other upcoming events include the Women of Seven Lakes famous "Taste of Town" to be held Monday, March 31, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at West

Side Park Community Center. Tickets may be purchased from Ginger Finney at 673-1330. Tickets sell fast!

Also mark your calendars for the Second Annual Golf Tournament at Beacon Ridge Coun-

try Club to benefit the Backpack Pals program for children of the county. The tournament is scheduled for Friday, May 16. If you are interested, please contact Jo Nicholas 673-3604 or Ginger Finney at 673-1330.



David Christaldi, Nancy Frock, Jean Barrett-Taylor, and Betsy Young of FirstHealth Cardiac Rehab.



Real Estate

By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

OVER OR UNDER-SPENDING

Some people spend more than they can afford when buying a house. Equally painful is the mistake of buying the cheapest possible house and then suffering through its shortcomings.

I have no intention of stating how much anyone can afford for a house. This is a very personal decision. There are guidelines of monthly averages that lending institutions use for housing expenses. But — like the "height/weight" charts printed on scales — these are only averages.

Don't hold back if you feel you can exceed the guidelines. When you are willing and sufficiently disciplined

to economize on other expenses, you can get a better house that the average calls for. A good house may seem costly, but the rewards are well worth it.

Investing in a house that's a little more expensive give you an excellent inflation hedge while your whole family enjoys a better place to live. And often, the resale opportunity is brighter.

...

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Kiwanians entertain Pincrest debate team



Doug Tableman, Linda Tableman [program chair], Rayvon Shepherd, Merideth Potter, and Coach Elizabeth Carter

by Frank Krohn
Seven Lakes Kiwanis

The Pinecrest High School Debate team presented at the January 15 meeting of the Seven Lakes Kiwanis.

The team was formed six years ago, and is coached by Elizabeth Carter, an English teacher at Pinecrest. She has been rec-

ognized as the best debate coach in NC by the Association of Debate Coaches, and has led the team to State Co-Champions in 2005 and sole Champions in 2006. The team is ranked in the top five percent nationally.

The program consisted of presentations and demonstrations

by team members Merideth Potter, Rayvon Shepherd, and Doug Tableman. The team has qualified for, and hopes to participate in, the Grand National Finals in Las Vegas in 2008.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets every Tuesday at the Seven Lakes Country Club at Noon. Everyone is welcome.

Bolton wins at MCHBA



Bolton Builders Inc. (Sally Glasgow, Bascom Johnson, Michelle Bolton and Chuck Bolton) received two awards at the Moore County Homebuilders Association Home of the Year competition on Thursday, February 28. The winning homeowners are Ed and Margo Bauer of Pinewild Country Club and Kenneth and Yvonne Smith of Foxfire.



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Seven Lakes Times
March 7, 2008

SLLA Elections

Candidates night draws large crowd

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Calling it, "One of the most crucial Candidate's Night in my memory of seventeen years," Dave Kinney, President of the Seven Lakes Civic Group, welcomed a crowd of approximately 160 interested voters and eight of the ten candidates running for seats on the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors to the evening forum, held on Monday, February 25. The event was sponsored by the Civic Group and moderated by *Times* Editor Greg Hankins

Candidates Mike Roscoe and Jeff Hermann were unable to attend the event.

Background

Prior to tackling several tough questions on concerns currently facing the community, each candidate was provided a brief introductory period to introduce themselves, providing some background on their experience and what expertise they would bring to the board.

Manila "Bud" Shaver, a full-time resident of the Northside since 1990, said he retired to Seven Lakes from 3M Corpo-

ration where he worked as a chemical engineer, and also from an active and reserve US Army career, retiring as the commanding general over 18,000 soldiers. He is a past president of the Retired Military Officers Association and Sandhills Coalition for Human Care, founded the Empty Stocking Fund, and was instrumental in two class action lawsuits fighting for retired federal government employee benefits. Asked why he was running, Shaver responded "I've lived here for eighteen years and never witnessed a board with so many conflicts and agen-

das, to the detriment of the community. We've had a twenty percent [home] sales decrease in Seven Lakes over the past year." Shaver continued, "Much needs to be done to our infrastructure. I offer maturity, civility, and personal discipline — and hope to be able to say I brought peace and tranquility back."

Incumbent Director **Ed Nuti** said he was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He has a Masters degree from the University of Hartford and completed doctoral studies in Human Resources Management. Mostly retired, Nuti said he does some Hazardous Materials compliance consulting. He said he is running for reelection to "finish the work I started, including the mainte-

nance building. I've also compiled and distributed the revised Bylaws and Rules." Nuti said he would like to work towards a systematic way to keep SLLA Bylaws current and use his personnel management skills to encourage employees to work efficiently — "to ensure your investment in the community will be maximized through sound planning and effective management." Nuti said he has the ability to work in a team and would "hate to leave on such a sour note, we can work better!"

Sally Kindsvatter said that she moved to her Southside home ten years ago from Ohio. She has seven children and nine grandchildren. Kindsvatter holds

(See "SLLA," p. 17)

Nuti lays out his position

The By-Laws of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association have been reformatted, amended, and updated. So have the Rules and Regulations. Copies of these are in the Landowners' Office and on the SLLA website. I chaired that committee and I hope the community will be pleased with the effort. Thanks to Ray Pardue and George Stahl for their assistance with this task.

In a few weeks, several new residents will be added to the SLLA Board and several will be removed. I am one of the latter now that I have served my term on the board. I am electing to run for re-election because I would like to complete what I have started in the maintenance yard and see through to the end the construction of our new building addition.

I would also like to contribute to the development of a much-needed assessment of our current infrastructure and amenities with a look at what it will take to amend and /or maintain them in the face of a demographic change in the near future. Planning for future growth and financ-

ing decisions will need to be factored into the plan as well.

What we need most of all is the consistent support of our board and our administration as we face the challenges ahead. I sincerely hope that the few

tion, will not influence the silent majority to do likewise.

As we approach our election, please keep in mind that your elected representatives are expected to act in your best interest on all matters. I know that I've always approached every decision on that basis. So, when voting this year, please keep in mind that I will continue to represent you fairly. If not, then thanks for the opportunity to serve you over the last two years. I've enjoyed the experience immensely.

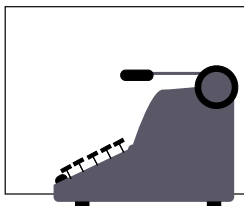
I wish the new board every success, whether I'm a part of it or not.

amongst us who do not share my personal support for our manager, and are vocal in their posi-

Your Turn

Ed Nuti

SLLA Candidate
Seven Lakes South



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SLLA Candidates night

(Continued from page 16)

a Masters degree in Health Education and retired after thirty-nine years working in a hospital lab. A latecomer to race, Kindsvatter said she decided to run as a petition candidate after Director Laura Douglass announced her intention to resign. "I think that Laura, Randy, and Donna have been beacons of light in a sea of conflict." She continued, "We need people of respect and

goodwill; I felt we needed more choices." Kindsvatter said she has served on the Seven Lakes Country Club membership, tennis, and standards committees. Currently she serves on the SLLA Architectural Review Board and is in charge of the Seven Lakes library. She also sings in two church choirs, and performs in plays and shows for the Country Club. Kindsvatter said that after a disastrous snowfall a few

years ago, she worked with JoAn Moses to create the Neighbor Helping Neighbor program. Overseeing a 200 member volunteer group, they wrote a disaster planning guide and collected information about assets and special needs "so the community could help each other." Kindsvatter identified character as the most important qualification to be on the board. "I am honest and energetic, and not sponsored

by any group or persons."

A Northside resident for twenty-one years, incumbent Director **Steve Hudson** has served for two years as the board Treasurer. "As you know I am controversial. I do feel I can make a difference and represent all landowners in open and above the table manner." Hudson said during his tenure, a system has been created to allow landowners to pay their annual dues in full or they can now opt for monthly, quarterly, or semi-annual payment plans. "I voted against tractor trailers and voted against the sell-out of four board mem-

bers with the Country Club agreement." He continued, "No board may vote away restrictive covenants. It may not have been politically correct to join Shaw, but I felt I was morally obligated because the email vote was unlawful. For better or worse, I'm still here; and if I'm reelected, I will work for fiscal accountability." Hudson concluded, "Poor management is the root of our problems."

Denny Galford said he retired to Seven Lakes in 2000 after thirty-six years with the Internal Revenue Service. "I'm a CPA (See "SLLA," p. 22)

Hudson states his position

I would like to take a moment to state my position on the issues here. I stated these in the candidates forum but for those of you who missed it, here goes.

I believe we need a five and ten year long range plan to include lakes and dams, roads, and personnel. Ron Erskine has done a wonderful job chairing the lakes and dams committee that has many excellent members and ideas. We do need committees as strong as that for our roads and maintenance as well as personnel.

I also believe that there needs to be a change in management. We have been short-changed for too many years.

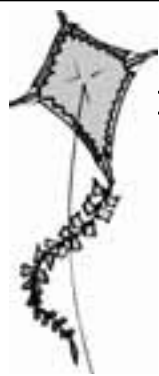
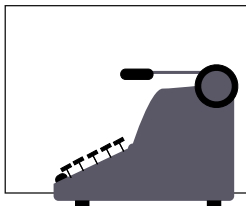
I also hope that the new board should consider the state of the present board, which has been called "dysfunctional." Please consider the reason why it became that way, and not allow it to happen to them.

The only way to attain a more cohesive and productive board is for the new board not to reelect the present President to any office!

I feel that the development of the "old" driving range would be a blight at the entrance to the South side. I support the law suit of Alan Shaw, et al. This may not be politically correct but I do believe it is morally right. It is simply to get a legal ruling from the courts as to the future of our restrictive covenants and green areas or buffers.

Your Turn

Steve Hudson
SLLA Candidate
Seven Lakes North



ANNUAL KITE DAY

ROSELAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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FRIDAY, MARCH 7

- **Mark Twain! On Stage** – 8 pm, Temple Theatre, 120 Carthage Street, Sanford. Show continues through March 16. Opening night, meet the performers and designers and enjoy a complimentary champagne toast. Tickets \$20 adults; \$16 groups; \$10 students and children. Information (919) 774-4155.
- **"Quits and Needle Art"** – at the Seven Lakes Gallery, showing the art of stitchery. Time, patience, love, and creativity are in evidence throughout the exhibit. Each piece is unique and treasured by families. Final day of this show is March 13, after which the fine arts and photography exhibit titled "Grande e Piccolo" will open. The Gallery is in the St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church building on Seven Lakes Drive. Viewing hours are Wed & Thurs, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

- **American Red Cross: Babysitter Training Class** – 9 am – 3 pm, ARC Chapter House, Southern Pines. Program fee \$25 and the course will cover instruction and hands-on training in babysitter responsibilities, safety factors, and basic first aid. Registration 692-8571.
- **Iron Boy Bench Press Classic** – 11:45 am, FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness – Richmond, in Rockingham. Event will showcase competi-

itive powerlifting, Entry fees are as follows: \$55 adult, \$25 teen, \$45 crossover, \$50 team. Teams must have at least five lifters and will be scored by formula.



What's When Calendar

Information, Keith Payne at (336) 766-3347, or www.ironboy-powerlifting.com.

- **Cooking with Carmela & Marjorie: Italian Pasta Sauces** – 1pm – 3 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Cost is \$10 per person. Several different sauces for pasta will be demonstrated. Learn what types of pasta go with each sauce, and get to sample all the dishes. Sponsored by the SLWLA Recreation Committee, class fee \$10, seating is limited. Make reservations at 673-5314.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

- **Daylight Savings Time begins**

MONDAY, MARCH 10

- **NARFE Meeting** – 11 am, Days Inn on Morganton Road in Southern Pines. The National Active & Retired Federal

Employees [NARFE] Sandhills Chapter 1895 will hold their quarterly "Eating Meeting." Chapter 1895 welcomes all Federal, including USPS, active employees, retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses to monthly meetings.

Additional information, Vilma Geisert at 215-5898, or George Sandoval at 246-9881.

- **MCS Board of Education Business Meeting** – 7 pm, MCS Central Office in Carthage.
- **Seven Lakes Democratic Precinct Meeting** – 7 pm, Seven Lakes Firehouse. All Democrats are encouraged to attend.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Work Session** – 8 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 3 pm, Game Room located adjacent to SLLA office. Guest speaker Sandy Berger, or her associate, will provide an explanation and demonstration of the operating system VISTA. The meeting should be of interest because new PC's have Vista installed as the OS. If you are thinking of upgrading to VISTA

come hear the pros and cons. Visitors welcome.

- **USAF Heritage Brass Quintet** – 6:30 pm, Temple Theatre, Sanford. Performance honors both veterans and active military personnel who have served the country in all branches of the United States military. The Heritage Brass Quintet presents a blend of music spanning more than 350 years. The quintet's repertoire draws from classical selections from Bach to Handel, jazz pieces from such artists as Duke Ellington and Antonio Carlos Jobim, as well as a variety of popular music and patriotic pieces. Admis-

sion to this performance is free and tickets are available at the Temple Theatre Box Office, 120 Carthage Street, Sanford. Box office hours Monday thru Friday, 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Tickets 919-774-4155.

- **Foxfire Village Council Meeting** – 7:30 pm, Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** – 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

- **Adult Academy: Lenten Series** – 7 pm – 8 pm, Crawford Center at West End Pres-

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byterian Church. Larry Lyon, minister of the West End Presbyterian Church, concludes the four-part series with "Prayer that Keeps on Giving." The free program is open to all.

- **Seven Lakes Garden Club Meeting** – 7:30 pm, North Clubhouse. Carol Dowd of Botanicals Fabulous Flowers & Orchids will present information about container plantings. Visitors welcome.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

- **St. Patrick's Day Parade** – 11 am, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Cheer on your friends and neighbors as many organizations and local clubs participate in this fun community event. Refreshments will follow.
- **The Vagina Monologues** – 2 pm and 7 pm, Owens Auditorium at SCC. Two benefit performances to raise funds for Friend to Friend in Carthage. Tickets are \$15, and \$10 for students, senior, and single working mothers. Debra Fry 255-0508.
- **SLWLA Easter Egg Hunt** – 3 pm – 5 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Eggs for hunting divided into three age groups, prizes, activities, photos with the Easter Bunny, and refreshments. Don't forget to bring your basket. Rain date March 16.
- **Pig Pickin to Honor T.Ray** – 4 pm–8 pm, West Side Park Community Center. After twenty-five years of service, come socialize, and maybe even roast T. Ray Jackson a little. Tickets are \$8 per person and on sale at the Seven Lakes EMS building or from any Seven Lakes EMS member.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

- **Palm Sunday**
- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Annual Meeting** – 2 pm, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Annual Meeting** – 3 pm, West End Elementary School Gym.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

- **St. Patrick's Day**
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 6 pm, Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

- **Hazardous Waste Pickup** – 10 am – 2 pm, Cardinal Chem-

ical located on Hwy 5 in Aberdeen. Sponsored by NC Cooperative Extension, the pickup service is offered free of charge. Hazardous waste has been defined as anything you don't think belongs at the Waste Collection Center including: used paint, pesticides, herbicides, etc. Information, 947-3188 or 944-7878.

- **LWV Meeting: Alternate Energy Resources** – 11:30 am, The Paddock Restaurant at Longleaf CC, Southern Pines. League of Women Voters present a panel discussion, a representative from Progress Energy, former Mayor of Robins, and an organic chemist. Public welcome. Cost \$12 and includes lunch. Reservations must be made by March 14, Charlotte Gallagher 944-9611.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

- **Maundy Thursday**
- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 9 am, West Side Park Community Center. Ted Schneider, a resident of Seven Lakes, will present Economics, National Debt, and the Use of Nuclear Power. Refreshments available at 9:00 am, formal session beginning at 9:15 am. Participants should plan for about a two-hour session. All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. Information, Don Welch 673-6701 or Bill Mamel 673-8970.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

- **Good Friday**
- **Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt** – 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes Northside Park. Bring your own flashlight for a fun and challenging Egg Hunt. All are welcome.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

- **Easter Sunday**
- **SLLA Easter Egg Hunt & Party** – 11 am, Seven Lakes Northside Park. Gather eggs, visit with the Easter Bunny, and enjoy refreshments and fun. All are welcome.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

- **Bookgroup by the Lakes** – 7:00 pm. Join Bookshop by the Lakes for a lively discussion of *Kabul Beauty School* by Deborah Rodriguez. Held at the Coffee Scene.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

- **Fourth Annual Taste of the Town** – 5 – 7pm, West Side

Park Community Center. Sponsored by The Women of Seven Lakes, event will feature eclectic foods presented by many dining establishments in the area, including; Beacon Ridge Country Club, Coach Light Café & Wine Bar, Elliott's, Little River Country Club, Moore Delights Personal Chef Services, Rhett's Personal Chef & Catering, Seven Lakes CC, Smithfield's Barbecue, Table on the Green, Cost \$20/person. Proceeds benefit First Health Hospice & Palliative Care. Ginger Finney 673-1330, Sandi Carl 673-7711.

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Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday Service
March 16, 9:00 am

Holy Thursday Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion
March 20, 7:00 pm

Easter Worship Services
March 23

Sunrise Service - 7:00 am in the Garden beside the Chapel

Easter Service - 9:00 am The Chapel Choir will sing at both Easter Worship Services.

Meet Mystery Writer Carolyn Hart



Join us for lunch at
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Tuesday, April 1, 11:30 – 12:30 pm

As a guest of Seven Lakes Kiwanis, Bookshop by the Lakes, and the Seven Lakes Book Clubs, best-selling author Carolyn Hart will give us a behind-the-scenes look at the mystery-writer's craft and sign copies of her just-released novel *Death Walked In*.



Cost of lunch: \$12 per person

Please complete and detach the reservation form below. Mail it with your check for \$12 to **Pat Weber**, 2041 Seven Lakes South, Seven Lakes, NC 27376.

Reservation deadline: March 27, 2008. (*Seating is limited; reserve your spot today!*)

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Phone Number _____ Name of book club _____

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SLLA Candidates night

(Continued from page 17)

but do very little accounting as a Starting Ranger for Pinehurst Resort." Galford majored in accounting and completed a ROTC commitment in Panama. He has five grandchildren and said his adult son owns a lot in Seven Lakes and intends to move to the area in the next four years.

Galford said he has been an active member of the community, serving as secretary, treasurer, and president of the Country Club — recently retiring from that position to ensure he has the time to focus on SLLA Board activities. "I am looking to create pride in our community," said Galford. "Property values will continue to increase because of our stables, golf, lakes, and community pride." Galford said he offers professional accounting experience, honesty, and a willingness to discuss concerns."

Originally from Atlanta, incumbent director **Michael Florence** moved to Seven Lakes North six years ago but said he had visited the community to see family for a full decade previous. Florence is employed in Aberdeen as a sales manager, and was elected to the board in 2006, where he has overseen security and personnel. Florence said "Over the last two years, I have come to understand the role of a volunteer board. I plan to retire here, and am energetic and passionate about Seven

Lakes."

Ron Erskine moved to Seven Lakes in 1995, his home sits on Lake Sequoia. Born in Montreal, Canada to American parents, Erskine has a Bachelor of commerce degree and retired from Kimberly-Clarke. He has three sons and said he is very proud to have sent two sons to college on tennis scholarships. Erskine said he is a candidate because of "neglect and indifference. We neglect our dams and roads, and have indifference for reserves." He continued, "Our maintenance area has been a disaster, there is indifference to management and maintenance costs." Erskine said, "We must do better. I hope to direct the board to all the above. I have an ability to listen and respond, as I've learned the customer is not always right but is very seldom wrong." Erskine said dams have a fifty-year life and are now thirty-five years old. "Dams require constant tender loving care."

Northsider **Gary Caulk** retired in 2005 after a 28 year career with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission as a Wildlife Enforcement Officer. A native of Richmond County, he and his family moved to Seven Lakes in 1987.

Caulk received his law enforcement training through the Institutes of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill and is himself a certified firearms instructor.

Priorities

The candidates were given in advance of the meeting a two-part question asking what they believe are the two or three highest priority things needed to serve the community and what would they propose doing about each.

"Our first priority is paying attention to our infrastructure," said **Ron Erskine**, "our dams and roads. Building reserves for those assets, we need to be proactive rather than reactive."

He identified the need for a long range planning committee as the second highest priority. "We need not just five, but fifteen and twenty years out." Erskine said the plan should not be written by one person but by a committee independent of the board. He suggests forming an oversight committee that could be looked to for guidance when the board is fractured over votes. Erskine said the committee could sound out landowners on an issue, "a committee of non-partisan citizens with no axe to grind that the board could turn to for advice and consult with."

Ed Nuti described Seven Lakes as a "work in progress." He said the community has the "potential to become more dynamic as it is changing towards more pre-retirees."

Nuti suggested a comprehensive survey of the residents to determine what they are looking for in Seven Lakes. This survey, said Nuti, could be used as a potential long term planning guide for the board.

Nuti also said there is a need to a document on appropriate comportment of board mem-

bers. "We are all volunteers, elected to serve all of you not just a few." He continued, "Compromise is essential, which is why I am sponsoring a Code of Conduct."

Nuti said in the future there will be an issue of succession when a new community manager is hired. "I'd like to put some human resources provisions in to assist with this transition. Dalton has been our one common denominator and we will be challenged to find someone to bring the breadth of experience that he has brought."

Gary Caulk said the most critical issue for Seven Lakes is for members to vote for "people that care." He continued, "We want our sales to go back up and not to be laughed at in the newspaper." Caulk said another priority is security issues. "Fifty percent of cars using the inside lane have stickers and not barcodes. All those that pay dues should have barcodes."

He also addressed the expense of the community security cameras contract. "Our cameras are not working and we're spending \$10,000 a year! Kids are tearing up the pool and fence. We need to fix what we

have."

Caulk said a new development going in behind Seven Lakes would affect the community with more people and more traffic. "We need to fix what's wrong today before tomorrow when properties all around us are going to be developed."

Establishing member long range planning committee, not composed of Board members, to look out five, ten, and fifteen years, should be our highest priority said **Michael Florence**. "We may need to fund this group so they have the resources they need — and I'd like to model the committee on [Dave] Kinney's Area A group."

Florence also said a comprehensive review of Seven Lakes employees, specifically administration and maintenance, was a priority. "We do not have a great system to assign tasks, track work, or followup on how or why it [a project] was done."

Florence said his third priority was water issues in the greater Seven Lakes and West End areas. "We're still looking at a one million gallon maximum. Last summer we were at 850,000. With growth we'll be almost

(See "SLLA," p. 23)



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SLLA Candidates night

(Continued from page 22)

maxed out." He suggested that the SLLA board would need to work cooperatively with McLendon Hills, Seven Lakes West, and West End to address the county with water concerns and the impact of continued growth.

Bud Shaver said his primary concern would be to manage association affairs in a fiscally responsible manner while continuing to make an attractive community. "There are many needs that should be addressed in the next sixty months."

Shaver suggested the new board engage in an all-day closed meeting to identify primary needs over the next five years. "These should be prioritized with costs, and then create a living document prepared for landowners."

He continued, "If you don't vote you have no right to complain. The future [of Seven Lakes] will be greatly determined by this election."

"We should have solid five and ten-year plans with dam, roads, and personnel," said **Steve Hudson** in identifying his first priority. "We have a strong Lakes and Dam Committee, we should have the same for roads." Hudson noted that the Bylaws call for a standing committee for personnel — but no such committee has been formed.

Hudson cited the Employee Bonus program as a problem, "As it is now, the manager decides and the board passes it with little or no discussion about specifics. What the manager gets for employees he gets for himself."

Hudson said the new board should "look into finding someone else to manage this community."

He agreed that the present board is called "dysfunctional" but asked the audience to consider the reason and to not allow it to happen again. "We need a cohesive board and not one that will elect the present president to any office. We do not need a demagogue."

Denny Galford also identified the current board dysfunction as a top priority. "The board pendulum needs to stop in middle. Our board members must rely on staff and management — these are fulltime paid positions that assure continuity. If they cannot provide for us then there

is a personnel matter to discuss." Galford said that the association and the Country Club have common goals, including striving to protect property values. "There were 7,000 visitors last year coming here to play golf. The more visitors, the more property sales."

Galford said he perceived that closed sessions had given way to open meetings of conflict. He said the community could not be run with partial information. "We need operational procedures for issues to be discussed in closed meetings that are open to the press. These issues can then be further discussed and voted on in open meetings. "Our community is thirty years old and needs a facelift to compete with newer communities. Our long term priorities need to be set."

Sally Kindsvatter said that, in any other year's election, she would have identified roads, dams, safety, and a long range funded plan for roads and dams as her top priority, "but things will not change unless we change the complexion of the board. The most important priority is to elect the next president."

Kindsvatter said she hoped the new board would take time to discuss which member was best suited for the position and "not just rush to vote for their favorite." She also suggested the board needed a Parliamentarian. "We don't need to reinvent the wheel. We need to adhere to Robert's Rules."

Kindsvatter also suggested the new board "think out of box instead of relying on paid consultants — use resources in our own community." She said the board should look to Dave Kinney to explain concerns for Area

A, to Dennis Roberts to explain water issues, and to work with the local business guild "to see if we can save money on paving roads." Kindsvatter identified the Country Club as Seven Lakes biggest asset. "Regardless of differences, we must work together." She also said a job description was needed for the community manager, "To be accountable you have to have measurable goals and objectives. The board should be in a more oversight capacity." Kindsvatter also took a moment to thank members who signed her petition and for the support of her husband.

Audience questions

Audience members were offered the opportunity to submit questions. During a brief intermission, Moderator Hankins and the Seven Lakes Civic Group board condensed the submissions into four salient questions. Candidates had one minute to answer each.

Question: "Do you feel the lawsuit filed by Shaw was an appropriate way to address concerns about the proposed driving range?"

Gary Caulk responded, "I think it is quite inappropriate for me to comment. The suit is in the courts and my opinion doesn't matter." He continued, "The law will prevail, and we'll be done with it. Caulk said in his professional experience he spent much time around the judicial system. "We [Moore County] have good judges and a good court system."

"I thought from the very beginning that it should have been put forth in a court of law to

make a decision," said **Sally Kindsvatter**. "I suggested several times that it should be submitted to arbitration. The covenants are difficult to understand and the lawyers don't agree. The lawsuit was probably necessary."

Bud Shaver responded, "This is nothing more than a business lawsuit!"

Ron Erskine said, "Shaw was a founder [of Seven Lakes]. He wrote the covenants and I agree with it. The driving range was meant to be a green area." Erskine said when he first saw Seven Lakes, the green area at the gates encouraged him to "stop, shop, and stay awhile."

"It is not appropriate," said **Denny Galford**. "Both sides sat down with representation. The agreement reached is good for the community as a whole." Gal-

ford also alluded to "many untold stories and facts that will come out during the lawsuit. Listen to the lawsuit and you'll be surprised."

Michael Florence said that after the vote the community did speak up vocally in opposition. "The motion could have been rescinded and wasn't. The lawsuit was the only way left. I agree with it and the courts will decide."

Current Director **Steve Hudson**, who is was a named plaintiff in the lawsuit responded, "Yes, it was the only appropriate thing left to do."

He continued, "The vote was done behind closed doors and left us no choice." Hudson said the lawsuit was not about money, "It is strictly about the restrictive covenants and whether they

(See "SLLA," p. 24)

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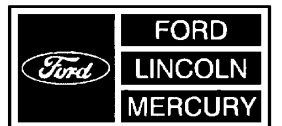
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SLLA Candidates night

(Continued from page 23) apply.”

Ed Nuti said a lawsuit is never a agreeable option. “It can only be divisive, but the issue has yet to be resolved.” Nuti identified the central issue as whether the old driving range land could be subdivided. “Whether it can be is for the courts to decide.”

Question: “Seven Lakes is in Stage 3 Water Restrictions. The aquifer is considerable lower than normal and those restrictions may continue. Given the water shortage, do you feel Seven Lakes should continue to permit building while in Stage 3 restrictions?

Ed Nuti said, “Building should be done intelligently and selectively. We need to use common sense until such time as Stage 3 is over.”

“Building has slowed right now,” said **Sally Kindsvatter**. “It’s difficult to not allow building when there are no restrictions in other parts of county.” Kindsvatter identified the proposed Seven Lakes East development as having more effect on Seven Lakes water supply than construction within the community.

Ron Erskine said it was a difficult issue and that he considered himself ambivalent at this time.

Steve Hudson responded in a similar fashion. “That is a difficult question. We have builders with a livelihood depending on construction and there is not restricted building anywhere else.”

Denny Galford said, “Stage 3 conservation rules and regulations are set. We should follow them as all other communities.”

“Moratorium is a dirty word,” said **Michael Florence**. He said that during the recent Civic Group Annual Meeting, Director of Public Works Dennis Brobst shared the viewpoint that “as long as they build we’ll [Moore County] supply then with water.” Florence said Seven Lakes needs water lines connecting it to Robbins and Montgomery County, projects expected to cost several million dollars.

Gary Caulk said “We need to continue to build – construction takes six to eight months.” He also looked to the proposed future water connections within

the county. **Bud Shaver** said the building question is up to the County Commissioners. “We don’t have water here but this issue is getting into property rights.”

Question: “While under Stage 3 Water Restrictions, should lakefront landowners be able to irrigate their yards from the lakes?”

Gary Caulk said that lake irrigation was a perk of building on the lake. “If I lived on a lake I’d use it unless the level got very low.”

“Our lakes are fed by streams,” said **Bud Shaver**. “If you live on a lake you should be able to use the water but the association should have control of when the water is cut off.”

Michael Florence said lakefront owners pay more for their homes, and irrigation may be one of the reasons they selected their home. As a lakefront homeowner, Florence said he voluntarily cut back last Summer. “If you have irrigation on the lake, you should be able to use it.”

Ed Nuti said “We need to become more accepting of our neighbors.” He continued, “If I put in a lawn then of course I want to see it grow but, on other hand, to be good neighbor I need to be considerate of everyone. We’re all in this together.”

“If you own property on the water, then I feel you have right,” said **Steve Hudson**. He said there was a perception last Summer, as lake levels fell, that irrigation was causing the problem. A study showed that evaporation caused the majority of water loss, with irrigation a minor threat. “Lakefront homes should be able to irrigate but use discretion and consider that all [Seven Lakers] use the lakes.”

Denny Galford clarified that while Northside lakes are owned by the association, lakes on the Southside of the community are owned by the Country Club. “There is an agreement in place if Northside lakes have difficulty and Southside has an abundance, then the club will pump water over.” Galford said the question of restricting irrigation would probably best be handled with a little bit of negotiation with landowners. “Most would reach agreement with you.”

Sally Kindsvatter said she had no problem with lakefront irrigation, “As long as the lake is at an appropriate level.”

Ron Erskine said the study conducted last Summer suggested that irrigating from a lake causes a five percent loss, sig-

nificantly less than loss to evaporation. “If fifty percent [lakefront homeowners] irrigated conservatively, after dark, there would be very little problem and loss of water.” Erskine also said that Southside lakes have too much phosphorous and using it

would be bad for Northside lakes. **Question:** “There are a number of developments planned for this area. What’s your position on allowing new developments access to Seven Lakes amenities?” (See “SLLA,” p. 25)



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SLLA Candidates night

(Continued from page 24)
ties for a price?"

Sally Kindsvatter referred to a past decision when the board refused to allow McLendon Hills residents to use amenities for a fee. "The board turned them down flat, so it's sort of moot point." She continued, "I don't have enough information but I don't think it would fly."

Bud Shaver said the greater concern for Seven Lakes should be not access [to the amenities] but developing "a marketing program to attract people to live here rather than there."

Ron Erskine said during the Summer, "Lake Sequoia is dangerous as it is with the amount of use, I shudder to think if another community had access to our lakes for swimming and boating."

"What price do you put on roads, lakes, tennis — at some point we'd have to double," said **Ed Nuti**. He continued, "It's difficult to know. I am worried about roads and costs of repaving them."

Denny Galford said "I don't have enough facts. I wouldn't want to say a blunt no or definite yes." He continued, "We can't stop growth. Maybe we could negotiate, but I don't have enough information right now to say."

Gary Caulk responded, "I'm against anyone using our amenities. If you want to use Seven Lakes amenities, buy a house in Seven Lakes!"

Michael Florence said that there have been a lot of developments proposed that have stalled because the national economy. "If we were approached, we should have a community vote," said Florence. "We'd have to have a large [initial] sum based on the total number of houses. They'd have to pay

full membership dues and if they built their own amenities, we'd have an agreement for shared use of their amenities."

Steve Hudson said, "I agree with Gary — if you want to use our amenities buy in Seven Lakes. If you [development] want amenities, build your own."

Question: *The appearance of the community is a concern. What are your top three priorities for improving it?"*

Ron Erskine suggested that the Community Standards Committee should not be chaired by the board. "Let them have input and the board can sit in on the meetings," said Erskine. "There's an awful lot that can be done. Perhaps the younger set and renters are not paying as much attention. We need to get trailers out of our driveways."

"There's a lot to fix up," said **Gary Caulk**. "The guard gates and huts need to be refurbished. The office was remodeled in the late 80s." He continued, "I want the guardhouses to look nice. We've been slack in past few years and community buildings need a fresh coat of paint."

Steve Hudson said a priority is to remove boat trailers and utility trailers parked in driveways and next to houses.

Sally Kindsvatter said appearance is the job of the Community Standards Committee. "I've been on this committee myself and I know it's difficult to get compliance." She also responded that the question made her look to the old driving range, "What a gorgeous piece of land this could be if made a park. It may be years before the lawsuit is settled. We could look to have volunteers fix it up and make it pretty now."

Denny Galford said the community needs a ten-year plan

to balance work on the roads and dams. "The first impression to Seven Lakes is Dogwood, Galford said, "and both it and Hastings need some work."

"With the lakes, the board should review committee suggestions and make a decision." He said community standards should be enforced.

Michael Florence suggested that a coating that will be used to resurface the pool deck is an attractive update. "If the cost is not too bad, I'd do the mailrooms and guardhouses too." Florence said a major concern for his family was the con-

dition of the community's picnic shelters. "There are multi-colored graffiti-covered tables and loose asbestos roofing."

Florence commended the Community Standards committee for doing a good job this year with community standards.

Bud Shaver said the ARB board is doing a good job [for community appearance] and should "keep working it." Shaver said he is adamantly opposed to Erskine's suggestion of committees with responsibility but no authority, and board member's with authority but no committee responsibilities.

Ed Nuti cited the roads as an priority appearance issue. "The shoulders need attention. The North Clubhouse needs a paint job — the facility could be rejuvenated."

Elections close March 16

Owner-occupants members of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association may cast their ballots by mail or in person at the Landowners Office between now and Friday, March 14. Landowners may also vote at the Annual Meeting, scheduled for 3:00 pm on March 16 at West End Elementary School.

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JANUARY 2007 – "1 year post-treatment. I am doing very well. It's made all the difference in the world. I haven't been this pain free in many, many years."

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

QLTZ & NDL RTS

No matter the spelling, "Quits and Needle Art", the Seven Lakes Gallery is showing the art of stitchery. Time, patience, love, and creativity are in evidence throughout the exhibit. From generations old to contemporary bold, each piece is unique and treasured by families. The final day of this show is March 13, after which the fine arts and photography exhibit titled "Grande e Piccolo" will open. March 17 is the scheduled receiving date, with Grand Opening on Wednesday, March 19. The Gallery is in the St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church building on Seven Lakes Drive. Regular viewing hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

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Editorial

You should vote

If you live in Seven Lakes, it's vitally important that you vote on or before Annual Meeting Day, March 16.

This is the final issue of *The Seven Lakes Times* before the Annual Meetings, when both Landowners Associations will choose new members for their Boards of Directors.

We have printed interviews with the candidates on both sides of NC Highway 211 and covered both Candidates' Nights — including a report on the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Candidates' Night you will find on page 16. And we have carried dozens of letters recommending one candidate or another.

Now it's your turn.

Your vote — whatever side of town you live on — is particularly important this year. SLLA Candidate Bud Shaver has said this may be the most important election in the history of Seven Lakes North and South.

He may be right, though there have been some critical elections in the past — including one in the late 1980s when a slate of petition candidates wrested control of the SLLA from the sitting Board.

This year's SLLA Board of Directors has found itself wracked by internal disagreements, partisan struggles, and personal attacks. The community is clearly fed up with Board politics. The resignation of Director Laura Douglass means the election will very likely fill four seats on the Board — a majority of its members.

That means your vote, if you're an SLLA member, could profoundly shape the future of your community.

Things are more peaceful on the other side of NC Highway 211, but the election is no less important. The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association faces the task of repairing the Lake Auman Dam — and figuring out how to replenish the Association's reserve funds once the work is done.

There are other important decisions on the horizon for Westsiders — what to do about mail delivery; the future of the mailhouse and front gate area; how to plan and pay for road repaving; how to address security issues — it's a long and important list.

So, if you were thinking of sitting out this election, you may live to regret that decision — and you'll surely have no right to complain if the decisions made in the next couple of years don't go your way.

Frankly, you owe it to your community, your family, and your property values to read up on the candidates and vote. If you've already thrown out the past two issues of *The Times*, they are available from download from www.sevenlaketimes.net, or in hard copy at Bookshop by the Lakes.

You have from now until March 16 to educate yourself, obtain a ballot, and cast a vote for the future of Seven Lakes. You should vote.

It's not easy being red . . .

Redheads are used to standing out in a crowd. And most, like me, got the double whammy of a million matching ginger-hued freckles too. The blessing to blend in comes but once a year when the pumpkin harvest and flurry of Fall leaves

provide a complimentary backdrop for our misfortunate manes and complexions.

However our one true moment of shining glory is surely found each March on St. Patrick's Day. Now here is a holiday all about not just the wearing o' the green — but also the red.

I've seen statistics that report the percentage of redheads in the United States hovers around one in thirty-eight or about two percent of the population. In Ireland the numbers are closer to one in ten. Red hair is a reces-

sive gene — a mutation passed along to the Celtic peoples millennia ago by Viking raiders.

In the news just this week was one very famous redhead of Celtic heritage. Harry, the warrior prince as they are now calling



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

him, was filmed calling in an airstrike on a Taliban position in Afghanistan. The video clip will be forever cemented in my mind because of the witty statement Harry made when the U.S. Air Force arrived, "Oh good, the American's are here. All's well in the Empire!"

As the offspring of a long proud line of history geeks, this remark tickled me silly. I can only imagine (See "Red," p. 27)

Some advice for new Directors — and voters

I have enjoyed my time on the SLLA Board, and if the good people of Seven Lakes vote for me again, I will serve another two year term.

When I first ran for the board I had an idea of what to expect, and what I wanted to accomplish. I wanted to work with my other board members, and help

to work to make Seven Lakes a better place to live. In these past two years, we the board have accomplished many things.

I have also found out that like Alice in Wonderland there is another side to the mirror. I have found out that people can change their minds in very strange directions. I have been confused by actions taken by others when information is brought to the light of day. I have seen facts and figures distorted in so many directions even a Philadelphia lawyer could not unravel the details.

I offer some advice to the new

board that is going to be elected in a few weeks. Remember, that you are serving on a volunteer board. Be prepared to

defend your position. Be prepared to stand on your own two feet. Be prepared for 4-3 votes. Be prepared to speak from a minority position. Be prepared to defend yourself — in both public and private attacks.

The board of the SLLA is comprised of seven individuals. Team-

work is essential, but sometimes you have to do things that the team is not going to like. All votes will not be unanimous no matter how hard some people try and make them be [or want them to be].

In the upcoming election vote for who you want to. If you are not sure of someone who is running, ask around. Just don't blindly cast votes because of something you have heard at Food Lion.

I also implore the forty-five years and under crowd to vote. I was dismayed that at our recent Candidate's Night that almost none of the crowd attending was under the age of forty-five.

My wife and I plan to spend a long time here. This was the (See "Advice," p. 27)

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

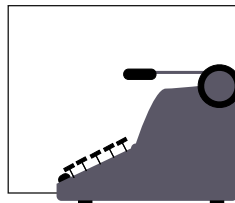
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Your Turn

Michael Florence
SLLA Director
Seven Lakes North



Ballfield donations should be used for ballfield

Dear Editor:

West End Elementary is a wonderful school along with the playgrounds and the ballfield. The staff, the parents, the ball-park committee, the volunteers, and the people from other towns who donated money made this possible.

People who donated money trust that their money will be used for whatever they intended their money to be. If they want it for the school supplies and books, it should be assured that it goes there. If they want it for the ballfield, it should be assured that it goes to the ballfield proj-

ect. Think about those from other towns who have a child from another school donating money for the WEE ballfield because their child plays in the ball games there.

We lost a real gem who took care of the ballfield. We never had anyone like Sandi Burrell dedi-

cating and keeping up with the ballpark. Each volunteer is unique and has a special interest in something... tutoring the students, organizing library books in the library, assisting the teachers, landscaping, cleaning the school, and keeping the ballfield in shape for the sake of the children and their health as well.

The WEE ballfield was once neglected and ignored until three years ago it came back with a new sparkle... new clean toilets for the restrooms, clean walls with fresh paint, new American flag for the bare pole, new sandless water fountain, new scoreboard for the ballgames, new wood fences, new handpainted artwork, new cabinets and hand-made curtains in the concession stand that looks like a spot-

less mini kitchen, as well as repairs for the broken and old equipment. Once again, I want to say great job to all the volunteers, the parents, the school staff, the ballpark committee, Sandi, and thanks to all the people who donated money.

Let's continue keeping up the nice work for our precious children and the community to enjoy. Let's appreciate people like Sandi with respect for their time and hard work without pay, and bring Sandi, that hard working gem back at the ballpark. Spring is coming with outdoor physical education, field days, and baseball games. Let's be ready for our children when they say "take me out to the ballgame!" God bless!

Vicki Davidson
Seven Lakes North

Red

(Continued from page 26)

ine what that crazy coot, old King George III, would think about Harry? In George's defense I will share that he is about the only monarch in recorded history not known to have taken a mistress.

Now my father would be quick to point out that Harry's British blue blood is much thicker along his mother's Spencer line, than through his father's own tortured family tree.

But as I watched the news, I wasn't thinking about blue blood as much as admiring the remark-

ably red day-old stubble on Harry's chin and wondering exactly how much Coppertone he was probably wearing.

From personal experience, I know the high desert is the least hospitable environment on earth for a freckled lad or lass. As a child living in the Middle East, I was frequently scorched - this being back in the 70's when a deep tropical tan was considered healthy and attractive. Worse, with narry a pumpkin or fallen leaf in sight for cover, my appearance in any public setting invariably drew attention from the locals. As

if I were an exotic animal, they'd circle and occasionally touch or even kiss this strange apparition with red hair and even redder skin.

Older, wiser, and far safer back on this side of the world, I assure you that any hint of bronze seen on my legs comes strictly from a tube and my sun block factor runs into the high double digits. Upon my first visit to a Sandhills-based dermatologist, he took a quick glance at my German-Scot-Irish good looks and said, "Well, I think we are going to be seeing a lot of each other." Gee thanks, Doc.

So this week as we honor good St. Pat's contributions, be sure to wear plenty of green, imbibe at least a pint or two of holiday spirit, and take a moment to honor us unfortunate reds.

Advice

(Continued from page 26)

main reason why I became involved in the business of the association. Regardless of your age we all have a vested interest in the wellbeing of Seven Lakes.

Our annual meeting is on

March 16. If you have not cast a ballot yet you can continue to do so at the association office until the Friday before the election. After that time you can still bring your ballot and vote at the Annual Meeting on Sunday.

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Bill Buckley's legacy: ~~Talking~~ shouting heads

William F. Buckley died last week. The paeans to his memory that filled the airwaves and newspapers credited him with being the intellectual father of modern American Conservatism.

Buckley was conservative when conservative wasn't cool, and the power of his intellect and sharpness of his wit — not to mention the conservative journal he founded, *The National Review*, helped carve out a space in the collective consciousness in which the nascent American Conservative Movement could flourish.

Because of Buckley, the commentators told us, we ultimately elected Ronald Reagan president and sent Newt Gingrich and his conservative revolutionaries to seize control of Congress — and the world has never

been the same.

I'm more interested in something else Buckley gave us.

If you paid attention to all those tributes, you might have caught an audio or video clip of a shouting

debates that aired during the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Vidal called Buckley "a Crypto-Nazi," prompting Buckley to make a derogatory reference to

Vidal's sexual orientation and threaten to "sock" him in the face.

Both men were shouting; Buckley appeared to have lost his temper.

The feud carried on in the pages of magazines and ultimately wound up in a pair of libel suits. Both were dismissed, but Vidal wound up paying Buckley's legal expenses.

Digging Deeper

Greg Hankins



match between Buckley and his liberal nemesis, Gore Vidal, recorded during a series of television liberal-conservative

Tiny moments

I gazed out the kitchen window the other day without any particular thought in mind.

Yes, I could have gotten out the vacuum cleaner right then and there and done what should have been accomplished three weeks before.

But no. That instant my eyes were caught up by a sudden moving of a branch in a bush. Then I saw it. A tiny sparrow. No brilliant coat. Just dull gray.

But I was entranced. First came a robust shaking of the body, with vibrating feathers doing their job of cleansing.

Then the back-and-forth rubbing of the beak, to clear off impurities. Finally a decisive final inspection of the body,

readying this tiny creature of God for the next step in life.

It's incidents like these that can lift us, though only briefly, to the realization that we are indeed blessed to be able to inhale their effect.

And to see, and feel, the beauty that can lie even in the smallest of incidents in our existence.



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

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A westsider for Silberhorn

Dear Editor:

At the Seven Lakes West Candidate's Night, Ed Silberhorn and Ron Shepard clearly made their presence known with their knowledge of our community. They were very impressive and it was evident by listening to them that both have leadership qualities that will blend with our fine board.

Both candidates were well-prepared and had seriously done their homework. They understood the questions and issues presented to them, answered

them with helpful information, and even answered appropriately the questions from the residents in our community.

The solid preparation, in my opinion, is a strong indicator of how they will perform and help lead the community when elected.

I urge you to vote for Ed and Ron, who will help continue the current board's positive direction.

Tom Allen
Seven Lakes West

Commissioners

(Continued from page 5)

more than 5,500 jobs in the county and indirectly accounts for another 3,000 jobs, Miles said.

Visitors generate \$29.3 million in state and local taxes, which saves each Moore County taxpayers \$1,050 in taxes annually, he added.

Ninety-feive percent of Visitors to Moore County report being very satisfied with their experience visiting the county. Half used CVB resources, including it's website, to plan their stay in the county.

The number one suggestion from visitors? Better maps and road signs to help them keep from getting lost in Pinehurst.

Other Business

In other business the Commissioners:

- Established a minimum tax bill, which means that county tax collectors will not mail out or attempt to collect tax levies of five dollars or less. County Tax administrator Wayne Vest explained that it costs to county more to bill and collect these small amounts than they bring in revenue.
- Approved the sales of \$7.7 million in bonds to fund Phase II of the East Moore Water District.
- Issued a formal request to the Local Government Com-

mission for an extension of the time during which the county is authorized to issue bonds for the East Moore Water District from seven years to ten years. Commissioners issued a call to public hearing on the matter for their March 17 meeting

- Issued a call to public hearing on adoption of the Area A Small Area Plan for March 17.
- Issued a call to public hearing on a Conditional Use District Rezoning for the construction of a 35-foot addition to an existing 195-foot cell tower at 8260 US 15/501 Highway near Eastwood.

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Pray the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude help of hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day for 8 days and then publish. Your prayers will be answered, It has not been known to fail.

Easter week services

West End United Methodist Church:
Sunday, March 16, 8:30 am and 11:00 am – Palm Sunday Service. The Chancel Choir will present a stirring collection of anthems and readings.
Thursday, March 20, 7:30 pm – Communion Service and Service of Tenebrae.
Sunday, March 23, 7:00 am – Easter Sunrise Service at West End Cemetery. This is a joint service with West End Baptist Church. [if raining, the service will be held at West End United Methodist Church]. Also Sunday, March 23, 11:00 am – Easter Sunday Service [no 8:30 am service].

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines:
Sunday, March 16, Palm Sunday Service – 9:00 am.
Thursday, March 20 – 7:00 pm, Holy Thursday Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion.
Sunday, March 23 – Sunrise Service at 7:00 am in the Garden beside the Chapel and at 9:00 am, Easter Services, the Chapel Choir will sing at both Easter Services.
St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church:
Sunday, March 16, Palm Sunday, 9:30 am – Service of the Palms.
Thursday, March 20, 7:00 pm –

Holy Communion service. Friday, March 21, 12:00 pm (noon) Good Friday Liturgy. Easter Sunday, March 23, 9:30 am Easter Celebration.

McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church:
Easter morning worship services at 7:00 am and 11:00 am led by Rev. Don Welch. Weather permitting, the 7:00 am Sunrise Service will be held in the church cemetery, followed by a covered dish breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a flowering branch or stem to mark the celebration of the resurrection with a flowering of the cross.

The 11:00 am service will be held in the sanctuary.

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Beth Harris, RDH; Stacey Britt, RDH; Tiffany Visceglie, DAI; Harriet Wicker, Office Adminstrator.
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ty government works, in an effort to help citizens become more informed and involved in our beautiful community. Aside from the various classroom settings, the course will include a tour of the county jail, airport, Sheriff's

office, and EMS facility.

Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm in selected departments throughout the County. At the end of the session, there will be a graduation for those com-

pleting at least eleven of the fourteen sessions.

To register for this free course, visit Moore County's website or call Eli Arroyo-Allen at the Public Information Office, 947-6363 for additional information

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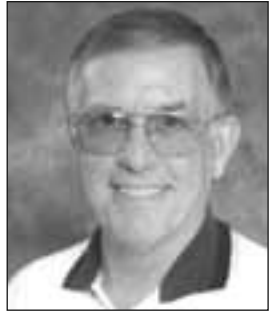
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WATERFRONT ON LITTLE JUNIPER - Lovely home (over 2000 sqft) with Carolina Rm, large great rm, large kitchen with breakfast bar, masonry fireplace with gas logs, super views of the lake from most rooms . . . **\$239,000**



LAKEFRONT ON BIG JUNIPER LAKE - This new listing has a great view of the lake and includes a large Carolina room, split bedroom, vaulted ceilings and more. Call us for an appointment. **\$249,900**



NEW CONSTRUCTION - 7 Lakes South near bus stop. Lots of very nice upgrades in this 3 BR (split plan) with separate office. Cathedral ceilings, hardwood & tile, rear porch, front porch, & stainless steel appliances. . . . **\$242,000**



COLONIAL IN 7 LAKES SOUTH - Large home with 4 BR and 2.5 BA, hardwood floors in DR & LR, new appliances, lots of attic storage, located on three lots (1.79 acres) across street from the golf course (8th hole) . . . **\$249,000**



LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT BARGAIN - Six bedrooms, four baths with new hardwood floors in great room and new tile in kitchen. Boat dock with lift. A must see.
. **Great price \$580,000**



GOLF FRONT ON 17th HOLE - All brick home priced to sell & immaculate. Upgrades included. Spacious kitchen and eat in area. Relax in the Master suite with Jacuzzi tub & separate shower. Enjoy the view! **\$305,000**



SEQUOIA LAKEVIEW - Wonderful home with unique floor plan. Two story with two Master Suites! View the beautiful lake from the wooden decks and balcony. Comfortable and in excellent condition! **\$254,500**



HIGHLY DESIRABLE TOWNHOUSE - Priced for quick sale. Three bedroom, two bath with Carolina Room and very nice open floor plan. Great location near the south gate and the Seven Lakes Country Club. . . **\$155,000**



ALL BRICK 2 STORY - Beautiful Northside home on large wooded corner lot near amenities. MBR on main level with 2 BR on 2nd floor. Sep. DR, large screened porch, neat family rm with masonry fireplace (gas logs) . . . **\$248,000**

SEVEN LAKES LOTS

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#3157 - Lake Auman - \$279,900

GOLF FRONT

#2396 - 4th Hole - \$35,000

#6146 - View 3 Holes at BRCC - \$59,500

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#114 - \$8,000

INTERIOR

#1012 - Large Lot with Good Perc - \$25,000

#1014 - Great Investment with Good Perc - \$25,750

#1015 - Private with Good Perc - \$26,500

#196 - Reduced/ Dbl Lots - \$27,000

#215/220 - Reduced! - \$28,500

#1004/05 - Two/wet - \$6,900

#2574R - Lake View - \$19,000

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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

to be neither an amendment to the Bylaws nor a new Rule or Regulation. Moving approval of the policy, Director Nuti called it "a guidance instrument for this Board," and suggested that a new section of the Green Book might be needed to hold Board Policies.

Truesdell said, if the new policy were approved, he would like to "run it by" the Board's attorneys Hunter Stovall and Henry Jones. Treasurer Hudson argued that the opinion of one attorney should be sufficient. In the end, the policy was approved and Truesdell was authorized to obtain an opinion from Stovall on it.

Expense reimbursements

Florence also proposed a new policy for Director and staff expense reimbursements — again in the wake of Treasurer Hudson's criticisms of reimbursements — including some for meals — sought by Truesdell and Community Manager Dalton Fulcher.

Noting that there has been "no pattern of abuse," Nuti said the proposed policy "may be overkill."

Florence said members of a volunteer board should expect to dig into their own pockets for some incidentals. "I never thought a meal expense would come up," he said.

Truesdell said he had spent over \$700 on paper, ink cartridges, binders, and office supplies since joining the Board. "I think we should scrutinize directors' expenses," Truesdell said. "If we see an abuse, we should reprimand, and it should be repaid."

Hudson then said he wanted to offer an amendment to the proposed policy: that "no expenses be paid whatsoever. I don't want my dues paying for any meals. If you don't have the money to pay for it, get off the Board. There's no excuse for it, period. We should do away with the whole thing."

Other directors expressed general support for the policy, though Director Douglass said the language could be "tightened up."

Nuti suggested any decision on the policy be deferred to the incoming Board. Then Bud Saver, a candidate in upcoming Board

elections, suggested that Community Manager Fulcher be charged with purchasing office supplies for use by Directors.

Director Stephan made a motion to adopt Shaver's suggestion as policy and that motion was approved unanimously.

Rules of conduct

Director Nuti attempted to gain approval for a draft set of rules of conduct for Board members that he has been circulating for over the past several weeks.

"We owe this community a lot of explanation for our conduct over the past several months," Nuti said. "As we meet for the last time, maybe we can agree on something going forward. This is a good faith effort we are making for the community."

But he found little support among his fellow directors. Among the rules Nuti proposed was one that would require a Director who sues the Association to resign. Given that Hudson remains a named Plaintiff in a suit against the SLLA, Truesdell argued, consideration of the proposed rules should be tabled until that suit is resolved.

After further discussion, Director Stephan moved to table the proposal until after the election. That motion was approved with only Nuti opposed.

Drainage policy

On a motion by Director Stephan, the Board voted to abandon a drainage policy adopted in 1990 that assigned to the the Association responsibility for dealing with stormwater runoff diverted from roads and other common areas onto private property.

The policy was adopted when repaving and the installation of berms and curbs along SLLA roadways in the late 1980s altered the flow of stormwater. The policy came to the Board's attention after objections were raised to an Association-funded drainage project on a privately-owned lot on Devonshire Avenue.

Stephan argued that "North Carolina is a caveat emptor state," and that the price paid for lots generally reflected any existing drainage problems.

Dam Engineer

Board members dissuaded President Truesdell from filing

a complaint against SLLA dam engineer John Eddy with the state Board of Engineering Examiners.

Truesdell said that Eddy had sent a letter informing the association that he would be unable to provide engineering services for the maintenance and remediation he recommended in a comprehensive report prepared on the Association's dams.

"Eddy has breached his ethical obligation to us," Truesdell said, noting that the Association will have to find a new dam engineer and pay the cost of bringing him up to speed on the state of the community's dams. Truesdell said Eddy, who was paid \$15,000 for his analysis of the dams, should reimburse the Association for the cost of bringing on a new consulting engineer.

"I would never recommend that we hire a solo practitioner again," he added, alluding to the fact that Eddy is an independent professional rather than a member of a large engineering firm.

When he polled Board members for their reaction to his desire to file a complaint against Eddy, Truesdell met with some resistance.

"We need to look at the actual agreement," Treasurer Hudson

said. "From what I can hear so far, he's delivered what he was obligated to do."

Director Stephan said she would need more time to study the matter.

"My first concern would be that I don't know how large the pool of dam engineers is," Director Douglass said. "I don't want to burn bridges with one and then get a reputation that won't let us find a replacement." She added that she would prefer to hear the recommendation of the Lakes and Dams Committee before moving ahead with any complaint.

Lakes and Dams Committee Chairman Ron Erskine acknowledged that Eddy "has had trouble meeting our dates, but the dates given him were arbitrary. . . . We would be making a terrible mistake to go after him. . . ."

.Let's cool off a little bit, slow down a little bit."

Other business:

In other business:

- Heard from Community Manager Fulcher that a question had arisen about exactly what the definition of an "owner-occupant" is in the SLLA Bylaws. Only "owner-occupants" are allowed to vote for members of the Board of Directors. This restriction becomes a matter of interpretation where part-time residents are concerned. Fulcher said the incoming Board needs to better define "owner-occupant," so that the office staff is not called on to make judgment calls on the issue at election time.

- Heard from Dave Kinney that

(See "SLLA" p. 32)



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Development

(Continued from front page)

gesting that Beardslee Engineering be required to provide a private, extensive engineering study to determine if needed potable water from the existing system can serve the development. If not, other areas of water sources will have to be explored.

Southwick, the portion of the tract south of Holly Grove School Road and closest to Seven Lakes North, is currently zoned Rural Agricultural Urban Service Boundary [RA-USB]. The Rural Agricultural Urban Service

Boundary was created to identify areas where Urban Services [sewer and water] could be provided over the next ten to fifteen years and would promote growth within those boundaries and away from prime agricultural lands and open areas. Southwick is proposed as an age-restricted retirement subdivision.

Northington, the portion of the tract north of Holly Grove School Road currently zoned Rural Agricultural [RA], is proposed as an unrestricted development and would include an on-site tertiary sewage treatment plant. Both subdivision developments include single family homes and multi-unit townhouses; neither will be gated communities.

The project was originally proposed prior to last year's de facto subdivision moratorium in Small Area Planning Area A, before the county adopted new zoning and subdivision ordinances. Beardslee explained, "I had the pleasure of working with the planning staff to develop the new code. These two projects are exactly what they are looking for -- they exceed the criteria set and accomplish their goals."

Acknowledging that buffering and transition from Seven Lakes North would be a critical planning concern, Beardslee's plan positions the closest multi-family unit two hundred feet from the Seven Lakes North boundary. The pro-

posed density is 2.5 units per acre -- slightly higher than Seven Lakes' density of two units per acre. Slightly over fifty percent of the project's acreage -- 66.5 acres -- will remain in open space.

The project is surrounded by fifty foot and seventy-five foot edge buffers with 16.7 acres defined as Primary Open Space, 44.6 acres as Secondary Open Space, and 4.4 acres as Tertiary Open Space.

Beardslee believes Southwick and Northington will address a lack of entry level housing for first time homebuyers and smaller, affordable housing for senior citizens in the immediate Seven Lakes area. "From a marketing standpoint, we tried to develop diversification within the marketing for any given target group," said Beardslee.

During its Thursday, March 6 meeting, the Planning Board will consider Beardslee's request to have the property rezoned to PUD. The Planning Board is charged with making a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, who have final authority to approve or disapprove the request.

Thursday's meeting is open to the public and will be held on the second floor of the Historic Courthouse in Carthage, beginning at 6:00 pm. The public will have an opportunity during the meeting to provide input on Beardslee's rezoning request.

Kiwanis get home safety briefing from firefighters

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

The February 5 Seven Lakes Kiwanis meeting featured a talk on home fire extinguishers. The feature speaker was Steve Cox of the Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire Department. Fellow firefighters Tyler Cheek and Seth McConnell also attended.

Cox recommended that every home have several fire extinguishers, located strategically throughout the house. He indicated which locations were the most important places for in-

house extinguishers and then identified the different kinds of extinguishers available. Extinguishers are rated A, B, C, and D. The A, B, and C types are good for almost all fires likely to happen in the home. The D type is used exclusively for Magnesium fires, or fires that will get worse because of chemical interaction with the extinguishing agent.

Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets each Tuesday at Noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club. Everyone is welcome.

SLLA

(Continued from page 31)

the Planning Board would consider a rezoning request for a proposed 131-acre, 316-home development at its Thursday, March 6 meeting. Board members discussed concerns raised by the proposed development, including demands on the county water system, increased traffic, pressure on the schools, and the possibility of odor from an on-site wastewater treatment plant proposed for the development.

- Heard from President Truesdell that Treasurer Hudson, despite an announcement to the contrary made in the February 13 Work Session, remains a named Plaintiff in a lawsuit that aims to overturn an agreement between the SLLA and Seven Lakes Country Club concerning the residential development of the Club's old driving range.
- Cancelled its March 12 work session, which would have been held four days before the annual meeting.
- Deferred committee reports until the annual meeting.

Harry sez:



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Letter from SLLA/SLCC Attorney to Williams

[The following letter, dated February 29, is a communication from M. Robin Davis of Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog — an attorney representing the Seven Lakes Landowners Association and the Seven Lakes Country Club in the driving range lawsuit — to Clawson Williams, Esq. — the Attonery representing Alan Shaw and his co-plaintiffs in the case. The letter and supporting material was provided to The Times by SLLA President Don Triesdell, who asked that we publish the full text of the letter.]

Dear Clawson:

We write regarding some serious concerns we have regarding your continuation of the pending lawsuit given what appear to be direct contradictions between the legal position and testimony which has been given in the current case and the position taken and prior sworn testimony of both your client, David Alan Shaw, and you in a prior action.

Specifically, the Plaintiffs in this case seek to prevent the sale and development of the property known as the "old driving range property" based on the premise that the old driving range property "was never intended for residential use or development and has at all times since the recordation of the subdivision plats been shown as part of the open areas protected by the Restrictive Covenants of the subdivision as undeveloped, green area for the protection and enjoyment of the residential lot owners." [Complaint ¶ 13]

In his deposition taken in the present case, the lead Plaintiff Mr. Shaw testified that this assertion is based on three factual premises:

First, that the original developer never intended or considered the "old driving range property""for anything but open space and specifically never considered this property for subdivision or development. [Shaw Deposition pp. 27-28, 31]

Second, that restrictive covenants prohibit the subdivision or development of this property and only the original developer (not a successor in interest) had the right to amend the restrictive covenants to allow subdivi-

sion or development of this property. [Shaw Deposition pp. 44 - 48]

Third, that the recorded plats reserve space labeled as "Property of Peter V. Tufts and Associates" as open space which could never be subdivided. Specifically that once the plats were recorded and the first lot in the subdivision was sold, all lot owners including the Plaintiffs have an easement appurtenant in the old driving range property based on the representations of the developer regarding the use of the old driving range property as open space. [Shaw Deposition p. 26, lines 13-18, p. 53-55] * [*Q: "After the plats were recorded, is it your con-

tention that anything that is labeled Property of Peter V. Tufts & Associates on the plats was not then permitted to be subdivided?" A: "With the exception of the area labeled condomini-

(Continued on page 34)

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Attorney's letter

(Continued from page 33)

um area, that is exactly my position." (Shaw depo. P. 26, lines 13-18)]

As you must surely be aware, on April 9, 1987, during the bankruptcy proceedings of the developer of Seven Lakes South, the Honorable Rufus Reynolds presided over a hearing concerning the sale of property labeled on the recorded plats as "Property of Peter V. Tufts & Assoc." to the Seven Lakes Country Club. During the course of this hearing, the Affidavit of David Alan Shaw was received into evidence. In addition, the court heard testimony from you as the former attorney to Fred Lawrence, one of the original developers of Seven Lakes South.

The Affidavit of Mr. Shaw and the other testimony at this hearing (including your testimony) contradict the testimony given and positions taken in this case and confirm that the allegations contained in the current Complaint are not well grounded in fact or existing law.

Mr. Shaw made the following statements in his 1987 affidavit regarding property labelled "Property of Peter V. Tufts & Assoc." on the original plats:

- "The area east of the clubhouse building and north of the platted lots ... was never intended for use as part of the golf course except to the extent specified herein regarding the driving range."

- "The 11.07 acres described above was undeveloped land set aside for future development, and except to the extent that it was once considered to be used as a driving range, it was anticipated that it would primarily be used for residential purposes. At the time that the land was being considered for use as a driving range, it was anticipated that what is now the existing driving range would no longer be used as a driving range but would become available for future development for residential purposes."

Further, you testified at the April 9, 1987 hearing that the 11.07 acres, plus the clubhouse, is shown on the recorded plat as "Property of Peter V. Tufts & Associates." You also testified as Mr. Lawrence's former attorney concerning the developer's

authority to determine the use of this property in response to a series of questions by the court. This particular exchange was as follows:

The Court: Mr. Fred Lawrence was supposedly the owner, manager, [he] did like he darned well pleased, is that right? *He could divide up whatever he wanted?*

Clawson Williams: "That's a pretty good statement of it, Your Honor."

The Court: "He divided it any way he wanted to?"

Clawson Williams: "Well, Longleaf, which was under his direction when he was president - and he was president until the last year or two that Longleaf was in business. And during that period of time Mr. Alan Shaw was the president. But Longleaf was the developer, and Fred was the head knocker of Longleaf, yes, sir. So -

The Court: Okay.

Clawson Williams: --- this property belonged to the Peter V. Tufts Partnership of which Longleaf was a part."

Even if you were not aware previously, you now have actual notice of the existence of sworn testimony by Alan Shaw and

others which directly contradicts the factual assertions on which the current case is premised.

As you are aware, Rule 11 of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure provides that sanctions may be awarded where a pleading, including a Complaint, motion or other paper is signed without a factual or legal basis or for an improper purpose. If a pleading, motion, or other paper is signed in violation of Rule 11, the court shall impose upon the person who signed it an appropriate sanction, which may include an order to pay to the other party or parties the amount of the reasonable expenses incurred because of the filing of the pleading motion or other paper, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

On a motion for Rule 11 sanctions, the court will analyze the factual sufficiency of the Complaint to determine 1) whether the plaintiffs undertook a reasonable inquiry into the facts and 2) whether the plaintiffs, after reviewing the results of the inquiry, reasonably believed that their position was well grounded in fact. *Static Control Components, Inc. v. Vogler*, 152 N.C. App. 599, 568 S.E.2d 305 (2002). In this case, the Complaint was verified by all of the plaintiffs, including Mr.

Shaw, and was signed by you as counsel for the Plaintiffs. Under the circumstances presented, we do not believe that the plaintiffs can argue in good faith that the facts alleged in the Complaint are factually sufficient or that a reasonable inquiry was made into the facts as required by Rule 11.

Please be advised that Seven Lakes Country Club and Seven Lakes Landowner's Association

will have no alternative to bring this matter to the attention of the Court unless this case is dismissed with prejudice and the Notice of Lis Pendens is removed from all property owned by the Seven Lakes Country Club so that the members of the club can use this property as they see fit. We trust that once you have reviewed the attached, such action will be unnecessary.

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Suit

(Continued from front page)

But, twenty-one years ago, in a sworn affidavit, Shaw stated: "...it was anticipated that what is now the existing driving range would no longer be used as a driving range but would become available for future development for residential purposes."

In a February 29 letter to the Plaintiffs' attorney Clawson Williams, Robin Davis, one of the attorneys representing the Club and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], calls attention to the apparent contradiction and says it confirms that "the allegations contained in the current Complaint are not well grounded in fact or existing law."

Even if Shaw has forgotten his 20-year-old testimony, Davis suggests, her letter puts him on notice of the contradiction. If the Plaintiffs do not move to have the case dismissed "with prejudice" (meaning it cannot be refiled), Davis says, the Defendants will bring the matter to the attention of the court and ask that it impose sanctions on the Plaintiffs — in other words, require that the plaintiffs pay all or part of the Defendants' legal expenses.

"Under the circumstances presented," Davis writes, "we do not believe that the plaintiffs can argue in good faith that the facts alleged in the Complaint are factually sufficient or that a reasonable inquiry was made into the the facts as required by Rule 11." Rule 11 of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure provides for sanctions when a suit is filed that is not well grounded in fact or warranted by existing law.

Davis' letter to Williams, along with supporting documentation, was provided to *The Times* by SLLA President Don Truesdell [See page 32 for the full text of Davis' letter.]. Truesdell and Director Randy Zielsdorf, who serve as the ad hoc litigation committee in the matter, provided an update on the suit which appears on page 37. The Club is making no public statement about these recent developments in the suit, though SLCC General Manager Mike Spayd told *The Times* the Club's membership would be updated.

Contacted by *The Times* for comment, Shaw provided a written response, which may be

found on page 36. He says that, "When taken in context, I do not believe my statements to be contradictory."

Shaw alleges that the affidavit was prepared by Don Billings, who emerged from the bankruptcy proceedings as Seven Lakes' developer, and signed by Shaw in haste just before he departed for a trip to The Masters golf tournament.

He further argues that the affidavit does not undermine the Plaintiffs' claim that Southside Developer Peter V. Tufts and Associates had the sole right to waive covenants on property in Seven Lakes South — a right which did not pass to that company's successors.

Shaw's affidavit

The nearly 21-year-old affidavit by Shaw that Davis uncovered was filed on April 8, 1987, in connection with the bankruptcy of several Seven Lakes development companies. The question at hand was what should be done with a forty-acre parcel that lay to the east of the SLCC Clubhouse — and, more particularly, with an eleven-acre chunk of that land — a proper-

ty that, coincidentally, is now being used for the Club's new driving range.

As a former President of Longleaf, Inc., the company that originally developed Seven Lakes, and a partner in Southside developer Peter V. Tufts Partnership, Shaw was in a position to know about developer intentions.

In the affidavit, after noting that he has no interest in the proceedings, Shaw says he has "first-hand knowledge" and says the affidavit "is intended as a statement of facts as I recollect them."

The forty acres, Shaw testifies, "was never intended for use as part of the golf course, except to the extent specified herein regarding the driving range."

The 11-acre portion, he goes on to say, "was undeveloped land set aside for future development, and except to the extent that it was once considered to be used as a driving range, it was anticipated that it would be primarily used for residential purposes. At the time that the land was being considered for use as a driving range, it was anticipated that what is now the existing driving range would no longer

be used as a driving range but would become available for future development for residential purposes."

Shaw's affidavit was entered as evidence during the bankruptcy hearing before Judge Rufus Reynolds on April 9, 1987.

Surveyor Testimony

SLLA President Truesdell pro-

vided *The Times* with additional testimony before Judge Reynolds in the bankruptcy proceedings from Surveyor Ronnie Graham who worked on the original drawings of the South Side while employed by Pate Mullins & Associates. He later worked for Lawrence's development company Longleaf, Inc.

(See "Suit," p. 37)

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Shaw responds to apparent contradiction

[When contacted by The Times for comment on the apparent contradiction between a 21-year-old affidavit and his more recent deposition regarding the prospect for residential development of the old Seven Lakes Country Club driving range, Alan Shaw provided the following statement.]

Mr. Truesdell and Mr. Weber today released to *The Times* information they say is contained in an affidavit that I supplied to the Bankruptcy Court in 1987. I have seen a summary provided by them and one page without my signature of a document that they say is the affidavit. The information they have provided me says in part, that I said it was anticipated that the old range would become available for future development for residential purposes if Peter V. Tufts and Associates had developed the property adjacent to the Clubhouse on the eastern side into a driving range. Truesdell and Weber are saying that my affidavit in 1987 is in conflict with my position stated in a recent deposition regarding the current lawsuit attempting to block the development of the old range. When taken in context, I do not believe my statements to be contradictory.

I only vaguely remember the affidavit that was made 21 years ago. The issue facing the bankruptcy court was should the area to the left of the Country Club Clubhouse be part of the sale to the membership or should it be deeded to the new developer. I believe that I was asked to sign an affidavit that the new developer prepared as I was leaving

town on a trip to the Masters. There were restrictive covenants in place that remain in place today that prevented the subdivision of the old driving range unless Peter V. Tufts and Associates waived the restrictive covenants. It is my opinion that only the original developer, Peter V. Tufts and Associates has ever had the authority to

not say that it was ever our plan to develop the old driving range as lots. Nor did it say that we did not make representations that the old driving range would be open space. We never made plans to develop the old driving range and we made promises that it would remain open space. We have recently learned that the

representations we made that it would be open space would have prevented the old driving range's subdivision even if we had wanted to sub-

divide it, which we did not. As is obvious now, a range east of the clubhouse would not work and that was our decision prior to 1980.

I do not believe that the property east of the Country Club Clubhouse was discussed in the recent deposition other than that the CC was building a new range on the property. That property was also subject to restric-

tive covenants of record that only Peter V. Tufts and Associates could waive. The covenants on this as well as the original driving range property provided that before the property was sold it could be divided so long as no lot originally shown on any recorded plat be reduced by more than twenty per cent from its original size. The facts are that the property was sold by Peter V. Tufts and Associates in 1983 and was never subdivided during the time period that it could legally be done by Peter V. Tufts and Associates. The only company with that legal authority, Peter V. Tufts and Associates, did not waive the covenants.

If concluded that I have been contradictory 23 years apart, it was not intentional. The development plans and maps for the South Side took months to prepare and showed a plan to leave the old driving range area open just as was done on the North Side to the right and left of the entry gate. There was never serious discussion that involved development of the old driving range property.

The design engineer for Seven Lakes has confirmed, in an affidavit that Truesdell has in his possession, that the old driving

range was intended as open area.

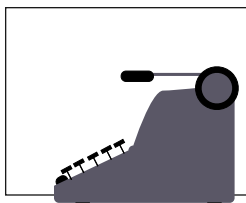
The issue is simple. Can the existing driving range be legally developed into high-density housing development? I believe that the answer is that it cannot be. The Country Club and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association obviously would rather not find out the answer to that question in court. They seem to be attempting to try the case in the newspaper.

I believe the development of the old range will hurt all of our property values. I believe that strongly enough to spend money fighting the issue to a legal conclusion without any way to recover the funds spent other than through retention of property value. All you need to do is ride by the new driving range and you will see how misleading a pretty conceptual drawing can be.

The statement that the Country Club and Seven Lakes Landowners have released regarding my affidavit is a political hack job and should ultimately have little impact on the legal question that needs to be decided. Mr. Truesdell and Mr. Weber should be ashamed that they too do not want to hear a judge declare what is legal.

Your Turn

Alan Shaw
Seven Lakes South



waive the covenants. Once Peter V. Tufts and Associates sold the property to SLS in 1983, it was a decided point that the old range was not nor could in the future be developed. My affidavit in 1987, as a former general partner in Peter V. Tufts and Associates, used the words "anticipated" and "available" connected to an issue that happened years before 1987. It did

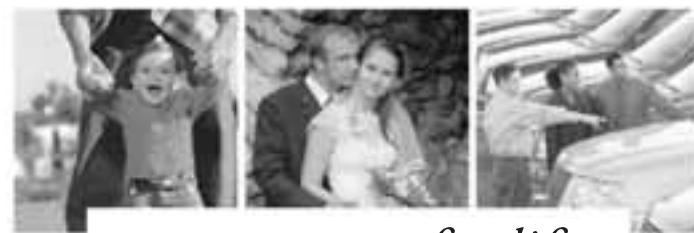
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Litigation committee provides update

The Seven Lakes Country Club and Seven Lakes Landown-

ers Association are represented by the law firm of Cranfill, Sum-

ner and Hartzog in the litigation filed by David Alan Shaw, Steve

and Mary Hudson, Charles and Jane Leach and Tom and Roberta Robinson against the Seven Lakes Landowners Association and the Seven Lakes Country Club. On February

In addition, the mediation in this case was scheduled for March 3, 2008. Although the North

Suit

(Continued from page 35)

Though Davis does not reference Graham's testimony in her letter to Williams, the surveyor does express much the same opinion found in Shaw's affidavit.

Asked about the 11-acre parcel that lies inside the curve of Devonshire Avenue, Graham testified that it was considered for use as a driving range — and even cleared at one point in preparation for that use.

Asked what the plan at the time was for the existing five-acre driving range, Graham testified: "They were planning to basically do away with it, probably make it residential lots. That's what they were working with at the time."

Williams' Testimony

Attorney Clawson Williams was present to testify during the

1987 bankruptcy proceedings. His testimony does not touch directly on any intentions that the developers may have had regarding the old driving range, but SLLA/SLCC Attorney Davis believes it undermines another of the Plaintiffs' contentions.

According to Davis, Shaw argued in his February deposition that the recorded plats reserve space labeled as "Property of Peter V. Tufts and Associates" as open space which could never be subdivided once the plats were recorded and the first lot was sold.

But Williams, testifying in 1987, suggested that original developer Fred Lawrence acted with considerable freedom with regard to subdivision of property within the development.

Referring to Lawrence, Judge Rufus Reynolds asked Attorney

Williams: "He did darned well as he pleased, is that right? He could divide up whatever he wanted?"

"That's a pretty good statement of it, Your Honor," Williams replied.

Next steps

The parties to the suit were scheduled to attend a court-ordered mediation session on Monday, March 3.

According to SLLA Directors Truesdell and Zielsdorf, Shaw was the only plaintiff who attended what was evidently a very brief session.

There is no indication in Shaw's statement that the Plaintiffs intend to withdraw from the case in response to the revelations or the threat of sanctions contained in Davis' letter.

The case is scheduled for a hearing in April.

MEMO:

Board Notes

Don Truesdell
Randy Zielsdorf
SLLA Board

Carolina Rules of Court and a mediation order issued by the Court require that the Plaintiffs and Defendants attend the mediation, only one of the plaintiffs showed up, so nothing was accomplished.

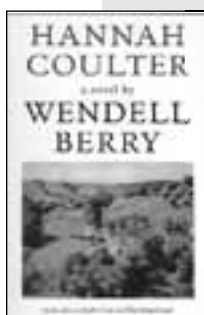
The Association and the Club both had all necessary representatives in attendance.

In addition, Thank you.

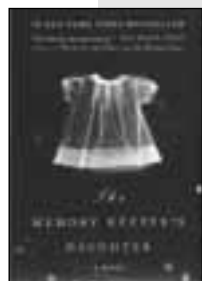
Donald P. Truesdell and
Randy Zielsdorf
Seven Lakes Landowners
Association Litigation
Committee

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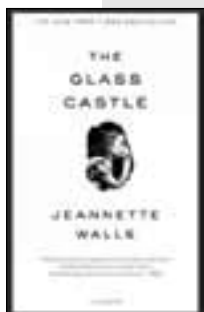
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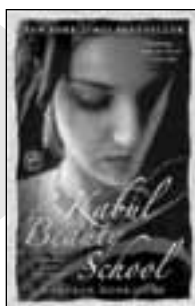
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COULTER**
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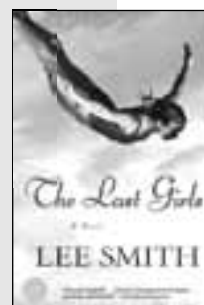
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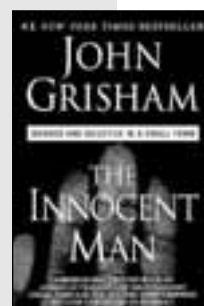
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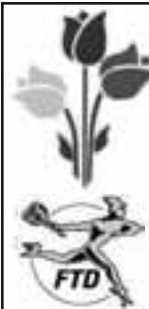
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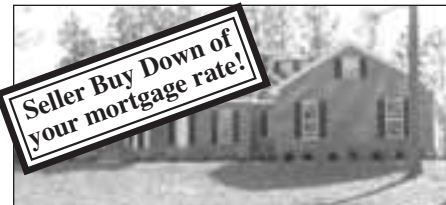
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count points and any other loan-related fees that might exist. Remember, however, that the APR does not include settlement-related costs such as attorney fees, title insurance, recording taxes, property survey, and so on. The APR is the effective interest rate you would be paying if you spread the loan-related costs over the life of your loan.

Despite Congress' good intentions, the APR for a mortgage loan typically is calculated and disclosed to you after you have picked your

lender and made a loan application.

For the borrower this timing is not exactly optimum! Consequently, if you want to compare costs from one lender to another beforehand, you should ask prospective lenders to give you a Good Faith Estimate of Settlement costs (GFE).

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