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Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

April 18, 2008

No, it doesn't have pedals!



Smart Car — Northsider Richard Gordon's new set of wheels gets double the gas mileage over his regular vehicle but trips to town take twice as long, he explained, "because everyone wants to talk to me about my car." (See "Smart car" p. 2)

Judge will rule in driving range suit

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

With a court ruling expected this week, the fate of the old Seven Lakes Country Club driving range may be one step closer to resolution.

Presiding Superior Court Judge Ripley Rand heard the case brought by David A. Shaw, et al. versus the Seven Lakes Landowners Association and Seven Lakes Country Club, on Monday, April 14, in Carthage.

Attorneys representing both sides provided oversized map plats of Seven Lakes South as visual aids to assist the court in understanding the location, background, and history of the area in question.

Representing the Association and Country Club, plaintiff attorney M. Robin Davis of Cranfill, Sumner, and Hartzog, LLP in Raleigh, argued that Seven Lakes landowners have no claim

on — no "easement appurtenant in" — the property, that the Southside covenants do not apply to it, and that the Association had the right to enter into an agreement with the Club concerning the driving range.

Using a plat map dating from the bankruptcy proceedings of 1986, Davis said the old range is identified only as Property of Peter V. Tufts.

"There is no reference to common areas in Seven Lakes South, except roads," said Davis. In contrast, she explained, to the Seven Lakes North plat which includes areas labeled as parks and recreation areas.

Local attorney Clawson Williams, representing Shaw and his co-plaintiffs, said the old range had been a green, open space for thirty-five years and "should remain so."

Williams said the covenants do (See "Suit," p. 34)

Westside mail vote planned

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Some folks in Seven Lakes West have been working for years to get the US Postal Service [USPS] to deliver the community's mail curbside rather than to a centralized mail house, and postal officials have expressed little interest in making the change.

But even if the Post Office changed its mind tomorrow, Westsiders still couldn't get their mail delivered at home —

because the covenants of Seven Lakes West won't allow it.

The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] appears ready to try to fix that problem, by asking landowners to vote to change the covenants to allow curbside mailboxes, through a ballot that will be included with annual dues invoices to be mailed out in a couple of weeks.

Long Range PLanning Committee Co-Chairs Roger Brooke and Bud Sales recommended

the ballot to the Board during the Tuesday, April 8, SLWLA Board Work Session.

The offending section in the Seven Lakes West covenants (Section IX) reads as follows: "Mailboxes, design and location are subject to approval of Declarant or their representatives unless and until a central mail station is constructed and put into use at which time all individual boxes shall be removed and no more mailboxes (See "Mail," p. 35)

Candidate Forum draws crowd

With the May primary less than a month away, dozens of area voters took the opportunity to learn more about the candidate's running for the North Carolina General Assembly and Moore County Board of Commissioners during a Candidate's Forum held at the Westside Park Community Center on Tuesday, April 15. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters, the Moore County Chapter of the NAACP, and Seven Lakes Civics Group, the forum was moderated by Greg Hankins, editor of *The Seven Lakes Times*.

Read complete coverage of the candidates' statements and responses to questions beginning on page 14.

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Despite wind & rain, Cook-Off's a success

NAPA Care Care @ Seven lakes walked away with the prize for Best Overall Chili at the Seven Lakes Business Guild's First Annual Chili Cook-Off.

Though wind and rain cut short the event, it attracted a large and lively crowd who hungrily made their way from booth to booth seeking to find the perfect blend of beef, beans, and fire.

WEEB-AM and Indigo's tied for the People's Choice Award for one-Alarm Chili; Modern Woodmen won for their Three-Alarm bowl, and, fittingly, Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire Department took honors for the really hot stuff. Indigo's took honors for the best-decorated booth.



Judges at the First Annual Seven Lakes Business Guild Chili Cook-Off braved wind and rain to find the best bowl of fire.

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.

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
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.

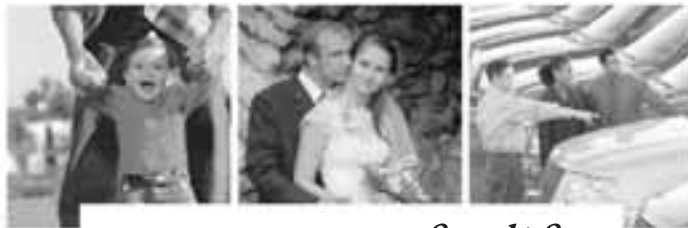


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Smart car

(Continued from front page)

Gordon said he too spent time admiring Smart ForTwo's while visiting England, Ireland, and France to attend horse races.

"I had seen this car because it has been used in Europe for ten years," said Gordon. "It gets good mileage and has plenty of room for groceries in the cargo area."

The steel-framed Smart ForTwo, is a two-seat car featuring dual and side air bags. The vehicle received a five star safety rating and has a top speed of ninety miles per hour.

"I have driven it as fast as eighty miles per hour," said Gordon, but acknowledged the car was designed for metropolitan areas and short, slower trips not highway travel.

"You just don't feel like you're in a small car," explained Gordon.

The Smart ForTwo is available in three models; basic, Passion, and convertible. Gordon purchased his Passion in February from a dealership in Cary, spending \$15,500.

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HR Panel recommends management company

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The West Side's Human Resources Committee has recommended that a management company be hired to take over administration of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] after Community Manager Tony Robertson retires at the end of the year.

Committee Chairman Ron Sickenberger presented that recommendation to the SLWLA Board of Directors during a Tuesday, April 8, Work Session. The HR Committee includes Sickenberger, Lois Rocco, Mick Herdig, Nancy Workman, and Jim Haggard. They are recommending a local management company — Community Association Services — which has offices and serves communities throughout the state.

Sickenberger said the committee looked at the pros and cons of hiring a manager to replace Robertson versus hiring an outside company.

The advantages of hiring a

replacement manager are that the process would be completely controlled by community, and that "the person hired might be considered more 'one of us,'" Sickenberger said. But the selection process will be long and costly, the Association will continue to assume benefits costs and absorb rising insurance pre-

and other staff. "We would have a fulltime, on-site, manager working here," Sickenberger noted, "so there should be no real change in the atmosphere."

- The manager would have professional certification and the SLWLA financial system would be integrated into a more sophisticated management information system.

- The SLWLA can leverage the management company's network to decrease costs — for example, for insurance premiums.

- There would be no lengthy contract requirement. Sickenberger said hiring a company would probably involve a one-year commitment, "and then could get out when we wanted to."

The only negative point to hiring a company that the committee identified was "There might be some perception that the manager would not be one of us," Sickenberger said. "The key will be that person's per-

sonality and management ability."

"What kind of say would we have about the staff and manager?" Treasurer Kathy Kirst asked.

"We would have a big say in that whole process," Sickenberger replied. "The manager would be an employee of the management company. They would make a selection to be approved by us. We could have that person changed if things didn't work out."

He said the Board would also determine how many additional

staff members were needed and could ask the management company to hire existing staff members if that were desirable.

Sickenberger said the committee looked at several management companies before narrowing the list to two who were contacted and extensively vetted. Based on that process, they settled on Community Association Services [CAS].

"Nancy and Mick went out and spent time at their offices," Sickenberger said. "They asked a lot of questions, and they got a

(See "Management," p. 37)

West Side Landowners Meeting

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miums, and will have to deal with the lack of a back-up if the manager is out sick for an extended period.

The advantages of hiring a management company include:

- The chance to minimize employment issues and lawsuit exposure.

- The company would be responsible for finding someone to fill the position. The company would hire the manager

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Peckitt clamps down on Village spending

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Foxfire Treasurer Wally Peckitt wants to make it harder for Village council members to spend money.

He reported that the Village had \$420,000 in cash on hand at the end of February, but was down to \$340,000 by the end of March. With outstanding checks totalling \$40,000, Peckitt said, "We have \$300,000 left for the remainder of the year."

The Village's fiscal year ends on June 30.

In order to "tighten up on expenditures," Peckitt said he had revised the purchase order policy.

"When council member needs to buy something, he or she will have to fill out a purchase order rather than calling one in," Peckitt said. I want each member to fill it out and record the balance of cash available for that expenditure."

Councilwoman Page Coker, who is in charge of public safety, objected to the new policy because it could delay repairs to a patrol vehicle. "It will delay them getting the cars back on the highway," she said.

"We must do something about changing our system" Peckitt replied. "It's much too lax. I'm going to stand pat with my decision."

Coker said she "wanted to go on record" that the policy could affect the public safety.

"I'll accept the blame," Peckitt replied.

Water Restrictions

Noting that Moore County had relaxed water conservation meas-

ures in the Seven Lakes and Pinehurst systems, Councilman Ed Lauer said, "They realize that there is more water than what they were projecting."

He said the Village continues

Foxfire Council Meeting

4/8

to be under Phase 1 water restrictions, which include odd-even watering for two days a week and washing cars on Saturday or Sunday. Other details on Phase 1 restrictions area available at the Village Hall.

Public Safety

Councilwoman Coker said she had attended the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of West End Fire and Rescue and set up a meeting to discuss with Fire Chief Wayne Kennedy precautions that should be taken with regard to propane tanks and electrical transformers. She recounted an incident near her house in which a vehicle backed into a ground-based transformer and caused damage to the electrical system in three homes — and could have caused a fire.

Coker said the ad hoc committee on speed limits will hold an open meeting on April 24.

A CERT — Community Emergency Response Team — information session and refresher course will be held on May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Village Hall. This will give both existing CERT members a chance to get back together and new folks inter-

ested in the program a chance to get firsthand information.

Streets

Councilman Vic Koos said he had discussed repairs to the Village Green walking trail with contractor Ronnie Williams, who built the trail and has made repairs to sections that wash out with heavy rains. Koos said he told Williams that his repair work should have a one-year warranty that would cover the repairs that are currently needed. But Williams didn't agree.

Koos said he planned to have

Williams provide an estimated cost for the repairs so that the council could determine whether to proceed with legal remedies

regarding the warranty.

"Why give him any business if we're not satisfied with his work?"

(See "Foxfire," p. 34)



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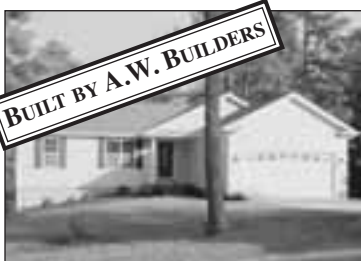
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Commissioners debate funding for hangers

It was back to the drawing board for the Moore County Airport Authority after the four Commissioners present at the Board's Monday, April 7 regular meeting appeared to split two-two on a proposal that would have funneled more money from the county to the airport authority to fund the construction of more hangers at the airport. (Commissioner Larry Caddell was not able to attend the meeting because he was accompanying his son on a mission trip.)

Ultimately, the commissioners tabled the hanger proposal and asked that airport officials fully explore the possibility of leasing land for the hangers to a private developer, who would then build and rent out the hangers.

The airport says it needs new hangers to meet demand from local pilots, some with very expensive aircraft that they would prefer to store under cover. Insufficient hanger space at the Moore County Airport has prompted some pilots to move their planes to the Lee County Airport, which is supported by both Lee County and the City of Sanford.

That not only means lost revenue for the airport, it means lost tax revenue for the county. Aircraft owners pay personal property taxes to the county on the value of their machines, just like car and boat owners. But the owner of a multi-million dollar plane puts more into county coffers than several homeowners. In addition, the county collects a share of the sales taxes paid on the sale of aviation fuel at the airport.

The airport lacks the financial clout to build on its own the

hangers that would keep these planes, and the tax revenues they generate, in the county, airport officials told the county. They suggested several options: the county could build the hangers and lease them to the airport; the county could lend the authority the money to build the hangers, or the county could guarantee that it would rebate to the airport authority all of the county property and sales tax revenues generated by the airport operation. That tax revenue stream would make it possible for the airport authority to borrow money for hanger construction on its own.

This last idea — that the airport should receive from the county all the sales tax revenue derived from fuel sales at the airport and all the property tax revenue based on aircraft housed at the airport, appears to be the key point of disagreement among the Commissioners.

Airport officials first presented their hanger construction request to the commissioners earlier this year. A subcommittee that included Commissioner Jimmie Melton and Commissioners Chairman Colin McKenzie, airport board members, and county and airport staff met to work through the options. Then county Finance Officer Lisa Hughes, along with airport authority treasurer Hugh Bingham and executive director Gary Barnum, reviewed financing options with the Local Government Commission in Raleigh, the state agency that must sign off on borrowing by government agencies. Commissioners then reviewed the options in their March work ses-

sion.

McKenzie apparently came away from those meetings convinced that the airport could and should borrow the money to construct the hangers and that the county should rebate county tax revenues to the airport in order to help the airport finance the project.

In a lengthy opening statement he attempted to clarify what he said were distortions that had recently appeared in various letters to the editor, noting that the letter writers "would have you believe that we are taking money from the taxpayers when in fact the money is earned at the airport and by the airport. If they were receiving the money they were legally entitled to they wouldn't have to come to the

county."

Later in the meeting, McKenzie said, "Our biggest competitor is Lee County and they put every penny back in . . . To me as a citizen, I think that the airport is vital to this county if we are to get decent jobs . . . They create that tax money, and they are entitled to it."

And again, "What I am saying is that the airport has made this money. Other counties throughout the state allow the airport to keep the money. We've never allowed them to keep that money. We ought to put enough money back in there to let them do this."

Commissioner Melton appeared to agree with the Chairman's position, saying at one point that the airport "is part of the lifeblood of the county. By not

doing this we are looking at jobs for Moore County that might be given up . . . What we give up in taxes will not compare to what we reap in jobs . . . For the future we have got to be prepared to look after our airport."

On the other side of the question, Commissioner Tim Lea said the issue is not whether the airport is important to Moore County's economic growth or whether the Airport Authority has done a good job running the facility.

"This is about who pays for this," Lea said.

"This is about dollars and cents," Lea said. "You folks have the money in your budget to fund this if you want to go out and borrow the \$2 million," Lea told

(See "Hangers," p. 32)

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Board approves wellness center contract

A discussion about how to fund the construction of new hangers at the Moore County Airport dominated the discussion during the April 7 meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners, but there was other airport business — and other county business to transact as well.

Airport Grant

The Commissioners agreed to fund a \$59,260 local match that would enable the Airport to obtain a \$2.4 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to acquire land or easements in order to clear obstructions from the approaches planes use when landing and taking off.

Before making the motion to approve the matching funds, Commissioner Tim Lea closely questioned Airport Manager Gary Barnum to make sure the Authority had no intent of trying to acquire the Dowd property, which includes the Poverty Hill nursery near the airport, by right of eminent domain. Earlier in the meeting, Anne Dowd Medlin, one of the children of Eva Dowd, the property's longtime owner, said her mother had no interest in selling the property and planned to live there until her death. Other members of the Dowd family attended the meeting in support of Mrs. Dowd.

Airport Authority Vice Chairman Michael Nash said the FAA would prefer that the airport purchase property outright but would settle for easements where that is not possible.

Apparently satisfied, Lea moved approval of the local match and his motion was unanimously approved.

Airport Easement

The Commissioners also voted unanimously to authorize a cross-access easement between the Moore County Airport Authority, the Chandler Clark Family Limited Partnership and the Humane Society of Moore County, Inc., all three of which will own portions of the old NC Highway 22 roadway, which will be abandoned by the NC Department of Transportation.

Barnum explained the easements are necessary to ensure that all three entities continue to

have access to their property through the old roadway.

Wellness Center Contract Approved

Commissioners approved a \$335,000 annual contract with Sanford Medical Group for to provide medical staffing and licensing for the county employee wellness center in Carthage.

County employees can visit the wellness center instead of an outside physician's office and thereby avoid any co-pay, while also avoiding claims against the county's self-funded employee health insurance plan.

County Human Resources Director Teri Alesch provided statistics on utilization and cost savings:

- 899 of the 1,100 employees and dependents covered by the county health plan have visited the wellness center in the year. Overall, the clinic handled 2,107 office visits in 2007.

- By using the center instead of a private provider, county employees saved over \$42,000 in co-pays.

- The center provides drug testing and pre-employment screening for the county and saved more than \$12,000 that would have been spent with outside providers, in addition to \$6,500 in saving on treatment of work-related injuries.

- Overall, the county saved nearly \$99,000 in health provider in 2007, and has saved nearly \$408,000 since the wellness center opened in March of 2005.

The new contract will put a doctor in the clinic five days a week, whereas the previous contract had a doctor in residence two days a week and a nurse practitioner covering three days per week. Commissioner Cindy Morgan questioned whether a doctor was needed all five days, noting that nurse practitioners are often better equipped to handle everyday health complaints.

County manger Cary McSwain said the contract could be adjusted based on experience and that some clients of the clinic had already made the same suggestion as Morgan.

Asked whether an effort had been made to contract with a local health provider rather than a Lee County-based provider, Alesch said twelve requests for proposal had been issued, all but one to Moore County-based providers. Sanford Medical Group was the sole respondent.

Because the commissioners are in the process of evaluating employee health coverage options — and, in particular, whether it makes sense to move from self-insured to fully-insured

— McSwain was asked whether it makes sense to sign a three-year contract. He replied that either party could cancel the contract with ninety days notice.

Ultimately, the commissioners asked McSwain to have the contract rewritten to reflect a three year term with annual renewals and cancellation by either party with ninety-days notice. They unanimously approved the arrangement under those terms.



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I have never forgotten why I am in public office – to serve you – the people of Moore County. And that is what I have continually tried to do since I was elected in 2004. For those who have called, you know that my door is always open and that I am always ready to listen. I have worked to institute good business practices, exercise fiscal conservancy in spending your hard-earned tax dollars, and to make decisions that will be good for our county not only in the short term but also in the long-term.

I want to continue to serve you, so please vote for me on May 6.

Paid for by the Tim Lea Campaign Committee
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In memory of . . .

William Stuart, 93, formerly of Seven Lakes, died on Saturday, March 8.

Mr. Stuart was a member of the 1936 graduating class at Colgate University. He received his master's degree from Columbia in 1967. He and his wife raised their family in Caldwell, NJ. He worked for American Can and later at Ethan Allen, before retiring to Seven Lakes.

He is survived by his wife of sixty-eight years, Marie; his children, Lynn Wilkinson, Bill Stuart; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Bokas Funeral Home in Fairlawn assisted the family.

Florence B. Lacher, 92, of Mars Hill, formerly of Foxfire Village, died Friday, March 14, in Madison Manor Nursing Center in Mars Hill.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, April 8, at McDonald's Chapel Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Donald Welch officiated.

Memorials may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association.

George Hunt Leavitt, Lt. Colonel, USAF [Ret], 76, of Seven Lakes, and formerly of Moreno Valley, CA, died Sunday, March 23, in St. Louis, MO. Born and raised in Chattanooga, TN, Mr. Leavitt attended Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

He joined the United States Air Force in 1953, and during his twenty-year career as a pilot in the military, he achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Stationed at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland from 1961-1968, he served as a pilot in the 89th Special Air Missions Military Air-lift Wing, which provides worldwide transportation for the President, Vice President, cabinet members, and other civilian and military dignitaries of the United States and foreign governments. He also served his country in Vietnam as the Executive Officer of a support squadron at Tan

Son Nhut Air Base. He piloted the final "Operation Homecoming" flight of POWs returning home from Vietnam in 1973.

Lt. Col. Leavitt retired from the Air Force in 1973 at Norton Air Force Base, Calif. and went on to become a Flight Simulator Instructor for C-141 aircraft at Altus Air Force Base, OK, Norton Air Force Base, CA, and March Air Force Base, CA. He was a member of the Sam Fox organization as well as the Daedalians.

He and his wife Joan retired to Seven Lakes in 2006.

Survivors include his wife, Joan, a son, Jonathan, of Riverside, CA; daughter, Lisa, of St. Louis, MO; sister, Jeanne Koone, of Pine Mountain, GA; and other family members.

A service of remembrance will be held at the Chapel in the Pines in Seven Lakes on Saturday, April 19, at 11:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, donations be made in Lt. Col. Leavitt's memory to the American Cancer Society or the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Schrader Funeral Home in St. Louis assisted the family.

Everette Addison Cole, 83, of West End, died Tuesday, April 8.

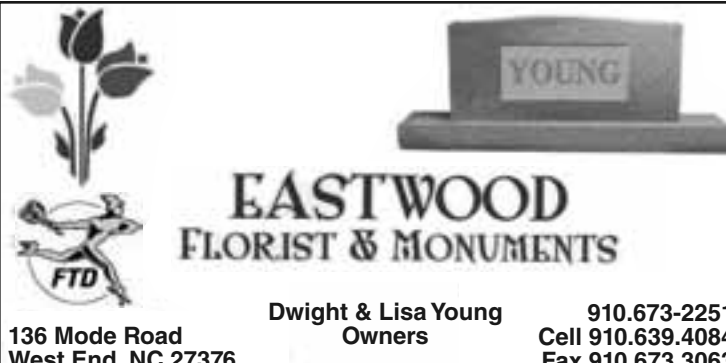
Mr. Cole enlisted in the Marines in 1943 and was stationed at Camp Lejeune in the Second Marine Division and served time in Hawaii. He was honorably discharged in 1946. He reenlisted in 1950 and served during the Korean conflict. He worked at Cole's Electric Shop from 1946 to 1964, then opened his own Electric Motor Business in Biscoe. He retired in 1974.

He was a charter member of the West End Fire and Rescue Squad for thirty years and was the first to retire from the rescue squad. He was also a member of the West End Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Cole is preceded in death by one daughter, Verona Anne Cole, his mother, Verona Williams Cole, his father, David Evander Cole, and sisters Edith Cole and Ethel Smith, and three brothers; Floyd Cole, Howard Cole, and Carlton Cole.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-seven years, Priscilla Ritter Cole; two daughters, Kathy Hess of West End, Rita Fry of Seven Lakes West, and one son; Van Cole West End, and three grandchildren. He is also survived by two sisters; Mildred Boyd of Durham and Hazel Bate of Shoshone, ID, two brothers; Byron Cole of Eagle Springs, and Clarence Cole of Fountain.

(Continued on page 9)



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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 8)

A Celebration of Life Service was held at West End Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 13, with private graveside services following.

Memorial donations be made in memory of Everette Cole to West End Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 13, West End, NC 27376.

Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Raymond Keith Stites, 56, of Seven Lakes West, died Wednesday, April 9, at his home.

Mr. Stites battled an undiagnosed disease for three years. He and his wife were married for thirty-five years, and made their home in Vineland, NJ, his hometown.

The family moved to North Carolina in 1995 to develop Little River Golf Course. For a short period he worked for Synergy Homes prior to forming his own company with his son Chad, known as Visions Design/Build.

He has survived by his wife Cindy; son Chad of Seven Lakes; a daughter, Heather of Charlotte, his mother, Mary Leslie; and brother Kevin, both of Vineland, NJ.

A Memorial Service was conducted Monday April 14, at Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines.

Memorials may be made to FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374 or to the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, 2125 Seven Lakes South, West End, NC 27376.

Arrangements by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

Joseph Hagendorn, Jr., 88, of Seven Lakes North, died Thursday, April 10, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Hagendorn was born in Brooklyn, NY, to the late Joseph E. and Helen J. Ward Hagendorn. He was a US Army WWII veteran, and retired from Long Island Lighting Company. He was a member of the West End Elberta Masonic Lodge #164 and moved to Seven Lakes in 1981.

He is survived by his wife Jane Bucher Hagendorn, sons; Robert

J. Hagendorn of Long Island, NY; Richard J. Hagendorn of Henderson, NV; James K. Hagendorn of Las Vegas, NV and David K. Hagendorn of Poland, OH. He is also survived by a daughter Lynn H. Darsey of Seven Lakes North and six grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Monday, April 14, at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes. Pastor James Thyne officiated.

Memorials may be made to the 7 Lakes Lions Club, PO Box 841 West End, NC 27376.

Dorothea "Dot" June Lawson Burnam, 76, of West End, died

Monday, April 14, at her home.

A daughter of the late Elmer and Evelyn Brown, Mrs. Burnam retired from the accounting department at U-Haul, and worked in the administrative office at Lithia Springs Elementary School for many years. She was also a member of the Republican Campaign Committee.

Survivors include a son, Ralph V. Lawson, of Powder Springs, GA; three daughters, Cindy L. Thompson, of Marietta, GA, Sharon J. Thompson, of Forest Park, GA, and Susie L. Mountain, of Temple, GA; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

dren.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Friday, April 18, at the White Columns Chapel, Mableton, GA

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes, and White Columns Chapel of Mableton assisted the family.

Clarice T. Downs, 85, of West End, died Monday, April 14, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Simon Funeral Home of Southern Pines.

Salad Supper!

Springtime marks the welcome arrival of warmer weather, peach blossoms, and of course, the annual Salad Supper hosted by the United Methodist Women of the West End United Methodist Church.

This year's Salad Supper will be held on Friday, May 2 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the West End United Methodist Church. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Adults are \$8.00, and \$4.00 for children twelve and under.

For tickets contact Trudie Vaughn at 255-6158 or Angie Thingstad at 673-3691.

Drop by Penick Village April 29 and make yourself at home.

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Join us for our Cottage Open House at Penick Village on April 29. Enjoy refreshments and tour one of our new cottages as a part of Penick Woodlands, our exciting new expansion. These new single-family homes offer a choice of floor plan options and different exterior designs. Inside, you'll discover beautiful rooms designed by KFS Design, Total Design Solutions, and Village Design Group.

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School Board approves \$1.9 million increase

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

"Building on our Progress," is the name of the 2009 Superintendent's Budget for Moore County Schools that was unanimously

approved by the Board of Education during a budget adoption meeting held on Thursday, April 3.

The proposed budget includes \$1.9 million in new spending,

an increase of 7.6 percent over last year.

Superintendent Dr. Susan Purser said the budget focuses on the schools mission and beliefs. Total costs for estimated

and anticipated costs, for new facilities support, new modulars, salary increases, energy costs increases, and athletic and arts needs, was \$1.067 million.

Purser said she identified where additional support was needed and the budget reflects increases for curriculum instruction, support services, school administration, high school academic competitions stipends and program funds, virtual school-distance learning facilitators, and technology.

Combining operating expenses of \$25,592,245 with a projected capital project outlay of \$1,133,950 produces a total request for \$26,726,950 in funding from Moore County taxpayers.

Donations benefit WEE, ballfield

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Food Lion of Seven Lakes presented the West End Elementary PTA with a check for \$3,000 in response to a timed period collecting receipts. Principal Johnnye Waller said the school had expected a gift of

approximately \$900 and that the \$3,000 received was a very generous donation.

"We do appreciate it so much – it was a very pleasant surprise," said Waller.

The oversized check, hanging on the office wall, has also been a big hit with the school chil-

dren.

Waller said she was surprised by another recent donation, by Sandhills Contractors.

Owner Donny Oldham and his son, Richard, offered to grade the West End Elementary ballfield parking area and provide poured gravel.

"Richard said they do a lot of things for schools – they saw a need and did the work," said Waller. "It was a very nice donation."

Waller said the school has purchased additional picnic tables for the ballfield "to make it look a little more enjoyable."

"The ballfield is there for the

community and the children," said Waller. "We welcome anyone there to use it – it's a very community oriented place and I am very supportive of the ballfield."



Sandhills Contractors fix up the West End Elementary ballfield parking area.

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Get in shape for 7K & May Follies

Each Thursday, join Sandhills Striders Running Club and the SLLA Recreation Committee for a weekly health topic presentation followed by a group walk or run, your choice. Sponsored by Trey Waters of the Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe,

'7 Weeks to the 7K,' is a free program open to all, designed to assist adults and children with improving their fitness level and getting ready to participate in the Seven Lakes 7K & May Follies.

You do not need to be a star athlete to attend this training program, in fact you do not even have to be a runner. Adults, youth, seniors, and strollers are all welcome.

On Thursday, April 24, Marjorie Nurnberg of Seven Lakes Fitness & Health will discuss Cross Training, and on Thursday, May 1, last year's fastest female racer, Sallie Beth Johnson, President of Sandhills Striders, will discuss Race Strategies. Meet at the North Clubhouse at 6:00 pm. Each training session concludes with a group run or walk, your choice, with Northsider Anne Johnson or another member of the Sandhills Striders.

For more information, please contact Anne Johnson at 724-9174. Registration forms for the Seven Lakes 7K or one-mile fun run scheduled for Saturday, May 3, can be found at the Seven Lakes Landowners Association office, The Prescription Shoppe, and Seven Lakes Health & Fitness Center.

Tea time with Brownies



Girl Scouts from Brownie Troop #1301 of West End enjoyed dressing up for the council's annual "Tea for Two" event held Sunday, March 30, in Southern Pines.

Each girl was accompanied by her grandmother or mother and all enjoyed the crafts, food, and the entertaining magician.

The Brownies included Da'Shawna Dunlap, Delylah McDonald-Thomas, Taylor St. Onge, Jordan Hunt, Keeley Copper, and Amanda Jones.

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Career Experience

Moore County Planning Director 1997 - 2002
Cumberland Co Planning Director 2003 - 2005
Co-Owner, Sandhills Bridge Studio 2002 - 2007
Planner, NC Dept. of Commerce 1988 - 1997

Education

M.S. Public Admin., NC State Univ. 1993
B.S. Social Welfare, Austin Peay State Univ. 1981
Graduate, Moore County Leadership Institute 2002
National Planning Certification (AICP) 1999

Volunteer

Chair, Moore County Planning Board 2007 - 2008
Pinehurst Civic Group Board of Directors 2006 - 2008
Small Area "A" Planning Comm. 2006 - 2008

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Have a good old time at Clenny Creek Days

You are invited to Clenny Creek Day on Saturday, April 19, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Bryant House and McLendon Cabin in Carthage.

Moore County bluegrass and Appalachian string music will

be featured on the front porch by Clyde Maness and Friends, and The Hoe Cakes [Sharon McDonald, Allen Ashdown, David McDonald, and Steven Hedgepeth].

Featured demonstrations dur-

ing the event include an historic interpretation by George Talley, Debbie & Hannah Williams, and a Civil War encampment complete with cannon fire presented by "Scotch Riflemen" Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp

2001 Moore County NC, fiber craft by Paula Caddell, history of Colonial jewelry by Lina Brooks, and an antique tractor display in the sand field.

For kids, Clenny Creek Day offers bamboo maize, digging live worms for faux fishing in the creek and a Country Store.

Food and refreshment of the best dogs with the best condiments will include grilled onions, chili, sauerkraut, plus a big pot of pinto beans and cornbread from Roger & Ann Chriscoe.

The many vendors will include wrought iron yard furniture by Medleyanna's, herbs and vegetable plants by Amy Davis, Alpaca woolen goods and plants by Crystal Pines Alpaca Farm, horse and cart rides in the sand

field by Randy Jackson, handmade soap by Josh & Linda Marshburn, handmade clay pipes by Randy Brooks, handmade gourd crafts by Carol Richardson, and pottery by Judy Freeman.

Items to be raffled include pottery Folk art rooster by Peggy King Bailey, pottery bowl with wood ash glaze by Terry King, wrought iron bench by Medleyanna's, handmade ceramic "Lord's Supper" by Kevin Cagle, shrub by Aurora Hills Farm, shrub by Poverty Hill Nursery, 5 x 7 Turkish area rug by Gullistan Carpet, Hokulee Pottery turtle, handmade wooden pens by Hurley Wallace, and a 100-year old Folk art quilt handmade in NC donated by Marilyn Hartsell.

Garden Club Painting Raffle



7 Lakes Garden Club President Johanna Moran

One lucky person will win a beautiful, brilliant, original watercolor painting worth hundreds of dollars. The painting is being raffled by the Seven Lakes Garden Club as a fundraising effort.

Tickets are available at the April and May Garden Club meetings or by contacting a club member. The painting will be on display during upcoming meetings and at the Seven Lakes Annual Garden Club Tour on June 21, at which time the winning ticket will be drawn. Tickets sell for \$2 each, or three for \$5.

The watercolor painting was donated by Seven Lakes resident Andrea Schmidt, an art teacher and accomplished award-winning artist.

Foxfire Women

by Julie Andress

Foxfire Women's Association [FWA] members began the new year with their first social event, an elegant Victorian Tea Party, on the afternoon of February 8, at the Days Inn's Banquet Room in Southern Pines. Members dressed in attire indicative to the Victorian era, donning hats, gloves, and dresses. The tradition of teatime was reflected in beautiful table settings with floral arrangements of roses, a buffet with assorted delicate finger sandwiches and fanciful desserts, and a variety of tea leaves to choose from.

To tell a little about tea, Professor Bill Croft from Sandhills Community College gave an informative talk, along with a handout, about the health benefits and origin of Herbal teas.

FWA's next planned afternoon social will be May 2, which will be a "Picnic in the Park," held at the Village Green in Foxfire Village.



Real Estate

By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

WHAT GOES WITH THE HOUSE?

Real estate is usually defined as the land and everything attached to it, such as: buildings, trees, shrubs, fences, etc.

The buyer normally gets all of the real estate, but none of the owner's personal property.

The problem arises when personal property has become a part of the real estate. This is called a fixture and does not pass with the real estate.

There are three usual tests which must be satisfied. Has the personal property been permanently annexed to the real estate?

Is it intended to become part of the real estate? Finally, what is the local custom?

Usual fixtures might include: shades, heaters, ranges, screens, storm windows, lighting fixtures, etc.

It is important that the seller spell out specifically in the sales agreement exactly what he intends to give the buyer as part of the real estate.

This will save misunderstanding at the closing, and sometimes save a sale.

• • •

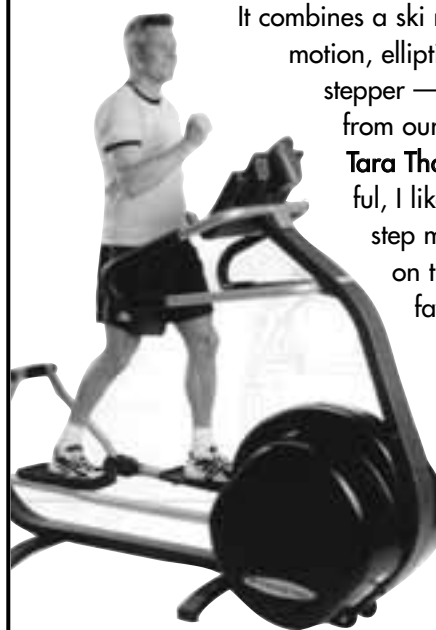
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Dave Stewart — "I like it a lot; it's great! It's like I can use three machines without having to stop and change machines, so I get a harder workout."

Dick Haven — "The controls are very intuitive. It runs very smoothly."

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Feeling Good is the Fun of It!

Best Summer annuals for the Sandhills

Hopefully Spring has finally arrived here in the Sandhills. The dogwoods are in full bloom, azaleas, camellias, forsythia, red buds, daffodils, and other flowering bulbs are adding beauty to our location. The temperatures have been variable during April, ranging from a low in the 30's to 80 degrees high.

We have been blessed with much needed rainfall, and our water restrictions have been lifted so that we are able to water our plantings twice a week. Of course those living on the lakes can irrigate as desired. Let's hope that frequent showers will continue throughout the growing season, but some weather forecasters predict 2008 as another drought year. Let's continue to conserve water and hopefully have enough throughout our gardening season.

Several questions have been asked, which Summer annuals do best here in our area? I'll briefly mention some of the most popular types, names, and hardy ones.

Petunias: The spreading type and varieties are most common. Used in beds, borders, containers, and hanging baskets. Wave or spreading, grandiflora, or multiflora, all come in various colors.

Geraniums: Generally used in containers but can be set out or displayed in beds or borders. They come in many colors and are usually single or double-round flower clusters.

Impatiens: These are showy flowering plants. Here again, they may be had in various colors. Most impatiens should be grown in a shady location, however there is one type, the New Guinea, that can be grown in full sun if properly maintained.

Begonias: An important and vigorous annual that is gaining recognition and being used by many gardeners in beds, borders, edgings, and containers. The most important type locally is the bronze leaf series which has



Gardening in the Sandhills

Jim Caudill

good heat resistance. Generally begonias prefer some shade but can tolerate full sun as long as temperatures do not exceed 90 to 95 degrees.

Marigolds: One of the old favorites that come in bright orange, yellow, or crème colors which make a conspicuous display in borders, pots, or massed bed plantings. These displays require full sun.

Celosia: A brightly colored flowering plant, it's exotically

shaped, plumed, cockscomb flowering head is rather distinguishing. There are dwarf and regular taller growing plants which are used in beds, borders, and edgings. The colors are bright reds, pink, yellow, crème, apricot, orange, gold, and salmon. Celosis grow best in full sun in a rich and well-drained soil.

Salvia or scarlet sage:

A plant used in beds, hanging baskets, or in containers. The flowers are generally red, but may be purplish-blue, white, redish, deep purple, or rose. Salvia does best in full sun or part shade and in a rich and well-drained soil. Like most of the annuals, salvia will do better if watered twice a week.

There are other annuals that do well here in the Sandhills such as: Gerber daisies, ageratum, periwinkle, rudbeck [cone

flower], and portulaca [rose moss].

Many vegetable gardeners complain that tomatoes didn't do well last year. I can attest to that situation.

Here are a few suggestions: If possible, plant your tomatoes in a location where tomatoes have not been planted in three years. Add compost or organic matter to your soil. For the correct amount of lime and fertilizer, take a soil sample – materials and instructions may be obtained free from the County Extension office in Carthage. In the absence of a soil test, add two to three pounds dolomitic limestone and half to one pound slow release 8-8-8 or 10-10-10 per 100 square feet of vegetable garden space. Incorporate organic matter, limestone, and fertilizer into the soil prior to planting.

Select a tomato variety that

contains the letters on the label VENT. Park's Whopper and Celebrity are two named varieties in this category. Better Boy is generally a good all-around tomato but often has blossom-end-rot and green shoulders. Water properly, enough but not excessively. Don't over fertilize, use a light sprinkling every four to six weeks that dissolves in water.

Recommended vegetable garden plantings for April: snap-bush, pole, lime, and other types of bean seeds; pickling and slicing cucumber seeds or plants; cantaloupe seeds or plants; sweet corn seeds need to be planted as soon as possible to aid in controlling the corn earworm. Also you may plant Summer squash, pumpkins, okra, and watermelon seeds or plants, and sweet and hot pepper plants.

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Forum attracts Senate, House candidates

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Candidates for both the North Carolina Senate and House attended an April 15 Candidate's Forum held at the Westside Park Community Center on Tuesday, April 15.

Participants included Senator Harris Blake [R-22], and County Commissioner Cindy Morgan, who are competing for the North Carolina Senate seat representing District 22.

Also on hand were North Carolina Representative Joe Boylan [R-52], Jamie Boles, Lane Toomey, rivals for the NC House of Representatives seat representing District 52.

Democrats Abraham Oudeh of Dunn and Betty Magnum of Pinehurst are running unopposed in the Democratic Primary for the District 22 Senate and District 52 House seats. The winners of the Republican primaries in May will face them during the November general election.

Candidate background

Each candidate was provided a brief introduction period.

Senator Harris Blake said both he and his wife are from Jackson Springs. He attended college at Elon, spent two years in the Korean War effort. Upon his return to Moore County, he spent fourteen years working for a company that he eventually purchased.

"My life has been built around business and making things happen," said Blake. "I've been involved with a lot of different companies, with the manufacturing world and with developing properties."

Blake was one of the original investors in developing Seven Lakes, along with developer Fred Lawrence, and said he spent several years working on the community board.

Running for reelection, Blake said he was drawn to public service in 2002 after a change in district lines. The change, he said, provided him the opportunity to run for and win, as a

Republican, the District 22 Senate seat in the General Assembly.

Commissioner Cindy Morgan is a Moore County native. She said she and her husband Richard have lived in Eagle Springs for twelve years, after moving from Pinehurst. Morgan has a professional nursing background with a master's degree. She has worked in various healthcare settings and is the Associate Vice President with the Association of Home and Hospice Care of NC.

"As a commissioner," said Morgan, "I learned...we really need to have effective representatives in Raleigh. Unfortunately, I felt we did not have that representation."

Morgan said her candidacy would give voters a choice, "Remember to vote for me because I will be that voice for you in Raleigh."

Jamie Boles, owner of Boles Funeral Homes, grew up in Aberdeen and is a father of four. He has owned his company for

twenty-four years and said, during that time, he has earned the trust of families and citizens of Moore County.

"I operate a successful business with a large investment in the community," said Boles. "I know what it's like to run a business and work with people. We need a strong effective voice in the NC House of Representatives and I feel I can be that voice." He concluded, "I have served you in the past and promise to serve you in the future. I will work hard for you."

Representative Joe Boylan, arrested last week following a alcohol-related accident, addressed the controversy directly opening his statements with an apology and promise to work harder for the citizens of Moore County.

Describing himself as a humble man, Boylan said, "I am sorry

— I am sorry for trying to work out my drinking problem myself. I have so many friends, I should have told you I needed help but I didn't."

He said his private battle with alcohol ended after last week's "wake up call," and that he is now receiving the support and treatment he needs. Boylan thanked his family for their support, and his fellow candidate's for their gentlemanly behavior, and said he will continue to work and serve to make Moore County an even better place to live and retire.

Lane Toomey is a North Carolina native originally from Cary. He attended VMI, earning a degree in Civil Engineering. After retiring from the US Army, Toomey wrote 'XVIII Airborne Corps In Desert Storm – From Planning To Victory.' He continued (See "NC" p. 22)



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County candidates

(Continued from page 15)
pace infrastructure.

Tim Lea responded the county already has a water plan and one of the priorities proposed is to bring the Robbins plant back on-line and the potential to run a water line from the Deep River.

Lea said costs to bring the plant on-line, run the water line from Robbins to Seven Lakes, develop a reservoir, and other water projects is very high, but necessary.

Question 2: *What would be your suggestions for funding the capital building projects for schools and college approved by the voters last fall?*

Tim Lea said the commissioners have a mandate that equates to approximately \$70 million dollars, but without the money in the budget to pay for these projects, the true total approved is closer to \$121 million with interest fees. In addition, those costs do not include the annual recurring operating expenses of approximately \$1.6 million toward Moore County Schools and \$225,000 to Sandhills Community College.

"How do we pay for it? One penny can fund one million – so we're looking at a seven to eight cent tax increase," said Lea.

Nancy Roy Fiorillo said while voters approved the school bonds referendum, they also soundly defeated the land transfer tax proposal.

"Do voters want services but don't want to pay or was it they just wanted another vehicle?" questioned Fiorillo.

She said impact fees could be levied for water and sewer but not for schools.

"You work down to property tax as a last chance to fund these school bonds – we must respond to what voters have approved," Fiorillo said.

Tim Sloan said with the land transfer tax defeated, if the sales tax increase does not pass, the commissioners will be down to few options.

"We must find ways to keep taxes as low as possible – as we grow our tax base increases," said Sloan. He continued, "We must look to Raleigh for grants and lottery money. We are not prepared to take this challenge on alone, we have to look to our

leaders in Raleigh."

Nick Picerno said looking after kids is the right thing to do but how do we pay for it? He said in business, you look at different ways to finance debt. He said last year's tax increase could help fund the schools and that he serves on a committee looking into how much was left over after the property reevaluation process.

"We cannot endure tax increase after increase – we need to use our brain and manpower to find ways to find the funds."

Question 3: *What do you think are the three most important issues currently facing Moore County, and how would you address them?*

Nick Picerno said the school bonds are almost forcing a tax increase, in addition the county will be constructing a new public safety center, government complex, and jail.

"If we're having trouble funding just schools we have to look very hard to educate taxpayers," said Picerno. "I'd like to have the finest jail and public safety building – but we're going to have to fund them, we have to show taxpayers the need – make it a need not a want."

Picerno said all these issues are not a reflection on the current commissioners. "They were left with a mess and they are dealing with it well."

He said he was proud of Moore County for voting to approve the school bonds while also defeating the land transfer tax proposal.

Tim Sloan said he prioritized infrastructure; water and roads.

"We've got to get help from Raleigh and with the schools bonds in front of us, we have to find a way to fund them," said Sloan. "We've got to get our budget under control and look to the government committee hired to go through with a fine tooth comb – these are things that a person with a small business can understand."

Sloan spoke of Northsider and SLLA Director Bud Shaver, "Bud said we would be here with these problems if we didn't deal with it years ago and here we are."

Tim Lea said serving in public office provided him with a understanding of money but that life on

a farm was the best teacher.

"The previous board reduced the tax rate by two cents at the same time they increased our recurring debt by \$8 million dollars," said Lea. He said a new government efficiency committee has been asked to track just where the County is spending the \$9 million in additional revenue gained through a recent revaluation of real property.

Nancy Roy Fiorillo said the priorities are growth, water, and taxes – and said she would offer three other ideas.

She suggested when working towards long term water planning, it would be wise to combine the effort with an update

of the land use plan. "Coordinating is a great opportunity to engage the public and learn where priorities lie and which areas should be preserved."

Fiorillo said the Summit was a

wonderful idea relating that five years ago there was no cooperation between the county and municipalities.

She also suggested that the
(See "County," p. 22)

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

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

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

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

#2343 - Golf Front Triple Lot - \$45,000

#2475 - Nice Slope - \$21,500

#2562R - 1.64 Acres with Perc - \$24,900

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

#2495 - Private - \$20,000

#2514 - Good Perc - \$24,900

#2545 - Cul-de-sac - \$15,000

#5218R - Double - \$79,000

#5433 - Under Contract! - \$47,500

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FRIDAY, APRIL 18

- **Golf Capital Chorus Banquet** – 6 pm, National Golf Club. To honor twenty-year director Paul Conway. All past and present chorus members are encouraged to attend the event, which will include a roast as well as traditional tunes sung by all. The cost is \$27.50/person. Reservations, Alan Langley at 215-0247.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church Annual Yard Sale** – 8 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Seven Lakes Drive. Huge variety of bargains, crafts, Jackie's famous hot dogs, and baked goods.
- **Women's Wellness Workshop** – 9 am - 1 pm, Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center. Workshop covers all aspects of wellness; fitness and nutrition, spirituality, emotional health, and self expression. Guided interactive activities with leaders Dr. Nadene Peterson of Counseling Professionals, Marjorie Nurnberg of the Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center, and artist Ann Campbell. Cost \$30 per person. Space limited. Information and registration, 673-3209 or 910-603-4554.
- **Pet Responsibility Day** – 10 am – 3 pm, Southern Middle School, Aberdeen. Celebration featuring agility, Frisbee-catching, and pointing dogs demonstrations. Dogs & cats looking for forever homes, pet-related booths and information, parade, face painting, music, ice cream, and Houses for Hounds Building Boneanza! Bring your pet for Dog Wash, a \$5 rabies shot, or to be micro-chipped. Vet and a dog trainer will be on hand to answer questions. 949-9953
- **Clenny Creek Day** – 11 am until 4 pm, McLendon Cabin and Bryant House, 3361 Mt. Carmel Road, Carthage. Raffles and fundraiser for Moore County Historical Association, including 100-year old quilt. Information, www.moorehistory.com
- **SLCC Kid's Tennis Carnival** – 1 pm - 2:30 pm, Seven Lakes Country Club Tennis Facility. Program includes a tennis lesson, snacks, and a can of "goodies!" Sponsored by the SLCC Tennis players & Moore

Tennis Association. Program under the direction & supervision of SLCC Tennis Professional Bruce Adams. Reservations 673-1096. No charge.

MONDAY, APRIL 21

- **Yappy Hour** – 3 pm – 6 pm, A Dog's Life, Olmstead Village. Stop by to meet new groomer Cindy Paris, meet the new



What's When Calendar

owners of the store, and enjoy refreshments.

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 6 pm, Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

- **League of Women Voters** – 11:30 am, Longleaf Country Club, Southern Pines. Cary McSwain, Moore County Manager, will present Current Events in County Government.

Public is welcome. Cost \$12 includes luncheon. Reservations call Charlotte 944-9611.

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association General Meeting** – 7:30 pm, West Side Park Community Center.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10 am – 3 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. A fleece workshop and also labeling blankets. For those who do not want

to make blankets but want to support Project Linus, come in and help with one of the crafts being prepared for the Holly Arts & Crafts Fair in Pinehurst. If you plan to stay all day, pack a lunch or snack. Bring sharp scissors, needles, and thread. We hope to see you there - your help is appreciated. Pat Weber 673-1457.

- **First Health Advance Directives Workshop** – 2 pm – 3:30 pm, Moore County Moore County Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Highway 15-

501 Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Highway 15-501. In conjunction with the first-ever National Healthcare Decisions Day, FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care will host an event designed to highlight the importance of advance directives in health care decisions. "Your Health Care Decisions: Expressing Your Medical Wishes" features a physician, two Hospice professionals, and an attorney who will discuss the new North Carolina Advance Directives forms.

- **Turf Clinic** – 2 pm – 4 pm, Agricultural Building, 707 Pinehurst Ave, Carthage. Sponsored by The Moore County

Master Gardeners, Taylor Williams, Horticulture Extension Agent for Moore County, will discuss the pros and cons of the warm-season grasses recommended for our area. Information, 947-3188.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

- **7 Weeks to the 7K: Cross Training** – 6 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Sponsored by Trey Waters of the Prescription Shoppe and Sandhills Striders Running Club, join Marjorie Nurnberg of Seven Lakes Fitness & Health for a discussion on Cross Training followed by a group walk or run – your choice. Anne Johnson 724-9174.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 26

- **Devonaire 4-H Horse Club Competition** – all day, Seven Lakes Stables. Competing within age categories, English Division classes are scheduled in the morning with Western Division classes competing in the afternoon. Information, Rebecca Fletcher at 673-5788.
- **Pinehurst Garden Club Plant Sale** – 10 am – 3 pm, parking lot next to Givens Memorial Library, Pinehurst. Flats of vinca or bronze leaf begonias cost \$11.00, 6" pots of geraniums cost \$4.75, all in assorted colors and available by pre-order. Also available; hanging baskets, ferns, mandevilla, lantana, verbena, wave petunias. Call Lynn Delgarn at 215-0811, or Shirley Schultz 235-5284.
- **Art Presentation & Sale** – 10 am – 4 pm, Second Story Studio, Broad Street in Southern Pines. "Good Friends, Good Art" with oil, watercolor, and mixed media featuring artists Denise Baker, Kim Gilley, Laine Lea, and Paula Womack.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

- **Doubs Chapel UMC: Homecoming & Revival** – 11 am and 7 pm, Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church, 1444 Doubs Chapel Road, West End. No Sunday school on April 27. Revival services each night at 7:00 pm through Wed, April 30.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

- **Tennis 'n Tartes III** – 9:30 am, Pinehurst Country Club Tennis Center, Pinehurst. A round robin tennis tournament to benefit the Arts Council of Moore County. Arranged by Club Pro, hors d'oeuvres, wine, and elegant buffet luncheon by Pinehurst Country Club. Awards and door prizes, a fashion show, and a few other surprises. Cost is \$25/person [\$10 tax deductible], check or visa accepted. Information, 692-4356.
- **Golf Capital Chorus: Old Timer's Night** – 7 pm. Community Presbyterian Church, Pinehurst. All past members are invited to come and renew old acquaintances, sing some favorite songs, and meet the Chorus' new director, Bruce Blanton. Refreshments served.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

- **Weymouth Center Plant Sale** – 9 am – 12 pm, Weymouth Center for the Arts and Humanities, Southern Pines. Perennials [including daylilies], shrubs, herbs, and water garden plants will be available. Information, 692-6261, 10 am – 2 pm, M-F.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

- **SLLA Open Meeting** – 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

- **Healthy Eating Every Day** – 10 am – 11 am, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. A free fourteen-week class will teach how small changes can make big improvements in your diet; how to make balanced food choices when you are at home, at work, shopping, and dining out. Learn how to set goals, reward yourself, and eat healthy. Classes continue each Thursday from 10 – 11 am. Information, Cindy Laton 715-4435.
- **Women of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 1 pm, Westside Park Community Center. Jeff Etheridge of Etheridge Landscaping & Design will speak on designing and updating your landscape and planting a deer-resistant garden.
- **7 Weeks to the 7K: Race Strategies** – 6 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Sponsored by Trey Waters of the Prescription Shoppe and Sandhills Striders Running Club,

join Sallie Beth Johnson, winner of fastest female racer in last year's 7K, for a discussion on Race Strategies followed by a group walk or run – your choice. Anne Johnson 724-9174.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

- **Seven Lakes 7K & May Follies** – 8 am – 4 pm, Seven Lakes Northside Park. A day of fitness and fun to benefit Northside Park playground. 7K race, one-mile fun run, jumping castle, bocce and horseshoe tournaments, Hot Shot basketball, merchandise tents, and demonstrations. Information Laura Douglass 673-1817, or Amanda Keller at 673-3892.
- **Methodist Women's Salad**

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NC Candidates

(Continued from page 14)

ues to work as a consultant to Fort Bragg.

"I believe, as an engineer, our transportation system needs a lot of attention," said Toomey, noting the lack of a civil engineer in the current NC House Transportation Committee.

"I encourage you to vote on May 6. My experience in the military was spent making plans,

analysis, decisions — the kind of training ground you need someone to have in the House making tough decisions," said Toomey. "I have done it before and I will do it for you."

Prepared questions

The candidates for the General Assembly were provided with three questions in advance of the forum.

Question 1: *Illegal immigration is a national problem and can only be solved by comprehensive immigration reform by the federal government. However, given the large number of undocumented immigrants, including children, currently living and working in North Carolina, what measures would you recommend that North Carolina take to address these immigration issues*

until the federal government acts?

Joe Boylan responded, "illegal immigration is an issue I'm very familiar with." He said if Republicans are able to gain control of the House this year, many previously stalled bills

could be passed.

He said he seeks to prevent illegal immigrants from getting in-state tuition rates for college, and had put forward a bill to ensure employees are legal residents. He also said he looked to

(See "NC," p. 23)

County candidates

(Continued from page 16)

county needs to look into measures that will keep "farmers farming and forests with trees to forest," through sustainable agriculture.

Audience Questions

The candidates for commissioner were then provided with several audience questions. They had one minute to answer.

Question 1: *Do you plan to vote for the proposed quarter-cent sales tax increase when you go to the polls on May 6?*

"Yes," said **Tim Sloan**. "We have to pay for schools, there is no other way. This tax will be spread out over all and will help offset costs a little bit — so property tax will not have to be so much."

Commissioner Tim Lea also said he would vote yes for the sales tax increase. "We will receive \$2.5 to \$2.8 million dollars — we have no other funds avail to pay for that debt. If the tax increase is not approved we will have to increase property taxes."

"No, I have not seen a tax that ever goes away," said **Nick Picerno**. "This is another case of government wanting more from people. We need to find a way to fund without increasing taxes."

Nancy Roy Fiorillo said she supported the sales tax increase. "It is a wonderful way to get some money from tourists." She said Moore County is twenty-third in population in North Carolina but eleventh in tourism dollars.

"Tourists buying and eating in restaurants are being a part of our economy. We need to tap into some of the money out of tourism industry."

Question 2: *Moore County recently purchased a tract of land in Carthage for the new government complex. Was the price paid a good deal for the taxpayers?*

Nancy Roy Fiorillo said through the information she has read in the newspaper and by listening to people talk, she feels the convenient location would cut down on future transportation costs and that having all offices in one location will benefit the convenience of Moore County citizens.

Nick Picerno said the location was "really nice and right next to everything." He said the question goes back to schools and infrastructure funding, "how do we go about educating taxpayers on the need for a new jail and public safety building? It's our duty as county officials to educate the public and tell you why it's needed — and how much it costs up

front, and then you tell me if you think."

"No," **Tim Lea** said, "that is the simple answer." Lea is the only commissioner who voted against the land purchase. He explained his issue was not location but that two other tracts of land were available further out into Carthage.

"During the revaluation, the land was valued at \$750,000, and appraised for \$1.1 million. We paid \$1.5 million."

Tim Sloan said considering today's real estate market, the land was "probably a good deal." He said after the revaluation the seller was asking \$2 million. He said he agreed with Commissioner Larry Caddell who said the long term savings of having the buildings so close together will offset the cost.

"We need to look at savings over the long term not just the short term," said Sloan.

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NC Candidates

(Continued from page 22)

a bill that would prevent easily reproduced documents from being used to gain driver's licenses.

Jamie Boles agreed, "We do have a state problem. We need to enforce the current laws that exist." He said illegal immigrants should not be allowed privileges such as driving on roads and voting.

"This problem is costing tax payers money," said Boles. He acknowledged that many illegal immigrants perform jobs that American workers do not want but said there is a process in place for them to become legitimate workers.

"There is a lot of burden placed on employers. There should be fines levied if they [illegal immigrants] are willfully hired by employers," said Boles. "There is also a problem with the borders."

Lane Toomey suggested the focus should be on decisively eliminating what is luring illegal immigrants to North Carolina.

"We should declare English as our official language," said Toomey, saying the continued liberal use of other languages creates divisiveness, and other problems.

Toomey said he was in favor of banning state forms, other than Department of Tourism materials, from using any language other than English.

Cindy Morgan said, "Our country was founded on immigrants but it is incumbent that they come here legally." Morgan said she spoke with Moore County Sheriff Lane Carter. He suggested simplifying federal laws

and cutting red tape to allow for more efficient deportation – which would lessen pressure on local jails.

Morgan also said we need to secure our borders and enforce current laws. She also supports a bill currently in congress calling for automatic deportation of any illegal alien caught driving under the influence.

"The illegal immigrant issue is paramount," said **Harris Blake**. "It's a puzzle to me why the federal government is not dealing with it in a more direct way – to protect me from foreign and domestic issues."

Blake said he filed a bill last year stating that after an arrest of an illegal immigrant, the federal government would have a forty-eight hour period "to take the person out of our system." He drafted the bill in response, he explained, after learning that state prisons are overpopulated and housing 5,000 illegal immigrants.

The bill was filed and handed over to committee and never heard from again, said Blake, only to have a similar bill passed "with no teeth."

Blake suggests Moore County should follow the lead of Mecklenberg County, near Charlotte. The Sheriff in Mecklenberg was able to find [federal] money and sent many illegals back to their home country."

Question 2: *What would you suggest to address the water shortage problems in Moore County and North Carolina?*

Cindy Morgan said in the short term, raising awareness was a priority, "of how much

water we use, and how much we waste, and how we can cut back." She added that educating children in conservation, using simple interventions and strategies, was a second step.

In the long term, as a commissioner, Morgan said she has worked hard to ensure Moore County has an adequate water supply.

"I hope that at some point we have a reservoir so Moore will have its own water supply."

"There's not so much a water shortage as surplus of people," said **Lane Toomey**.

He suggested a tiered domestic rate approach and the potential to limit or restrict the number of future connections.

"Existing homes and businesses have priority," said Toomey. "Continuing to buy from other counties must continue in short term – we need to develop the water grid."

Harris Blake said Moore County is fortunate to have a tremendous underground water table.

"We need to make sure it [Middendorf aquifer] does not get polluted – this is our major challenge."

Blake said Moore County

needs a long term plan, "so twenty years from now we will have plenty of water. I challenge local leaders to get on with the plan."

Jamie Boles said the need in Moore is very simple, "We need a county-wide water and sewer system."

"The bottom line is we all live together and will have to share resources. We have to work

together for the common goal," said Boles.

At the state level, Boles said he would try to improve the interbasin transfer law.

Joe Boylan agreed saying the number of river basins, three in Moore County converging at Seven Lakes, complicate the interbasin transfer laws.

"Moore County has plenty of
(See "NC," p. 24)



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NC Candidates

(Continued from page 23)

water it's just in wrong places!" exclaimed Boylan.

He said extending lines from Robbins, bringing their plant back on line, and using the Robbins reservoir will relieve pressure on the Pinehurst system. Additionally, Boylan said the inter-basin transfer law should be amended so as not to be a ten to fifteen year process.

Boylan also said he was in favor of tax credits to encourage use of grey water irrigation systems.

Question 3: *What do you think are the three most important issues currently facing Moore County, and how would you address them?*

Jamie Boles responded by priority; water, planned growth, and education.

"I cannot stress enough the need for a well-funded long term countywide water and sewer system," said Boles.

As a representative, he said he would work to ensure resources, such as grants, would be available to assist with funding water and sewer projects.

"I support impact fees for large scale development to assist our schools and relieve the burden of tax increases to retirees," he said. Boles also said he would fight to keep education funding and not allow it to be depleted by the General Assembly in favor of lottery money funding.

"We do not want to be like other states that depleted education funds and let the lottery fund it – that's not what is was intended for."

Senator Harris Blake identified water, schools, and crime and the gang element as his priorities.

He said he would support water efforts and relieve costs at the state level through grants.

Regarding schools, Blake said it was a complicated issue. "Two thirds of the problems in schools center around the issue of undisciplined children – we all know it, but have not been able to get a handle on that."

In Raleigh, Blake said he would look to ways to help schools and reduce gang activity.

"If you have any good ideas, bring them to me and I will work to make it into law," said Blake.

Representative Joe Boylan

said we need to focus on controlling illegal immigrants that are here.

He said he would look into funding access for the sheriff's office to have immediate access to database that would assist their efforts.

Boylan said a second critical issue is the aging population in Moore County. He said a recent study showed Moore lacks 17 of 26 core issues and suggested increasing reimbursements for dentistry, and caregiver programs, such as CARE.

As a representative, Boylan said he has worked hard to bring jobs to Moore County including working with Fibrowatt, and a proposed railroad trust that would allow the Robbins American Growler plant to double the number of jobs.

Lane Toomey prioritized his list by water, infrastructure, and sustainable growth.

"Our top problem is water, second is infrastructure – how to pay for it...third is sustainable growth," said Toomey.

(See "NC," p. 25)

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NC Candidates

(Continued from page 24)

Describing Moore County as a natural and beautiful space, Toomey said forestry and agriculture are important and that he would fight against further encroachment of Fort Bragg.

He suggested emphasizing conservation easements with landowners, improving vocational training at high schools and Sandhills Community College, and reducing the corporate tax rate to stimulate business.

Commissioner Cindy Morgan said her top priority was water and that as a state senator, she would work hard to bring grants and other funds back to Moore County.

Growth was Morgan's second priority. She said as a commissioner, she helped rewrite land ordinances "to protect the quality of life here, and small area A...so we don't let developers take away all the trees and beauty."

Of her third priority, education, Morgan said, "there are a lot of opportunities. We need to strengthen gang laws so our children feel safe, and our parents and teachers." Morgan suggested laws need more teeth and teachers need the necessary supplies and comfortable space to house students.

Audience Questions

After completing the prepared questions, each candidate was allotted one minute to answer questions submitted by the audience.

Question 1: *Do you support the continuation and expansion of affirmative action programs, in education and employment, in order to ensure equal opportunity for women and persons of color?*

"No, I am opposed to the continuation of affirmative action," responded **Lane Toomey** saying persons should be hire and promoted on their merit.

Joe Boylan referred to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech, and said. "He wanted children judged for something other than color, it's about time to do that and judge people on their merit."

Jamie Boles said he did not support continuing affirmative action. "Economics dictate as far as employment and with the availability for people to advance it should be based on character."

Cindy Morgan said she believed in equal opportunity for all, "People should be hired on qualifications, experience, and character."

Harris Blake said he was continuing affirmative action. Using football legend Gale Sayers as an example of getting knocked down and learning to get up, brush off, and deal with the next issue, he said, "At one time it was an OK idea, but we are long passed then. It's time to put emphasis on the individual so when they advance they know they did it on their own."

Question 2: *Do you support or oppose raising the minimum wage to at least \$9 dollars an hour?*

Harris Blake said a bill passed for minimum wage taught him that "if you put a price – that level will always be the base."

He said young people were being denied the opportunity to learn how to work.

"I'm frightened to say we have people in our country that do not know how to work."

Cindy Morgan said the minimum wage does need to be increased but not to a \$9 per hour level.

"At entry level wages it's hard to make a living," said Morgan. "On the other hand we have to take care of the small business man."

Jamie Boles agreed it is hard with today's standard, however, he said the economy will bear the price.

"If we do set standards then it's never enough, you always

have to set them greater."

Joe Boylan said, "Whenever government gets involved in market decisions it messes it up – prices go up and things will adjust and the much larger population will suffer."

Boylan said, in particular, senior citizens suffer the effects of price increases.

Lane Toomey said he believes the minimum wage requirement should only apply to workers aged sixteen to twenty-two years old.

"All others should compete in the market place," said Toomey. "A minimum wage puts a burden on businesses and causes them to raise prices – wage increases should be on merit and that

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This fact was beautifully illustrated last week when I became acquainted with my parents' new neighbors: a pair of bald eagles.

Taking roost in the massive oaks in the yard, they seem to choose when to hunt almost impassively from the deep riches of the Wicomico River in Salisbury, Maryland. This bass-laden tributary drifts lazily past with little disturbance, other than an abundance of Canada geese,

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Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

— and fast as racecars, their only competition apart from one another is the quickly burgeoning eagle population.

Unlike the floating hunters with their amassed gear of rods and string, each eagle would swoop down

encumbered only with deadly talons, grasping flesh and forcefully removing an enormous and very dis-

pleased fish: a rather frightful spectacle over bacon, eggs, and the morning paper.

I wondered if the fisherman

were impressed, depressed, or simply filled with dread that they might be next on the circle of life dinner menu.

Personally, my only fishing experience began and concluded on the same day. Yes, the worm was gross but my real objection was having to remove an embedded hook from a cold, slimy fish lip. Indeed, no better way to freak out an eleven-year old child!

Luckily for my own offspring, Darling Hubby harbors no such aversions. Gleefully they have drowned many a worm over the

years in one of our seven lakes with an as yet unrealized goal of actually capturing a fish.

Perhaps I should have directed the kids to pay closer attention last week as we watched the skill, the precision, and the pure lethal force of the mighty raptor. Maybe we could have picked up some tips, but of course we're talking about a couple zillion years of animal instinct against a Spongebob Squarepants plastic rod and reel.

Hmm, I smell upgrade — I wonder how much those bass boats run?

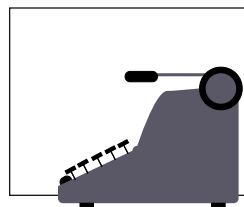
Criticism of Area A effort was way off base

Having studied two articles in Walter Bull's *Sandhills Pulse*, March 28 issue, I want to set the record straight for those who may have read his publication. Mr. Bull tells me he does not accept letters to the editor. He told me to go put it in *The Times* and the *Pilot*. His readers need to know the truth and not be swayed by distorted facts and the spin he puts on things. In doing so, I hope I've helped others gain a better understanding of small area planning and the Area "A" Plan.

Walter Bull mixes issues raised in Whispering Pines, Southern Pines and Area "A." My comments pertain only to his remarks

that appear to relate to Area "A."

First, Mr Bull sees a similarity between distant past treaties with Native Americans and the new County ordinance



Your Turn

Dave Kinney
Chairman, Area A
Steering Committee

on Planned Unit Developments and Neighborhood Conservation Option. He writes, "It is an expanding population that seeks to absorb the resources around them, including land." The ordi-

nance, perhaps certainly not perfect, clearly requires preservation of land and natural resources. The ordinance provides developers with flexibility in the design of major developments.

From the very beginning the Area "A" Steering Committee recognized that

growth was not only inevitable but also desirable and necessary. We also recognized that the citizens of Area "A" placed a high value on their natural resources....cultural and historic

features, woodlands, streams, farm and pasture land and views pleasing to the eye. Our overarching goal was a plan that manages growth and simultaneously preserves the many facets of the environment....a plan that effectively minimizes the notion that the two are inevitably in conflict.

Come on Mr. Bull, "total disregard for private property rights", "zealot-like affection for everything environmental," "a very narrow point of view." We do regard private property rights as important but all the other citizens have rights too. Suggesting the Plan's treatment of things environmental is zealot-like only goes to show your own exceedingly narrow point of view. Get with it, the world around you has passed you by. People are increasingly aware of the value of preserving the world around them, and they are doing something about it.

I don't appreciate the implications of your statements — "a committee made up of certain select individuals" — and that our plan "suggests some heavy handed measures." Twelve "certain select individuals" were nominated for the Steering Committee by a three-person subcommittee of the Planning Board. Two others were added by the Planning Board and the four-

teen were unanimously approved by the Board of Commissioners in May 2006. The committee is inclusive, not exclusive, with good and diverse representation from throughout Area "A."

In the spring of 2007, the committee supported a six-month moratorium on major developments, but only in Area "A", while the new ordinance was being crafted. Builders and developers were involved in the process of crafting the ordinances, and, with its adoption in November 2007, the (de facto) moratorium ended.

The findings of the McGill Report and its recommendations are, in fact, part of the Area "A" Plan which includes the statement "Assign joint responsibility for planning to both Public Utilities and Planning Departments."

Mr. Bull writes "We believe the entire concept of Area "A" planning is a mistake because it only fractures planning efforts that are interrelated." That is his opinion and he's entitled to it. But I believe it is wrong.

The concept of small area planning recognizes that Moore County is not uniformly alike from border to border. Parts of the county are projected to continue to grow at a faster pace than others. Parts of the coun-

(See "Area A," p. 27)

SEVEN
LAKES TIMES

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Nick Picerno is the man Moore County needs

Dear Editor and residents of Moore County:

Nick Picerno, my husband of twenty-nine years, is a candidate for Moore County Commissioner in this year's May 6 Republican Primary.

Nick is a man of integrity, a man of strong moral character. Nick thinks before he acts. He's one of the smartest men I have ever known; he's one of the most humble men I've ever known.

My Nick is a strong Christian who is not afraid to stand up for what's right. He is a wonderful father and grandfather.

Nick is an excellent, effective businessman. He taught himself to program a computer when most of us did not even know what a computer was — you know, back in the "olden days of the seventies." He took that computer knowledge and expanded it — creating a cutting-edge

computer software business. That business, Southern Software, Inc. is a very successful enterprise today in Moore County. Approximately fifty employees work at the business Nick founded.

Nick retired early so the employees could run and own the business. But Nick is an active man, with an excellent mind. Retirement to him means retiring to do something signifi-

cant. My Nick is a giver. He always gives back more than he takes.

Nick wants his significant contribution to be community beneficial. Nick and I both believe that he will make an effective County Commissioner. Nick's a hard

worker, and I know he will work as hard as a county commissioner as he did as the head of Southern Software.

I'm voting for Nick — not just because he's my husband — but because I know he's the best candidate out there. He really will bring a fresh, new per-

spective to county government. Nick isn't a politician; he's a good man, a good citizen, a good American.

He has a different take on how to fund county projects without endlessly raising our taxes, and he has the ability and the willingness to think independently.

Give him that chance -- to exhibit the creative leadership that it will take to lead this county well.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Please vote for Nick Picerno — my Nick and your Nick — on Tuesday, May 6.

Jan Picerno
West End



Area A

(Continued from page 26)

ty want economic development and can accommodate it; others do not or cannot. As Steve Wyatt, former County Manager, observed "one size does not fit all." It's not a new concept. A number of counties across the state...20 or so as I recall...have adopted some form of small area planning.

In articulating forty plus strategies (specific actions) in the Area "A" Plan, the Steering Committee was focused, as charged, on Area "A." That a significant majority of the strategies could and/or should apply across the unincorporated communities and areas county-wide is both fortuitous and fortunate. The process should, with minor modification, apply to other areas of the county as they are identified.

Yes, the Steering Committee wants to "adjust their manuscript" before sending it back to the commissioners via the Planning Board. It's not a rumor, it's a fact. Not only do we want to respond to the commissioners questions and concerns,

"adjusting" gives us the opportunity to clarify some points and improve the readability of the document.

I'm not sure I fully understand the meaning of "You (the Steering Committee) have wasted eighteen months on slogans that destroy value." After considerable deliberation, we articulated our mission "to create a plan that preserves and conserves the natural environment and cultural features that describe our heritage and which are highly valued, that manages inevitable growth to achieve the kind we (the citizens of Area "A") want, where we want it, and that identifies, as a mini-

mum, infrastructure needs to assure a viable plan." Mr. Bull considers this to be just a slogan. If so, so be it. We have created a plan that in no way destroys value. Rather, it creates value. But then, the reader of Mr. Bull's articles could conclude that he holds a regard for private property rights that precludes the rights of the majority, disregards everything classified as environmental, and fails to understand that what made this country and state a prosperous economy in no way assures a future economy equally prosperous.



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It's mud-luscious, puddle-wonderful Spring!

It's been more than a little Spring-ish around here lately — which is to say highly variable, often overcast, and more than a little damp.

Last Friday's mid-80s gave way on Saturday to the typical thunderstorm, pushed by a cold front, soaking the Business Guild's Chili Cook-Off, and dropping temperatures to freezing Tuesday night, threatening the peaches. And on Wednesday we have clear skies, warm weather and we begin our march again to the 80s.

The temperature roller coaster has, of course, been accompanied by the precipitation merry-go-round, as sunny, cloudless days are interrupted by dark, crackling thunderstorms, which are replaced in turn by days of gloomy drizzle, which are overturned by sunny, afternoons which are superseded by . . .

You get the picture.

It must be this merciless back and forth that has the poets

confused.

T.S. Eliot intoned:
*April is the cruellest month,
breeding*

Lilacs out of the dead land, mix-

Digging Deeper

Greg Hankins



*memory and desire, stirring
Dull roots with spring rain.*

It's a masterful piece of verse: the way the comma before that single word at the end of the first three lines makes the voice hesitate. It's like — and surely meant to be like — the fits and starts of sun then cold then rain then wind.

But April "cruel?"

It's not a very hopeful way of looking at Spring, is it?

William Carlos Williams does Eliot one better on that score. Driving down the road to some destination he calls "the contagious hospital," he notices the plant life on the shoulder:
*"All along the road the reddish
purplish. forked, unstanding,*

*twiggy
stuff of bushes and small trees
with dead, brown leaves under
them*

*leafless vines —
Lifeless in appearance, slug-
gish
dazed spring approaches —
They enter the new world naked,
cold, uncertain of all
save that they enter.*

Like Eliot, Williams thinks Spring is a frontal assault on the world of plants, a harsh interruption of Winter's peaceful slumber.

"Winter kept us warm," Eliot writes, "covering Earth in forgetful snow."

You can imagine both these guys as big, lumbering groggy bears, content in their winter dens, not at all happy about the growing number of warm days — too warm for sleeping — that interrupt their hibernation.

That both were great poets, there's no doubt, but I'll wager neither was a gardener — that red wheelbarrow Williams famously wrote about undoubtedly belonged to someone else.

Any gardener knows that plants love this time of year almost as much as gardeners do. My Sugar Snap peas, just a few

inches high, fairly dance every time it rains. My potatoes shove up the soil like Charles Atlas doing a bench press. My little lettuces shine in the Spring sun like a gaggle of pastel-frocked little girls on the way to church on Easter Sunday.

The daffodils, then tulips, then irises and lilacs are like some Easter Parade — a parade that started in our yard weeks ago, when the pink and the red quinces, with not a leaf to be seen, opened their petite buds to soak up the late winter sun.

No, Eliot and Williams were great poets, but not gardeners, I think.

One of their colleagues, e.e. cummings, he of the lower case name, came closer to betraying a gardener's sensibility when he wrote:

*In Just-
spring when the world is
mud-
luscious . . .
and
It's spring
when the world is puddle-
wonderful*

"Mud-luscious!" "Puddle-wonderful!" That's what Spring rain must feel like to a row of peas or a gaggle of tiny lettuces.

So, if the pollen has you shut up indoors, let me suggest a perusal of Eliot's "The Waste Land." I guarantee it will fit the mood.

As for me, I'll be out with my old buddy e.e., dancing in the drizzle, puddling with the peas, and getting my Wellies absolutely mud-luscious!



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Black & White Dinner & Dance

A formal Black and White Dinner & Dance will be held on Saturday, May 3, from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm, at the West-side Park Community Center.

Catered by Goldie's Gourmet, the sumptuous dinner features Spanikopita shrimp mousse in phyllo cups, Romaine lettuce salad with red onion & strawberries and poppy seed dressing, filet of beef with port wine sauce, roasted red potato fans, green been Almandine, and a dessert of lace cookie cups with white chocolate mousse & berries.

Glenn Davis will provide all your favorite tunes from yesterday and today. The event is BYOB: bring your own cocktails or wine of choice.

Tickets are on sale now, \$25 per person. Only 120 tickets will be sold.

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Who should decide fate of driving range?

Dear Editor:

How should the fate of the 5.4 acres of land be determined? Who should be responsible for deciding the future of the old Seven Lakes Country Club driving range in Seven Lakes South?

Will it be the judge who will base his decision on the covenants?

Will it be the Seven Lakes Country Club members, a large number of whom live on the North and West sides of Seven Lakes, and care what happens because it will bring much needed revenues into the country club's coffers? These particular golf members will not drive past

high density houses inside their gates to get home. These particular golf members will not suffer the adverse effects on their investments.

Will it be the Seven Lakes Landowners who live opposite the range, who bought and built there because the covenants promised the old range would remain a green area? These covenants are promises by the developers and administered by the Board of Directors ad infinitum. However, these seven or so homeowners are not alone. A large majority of the Seven Lakes Landowners are here because they believed that what the

covenants promised would be what they would get.

Will it be, as is should be, decided by a vote "up or down," by all landowners in Seven Lakes? Do we not all have a stake in the future of the golf range and our investments?

In summation, should the legal judgment be in favor of the cluster homes on the old golf range, a vote will still be needed. Who will vote? Will it be the club membership as the country club has stated? Will it be the owners in closest proximity to the development? Will it be all homeowners residing in Seven Lakes South, those who will be most

affected by a cluster home development, or all homeowners?

There is no rush to decide but I ask you to think it over. Whatever your answer might be to any or all of the above questions, please let yourselves be

heard. It is time for you, one and all, to stand up for what you believe is best for the future of Seven Lakes.

Donna Stephan
Seven Lakes South

Devonaire Horse Show at Seven Lakes Stables

The Devonaire 4-H Horse Club will sponsor a competition on Saturday, April 26, at the Seven Lakes Stables.

Competing within age categories, English Division classes are scheduled in the morning with Western Division classes competing in the afternoon.

For more information, call Rebecca Fletcher at 673-5788.

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Expense reimbursement doesn't add up

Dear Editor:

First, I would like to thank those landowners who backed me in this past election. I thank you.

I will also say that I plan to continue looking at our finances and reporting any questionable items.

In keeping with that promise, I must preface this next item with a statement of fact or truth. Don Truesdell did not tell Laura Douglass the truth about the cost of a mail out this past summer when the previous board was debating the big rig issue. Mr. Truesdell said it would cost \$2,000, when it only cost \$934 — and he knew this because he was the treasurer of the CCC that

paid the bill.

Now, I have found a piece of paper that is beyond belief. It's



an expense reimbursement for \$737.40. But it has no receipts attached. It was simply made up and presented by Mr. Truesdell for payment.

I trust the board will severely reprimand Dalton Fulcher and

Debbie Caulk for paying out landowners' money without receipts. This is truly unconscionable. I hope also that the board will be able to convince Mr. Truesdell to pay back the \$737.40 for which there are no receipts. This for the good of the community.

If you take his list of items that he claims he's used over three years and go to Office Depot.com, you can get these items for two to three hundred dollars less than he says he spent. Is this more of his voodoo accounting?

Please remember, Mr. Truesdell and Mr. Fulcher were a part of the "take each other to lunch bunch" and let the landowners

pay for it — as well as taking two female attorneys to supper including wine and again have the landowners foot the bill. This paper Mr. Truesdell presented shows how management pays out landowners' dollars without

receipts.

As a good friend reminded me, "mighty oaks from tiny acorns grow."

Steve Hudson
Seven Lakes North

Rules, who needs rules?

Dear Editor:

In the April 4 issue of *The Times* it was reported that the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors was changing their Work Session times from 7:30 pm on Wednesdays to 8:30 am on Thursdays.

Those that know me, know that I never liked the 7:30 pm Work Session times, and I tried several times to change it.

I have no problem with the SLLA Board changing the meeting time I just have a problem on how they did it.

By-Law 6.9.1 clearly states

the time of the Association's meeting times. To change a By-Law you need to follow Section 11.0 that states that at least ten-days advance notice be given for any proposed amendment.

I along with others tried to alert the Board of the need to follow the By-Laws. The responses were interesting — The Board members who responded to me said the time could be changed anytime they wanted to, the non-Board members who responded to me all said that you needed the ten-day advance notice.

Check for yourselves, you can

read the online version of the By-Laws on our website.

This was an easy fix for our current Board; instead they just ignored the By-Laws and did what they wanted to do. What's next?

Michael Florence

A Literary Feast!

The Weymouth Center in Southern Pines will be the site of Moore County Literacy Council's May 2 fundraiser, "A Literary Feast." Guests will enjoy a biblio-banquet of foods that appear in six different books.

Those who guess the names of all six books become eligible for a drawing for a Murder Mystery Dinner for eight, based on characters from the classics, at The Old Buggy Inn in Carthage. The door prize for the evening is a piece of KEP Designs custom jewelry.

Elliott's on Linden is preparing the feast, and is also providing the raffle prize of a Wine Dinner for eight at their Pinehurst restaurant.

"We are looking forward to this unique event," said Bill May, President of the Literacy Council Board of Directors, "and we are grateful to Mark Elliott for helping make it possible."

All funds raised will be used to support the council's vision of eradicating illiteracy in Moore County.

Reservations for 'A Literary Feast' are \$50 per person [tax deductible]. Raffle tickets for Elliott's Wine Dinner are \$25 each, and you do not need to be present to win. Reply fliers can be found at The Coffee Scene at Seven Lakes.

Call the Literacy Council at 692-5954 for information.



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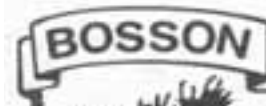
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Taking time to reflect in a hectic world

With the pace of modern society in the full throttle mode it is today, there doesn't seem to be much time for reflection. Deadlines must be met for bill payments, being on time for church, preparing those hors d'oeuvres for the party, practicing your golf swing or tennis stroke, tidying up the yard, or just helping keep members of the family "on cruise."



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

And yet, reflection can be a vital part of the ride through life. Properly exercised but not overdone, it can serve to add substance to our lives, enabling us to assess where we are.

Are we not

excessive in our critical analyses of others? Expecting near perfection in everyone we know is simply unrealistic.

Much more important is the ability to guide ourselves by living honorably and respecting the right of others to do the same, albeit in their own unique ways.

It's incredible but seemingly

true that the greatest strides toward understanding each other can stem from our ability to lay emotion aside long enough to try to respect the ways of well-meaning others, and realize that our own is not the only way to live.

Academy & Forum: On Death & Dying

The Adult Academy of Religious Studies and the Seven Lakes Forum are joining together to present a series everyone should attend, "Let's Talk about Death and Dying." This is a topic no one wants to think about, but everyone will have to face more than once, whether you are dealing with your own death, the death of a loved one, or the death of a casual acquaintance.

The Adult Academy of is a combined effort of West End Presbyterian Church and The Chapel in the Pines of Seven Lakes, and The Seven Lakes Forum.

There will be four sessions in the series on death and dying. The sessions will be held on Wednesday afternoons, May 7, 14, 21, and 28, from 4:30 – 5:30 pm in the Seven Lakes Westside Park Community Center.

The Wednesday, May 7, session is titled "Isn't It Time We Talked - An Overview of Dying in America," with speaker Jeanne S. Twohig, Deputy Director of the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life, and a nationally known leader in end of life care.

On Wednesday, May 14, The Reverend Pam Hudson, former Chaplain of First Health Hospice and now a member of the staff of First Health Foundation will lead a discussion on "Learning How to Talk to One Another about Death and Dying." The Reverend Hudson has extensive experience in palliative care.

"Legal and Financial Aspects of Death and Dying," will be discussed on May 23 by Jennifer Garner, Attorney at Law and a

frequent speaker on end of life issues.

On May 28, the series will end with the final subject in the series: "Spiritual and Ethical Concerns Surrounding Death and Dying," presented by Dr. Allen Verhey, Professor of Christian Ethics, Duke University Divinity School and author, editor, or co-editor of twelve books including his latest, "Reading the Bible in the Strange World of Medicine."

Area residents of all ages and faith traditions are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to enter into conversations about these important issues. Reservations are not required and there is no charge for this series. If you have questions, please contact Don Welch at 673-6701.

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Hangers

(Continued from page 6)
airport officials.

Noting that the airport authority is a separate enterprise that is designed to operate independent of the county's General Fund budget, Lea said, "When you come asking for money, you are competing with other departments. We have to find that money somewhere else," which means raising taxes or cutting expenses elsewhere.

That last point appeared to be the crux of the matter for Commissioner Cindy Morgan, who asked County Manager Cary McSwain, "If we were to take the taxes we are talking about and give them to the airport, how would we fill that hole? Would we be looking at a tax increase?"

"That amount of money?" McSwain replied. "We would be looking at a tax increase."

Later in the meeting, Morgan said, "We're in a point in this county where we are going to have to ask people to give us some more tax money. This airport project will cost more. Maybe another time it could work, but I have a real problem asking them for still more money. It may be a good idea, but the timing is off."

"If we don't get help via the taxes on aircraft and sales taxes, this project is going to die," Airport Authority Member Don DeLauter replied.

"I do not believe this board has the authority to take the revenue generated by the airport

and put it in the general fund," *Sandhills Pulse* Publisher Walter Bull told the Commissioners. Bull said the language in the state and FAA grants that the county accepts for the airport commits the county to rebate both the fuel sales taxes and property taxes to the airport."

By failing to do that "you are doing something that is illegal," Bull said. "If I were the airport, I would be looking at suing the county."

DeLauter agreed that the current county practice amounts to "revenue diversion." "Everything that is made at the airport must stay at the airport," he said. "But we have never considered taking legal action."

On the other hand, "there have been many cases in which the FAA has jumped into the middle of this," he warned.

But the county already budgets \$100,000 per year for the airport, Commissioner Lea argued. Much of that money is used to pay for the local government matches required when the airport wins grants from the state or the Federal Aviation Administration.

According to the Airport Authority, the property tax revenues currently generated by the airport amount to \$57,901 and the sales tax revenues are \$42,266, for a total of just over \$100,000. The Authority projects the new hangers would increase sales and property tax revenues by another \$21,000.

County Finance Director Lisa Hughes told *The Times* after the meeting that she had tracked county spending on the airport over the past six fiscal years and found that annual total ranging from \$147,306 in Fiscal Year 2003-2004 to \$328,807 in FY 2004-2005. The average over the six year period is more than \$200,000.

According to a breakout that Hughes provided to *The Times*, those totals include county payments on debt incurred by the county on the airport's behalf. The rest are county contributions to airport capital grants — local matches for state and federal funds — totaling \$428,000 over the six year period.

Not included in Hughes' yearly totals are the forgiveness of \$243,000 in debt the airport owed to the county and a \$75,000 contribution the county made to Delta Airlines marketing efforts when it was testing offering regular commercial service from the Moore County Airport.

Both Lea and Hughes contend that these payments already exceed the amount of property and sales taxes that the county collects as a result of airport operations.

Hughes presented the staff's recommendations on hanger financing during the April 7 Commissioners' Meeting, and, apparently to Chairman McKenzie's surprise, contended that the airport could borrow the money to

build the hangers without additional assistance from the county. Citing recent audits of the airport's books, Hughes said the authority had nearly \$1.4 million in "net assets . . . available for spending, a total that has grown by well over \$300,000 in each of the last two years. In other words, the operation would appear to be profitable, generating more than \$300,000 in net income on total revenues of \$3.9 million.

Financing the \$2 million cost of the new hangers over fifteen years will cost the authority \$192,000 per year, Hughes said, to which must be added \$12,240 in annual maintenance costs for a total of \$204,240.

The airport will pay off the loan on its existing hangers at the end of this year, freeing up \$36,476 that can be applied to new debt service. Adding to that the \$109,200 in annual rental income the new hangers are expected to produce, plus the \$172,500 in annual income from rental of the old hangers, Hughes said, produces a total of \$318,176 per year the airport can use to fund the debt and operating expense associated with the new hangers — significantly more than the \$204,240 that it needs.

Airport Authority Treasurer Bingham wasn't entirely comfortable with Hughes' math. Noting that it was the first time he had seen the staff recommendation, Bingham said, "There's probably no way that we could do it. I don't think there is a bank in the world that would make the loan. We are currently operating on a breakeven basis. I think it would be very difficult to get that loan."

Bingham said he "would like to have more time to look at the county recommendations."

Developer John O'Malley then informed the Commissioners that he might be interested in talking with the Authority about privately funding the construction of some new hangers. Though airport officials expressed some skepticism about their ability to work with O'Malley — who may currently be involved in legal action against the Authority — the Commissioners seized on the possibility of private investment as a way around their apparent impasse.

Commissioner Melton then moved to delay any decision on the matter until airport officials had the opportunity to explore that option. Ultimately, Melton's motion passed unanimously.



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Clendenin briefs Kiwanis on May Primary

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis were graced by the presence of Glenda Clendenin, Director of the Moore County Board of Elections, during their March 25 meeting. Among the many items of information she passed on to the club was the fact that voter registration is better than 56,000 in Moore County.

Clendenin said for each election she must provide as many ballots as registered voters regardless of the fact that history shows that the number of voters is always considerably less. She also mentioned that the number of unaffiliated voters is rapidly growing. Another important

accomplishment has been the establishment of two new early voting locations at the West End gym and the Moore Regional Airport. These locations will be open this year from April 28 through May 3.

Clendenin finished her program by running through a sample ballot for the Presidential election this year so that everyone could see all of the declared candidates and where they appear on the ballot. The meeting was most interesting and certainly apropos in view of the forthcoming elections.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club.



Glenda Clendenin and Kiwanian Ken Jenkins

Bridge Awards Luncheon

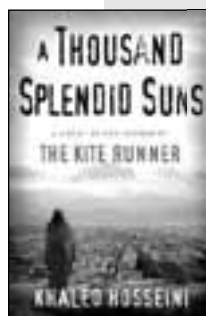
The Women of Seven Lakes Bridge Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 15, at 12 noon at Seven Lakes Country Club. Tickets are \$14 per person, please mail checks for a complete table before May 9 to Tinkie Petterson, 1021 Seven Lakes North, or call Ginny Rowland 673-7710, or Tinkie Petterson 673-1742.

Who's Reading What?

Here are the May Picks of Local Book Groups. Get your copy today at Bookshop by the Lakes!



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Books West

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Sandhills Book Club

AGE OF INNOCENCE

by Edith Wharton



7 Lakes Bookies

LADIES AUXILIARY

by Tova Mirvis



McLendon Hills Book Group

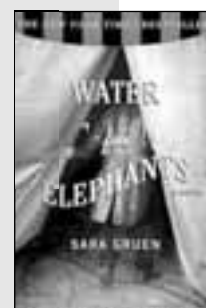
THE MAGICIAN'S ASSISTANT

by Ann Patchett

Bookies II

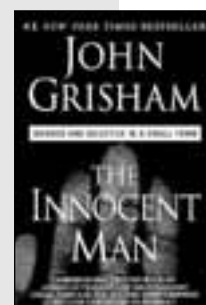
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THE INNOCENT MAN

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THE PLEASURE WAS MINE

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Foxfire council

(Continued from page 4)

Councilman Lauer asked. Koos said he only wanted to get the estimate in order to assess the scale of the repairs needed. "We don't have to hire him," he added.

Noting that he hadn't personally reviewed the contract, Lauer said, "We either proceed to make him comply with the

warranty or get a bid with someone else."

Red dump trucks

Koos said there had been complaints about a number of red dump trucks hauling fill dirt through the village. Investigating, he had determined that the trucking company has a contract with

the Patterson family to dump the fill dirt to fill in a hole that was created when dirt was removed to build one of the Foxfire golf courses.

"It's annoying, but it's not a legal nuisance," Koos said.

Koos said the mowing company under contract with the village has changed its name. He said there had been some complaints about the company's work in the village, and he had relayed those to the new owners.

The first year of a three-year, annually-renewable contract is up in June, he said. "If we want to hire someone else, we would have to give them some notice."

Work needed on pool

Mayor George Erickson reported that, after consultations with county health department officials, he had determined that \$15,000 in work need to be done to the pool in order to have it open this coming Summer. After some discussion about the contract, the Board unanimously authorized

the expenditure.

Lisa Kivett suggested a new policy for pool passes, developed after speaking with municipal pool operations across the state. She suggested a price of \$2 per adult visit and \$1 for children age five to twelve. Children under age five would swim free.

Kivett suggested allowing a pool attendant — separate from the lifeguard — to accept payment at the pool. Multi-use passes would be available for purchase at the Village Offices and offer a ten percent discount.

Council members had no quarrel with the price, but were resistant to have money taken at the pool, despite arguments from Kivett and resident Lydia Conard

that requiring all passes to be purchased in advance would be unworkable for visitors, given the Village Office's business hours. That point seemed to remain unresolved.

Zoning report

Zoning Administrator Mimi Aimsforth reported that there are currently 35 homes for sale in Foxfire, including 20 on the East Side, 13 on the West Side, and 2 in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction.

In the past thirty days, she added, the Village had issued one certificate of Occupancy, one permit for a barn in Grande Pines, and one permit for a swimming pool in Reynview Vista.

Suit

(Continued from front page)

apply to this area and the SLLA/SLCC Board of Directors agreement reached last Summer had no right to change them.

The old range cannot be developed, argued Williams, because it was never intended to be and also because the Southside covenants prohibit the subdivision of the property.

Davis countered that an affidavit signed by Shaw and entered into evidence during a

hearing associated with the bankruptcy settlement said the driving range property had once been considered for development and also that the covenants apply to residential lots and not to either Country Club property or land labeled as Tufts plats.

Judge Rand said he would review the information and issue a ruling by the end of the week — Friday, April 18.

Recipe Correction

In the April 4 edition of *The Times*, Lucy Ingram's recipe for Creamy Bruschetta Spread called for one tub of light cream spread.


What we meant to say was, of course, one tub of light cream cheese spread.

The Times regrets the error.

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★ **EARLY VOTING APRIL 17 – MAY 3** ★

Mail

(Continued from front page)
approved.”

The proposed ballot would simply ask landowners to remove that sentence from the covenants, leaving the issue of mail delivery in the hands of the Board and the USPS.

Removing it will be no easy task however, because sixty-seven percent of all landowners must agree to the change — that’s sixty-seven percent of all landowners, not sixty-seven percent of those who bother to vote.

Presenting the Long Range PLanning Committee’s recommendation, Brooke told the Board that Seven Lakes West asked the postal service to institute home delivery in the community several times prior to the year 2000 and was always turned down. Since then, various members of the committee, the Board, and the community have attempted to work their way up the USPS hierarchy to have the delivery method changed, and have been turned down at every level.

After being turned down with a “final answer” from the Postal Service’s Greensboro District Office in July of last year, an attempt was begun to work through political channels, eventually winning attention from the office of US Senator Elizabeth Dole. That effort is moving forward but has yet to produce positive results.

Even if it did, Legal Director Ed Silberhorn told the Board, the community, without the covenant change, is not positioned to make the switch to home delivery.

Bud Sales presented Board members with the ballot recommended by the Long Range Planning Committee and a two-page document explaining the

issue. He said it is important that landowners understand that the vote is not a referendum — even if the covenant change passes, and the USPS agrees to home delivery, the decision to make the change will rest with the Board of Directors.

Why vote on the covenant change now? “If the USPS comes back and says we’re ready to do this, then you have to do the ballot anyway,” Sales explained. “If the Postal Service comes back and says no, and we have had this vote, and the vote does not succeed, then the no form the Post Office is a no.”

“We’ve been pushing this ball around for at least four years,” Sales continued. “They say no, and we keep appealing. There may be options after this. But, at some point, we have to make a decision.”

“The cutoff date for the vote is June 30,” Sales added. “By June we will have an indication of the wishes of the community.”

It will take roughly 1,160 yes votes to approve the covenant change, Sales said. “Failure to vote is a no vote. If the vote fails, then home delivery is no longer an option.”

The document that the Long Range Planning Committee developed to accompany the ballot highlights two options: curbside delivery and mailhouse delivery.

Director Mary Anne Fewkes asked why a third option — simply removing the mailhouse and letting the USPS figure out how to get mail to people — wasn’t given more prominence in the document. “There are people out there who believe that, if we don’t have home delivery then we shouldn’t be paying for mailhouses. I think we should leave it in as a viable option, and not give the impression that, if this vote fails, we will have to build mailhouses.”

Director Karen Milligan agreed, noting “When I read it at home, as a layperson, I too thought

that it didn’t seem to me that if we don’t do anything the Postal Service has to come up with an option. I didn’t get the part that if we do nothing they are going to have to pay for it, whether inside or outside our gates.”

“They are not going to build a mailhouse inside this community,” President Jim Haggard commented. It was noted earlier in the discussion that, if the community decides to build a new mailhouse or mailhouses, the Postal Service will pay for the mailboxes to outfit the structure or structures.

Later in the meeting, Sales noted that some residents have expressed concern about the projected cost of a new mailhouses or mailhouses. He contrasted the cost of a curbside mailbox built to community standards — perhaps \$125 — with

a \$125 per landowner assessment, which would raise \$220,000. He said a mailhouse built back of the community center that could hold 1,670 boxes would cost perhaps \$196,000.

Landowner Nancy Workman commented that “My biggest issue with mail is parcel post and overnight delivery. We basically don’t have that. A mailhouse won’t fix that. You still have to go pick it up. That is where we are being short-changed.”

Board members expressed general support for the idea of including the ballot in the May dues invoice packet. Haggard asked Silberhorn to work on the language of the explanatory document to be included with the ballot.



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EARLY VOTING APRIL 17 – MAY 3

Westside board gets legal team in place

Newly-elected Legal Affairs Director Ed Silberhorn has begun to assemble his team, he told fellow Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board members during the Tuesday, April 8 Work Session.

On Silberhorn's motion, the Board appointed Bud Sales as Community Advocate, who is responsible for representing the Association in cases brought before the Judicial Committee. Sales has held this position in the past; he was, in fact, SLWLA's first Community Advocate.

Silberhorn told the Board that the Judicial Committee is in the process of being reorganized, and currently includes Gus Danielson, Pud Kent, Joanne Lentz, Jerry Lewin, Betty Milligan, Charlie Merical, and Ed Zebly.

Silberhorn in addition offered the names of "elder statesmen and women of community" that he is proposing as members of a new Legal Affairs Committee. They include: Hugh Beckwith, Bob Fewkes, Mick Herdrich, Gerhard Hergenahn, Bill Mamel, Tom Moran, Bud Sales, Terry Shaffer, Ron Sickenger, Linda Tableman, and Bob Williams.

Other Business

In other business during the April 8 Work Session, the SLWLA Board:

- Voted to the reaffirm that the interest rate on dues in arrears will be 1.5 percent.
- Heard that Silberhorn is working with the Architectural Review Committee to develop a new process for disciplining builders who aren't acting properly.
- Heard that work is underway

to put into place the rules and equipment that would allow the Association to detect speeding vehicles and issue fines to speeders. Operators using radar guns will have to be certified through a course at Sandhills Community College.

rather than outside contractors, should be shifted from the Board's list of unresolved issues to the Long Range Planning Committee.

- Heard a proposal from Ray MacKay to acquire traffic humps to calm traffic in the vicinity of the mail house. Some Board members advocated removing the speed bumps at the Lake Auman dam to the mail house, but MacKay argued that would be inappropriate due to the outdated design of the speed bumps.

Because of issues related to necessary signage, the discussion was moved to executive session.

• Heard that Board representatives had met with County Manager Cary McSwain on the fire hydrant issue and had a good meeting but left with no assurance that the county would pay to install fire hydrants in the community.

- Gave the Maintenance Committee the authority to negotiate and then contract with the two low bidders on a contract for the mowing of Lakeway Drive, Johnson Point, and West Side Park.
- Heard from Recreation Director Karen Milligan that the Black

& White dance, the premiere social event of the SLWLA season, is scheduled for May 3.

- Heard that the Association, in cooperation with the Lake Auman Sports Club, will be stocking the lake with feeder fish.

• Agreed, subject to assurances that any liability to the Association is covered, to allow volunteers from St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church to use the West Side Park Community Center Kitchen once a month to prepare meals for a "Meal on Wheels" program.

- Tabled a discussion of Board goals to the next work session.

West Side Landowners Meeting

4/8

- Agreed that the question of whether to hire and equip an in-house maintenance crew,

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Management

(Continued from page 3)

lot of good answers.”

CAS’s overall costs were lower than the other company, he added.

“The company’s management style is casual,” he continued. “They have a lawyer and CPA on staff.” Reference checks produced positive recommendations, he noted.

The management company’s role is not to take over Board responsibilities, Sickenberger added. “They would not be dictating to the Board. They would be here to serve the Board and take over the administrative responsibilities.”

CAS serves more than 230 communities, he said. The size of the Westside associations would make it about the sixth largest served by the company, which is headquartered in Pinehurst.

“It will be less expensive, we feel, to hire a management company than to hire a replacement manager,” Sickenberger said, noting the potential for savings in several areas.

Though the Board went into executive session to discuss the details, Sickenberger reported in open session that the administrative fee is likely to be \$1.50 “per door,” which would cover the “backroom” operations, including billing, maintaining databases, issuing stickers, handling building permits, and so on.

The cost of a full-time manager, plus a \$14,000 fee to CAS, will total \$75,000, he said, which means a total of approximately \$108,000, to which would need to be added the cost of additional staff members desired by the Association. Sickenberger estimated adding a single Administrative Assistant would raise the overall cost to \$141,000.

Board members’ reactions to the presentation varied. “When do you want a decision?” Mary Anne Fewkes asked. “I’m ready to go today.”

Sickenberger said it would take five to six months to recruit a replacement manager, if the Board goes that route. A management company will be looking at a ninety day transitional period.

Ray MacKay was less inclined to move quickly. “I want copy of all the material,” he said. “We need to take the concept to the

membership. This is the biggest thing that has ever happened in here. I’m not talking about a referendum, but about a presen-

tation to the membership.”

“The idea was to have a presentation,” President Jim Haggard said, “To get the information

and come up with questions. I don’t think there is a need to press forward on an immediate basis until all questions are answered.”

Nodding toward *The Times* reporter in the room, Haggard added, “Within days the information will be out to the community.”

“As you know, I hope you realize I don’t have a dog in this fight,” Community Manager Robertson said. “I do have a ton of questions. My job is to advise you. I hope that I will be given opportunity to be consid-

ered in the conversations. I was on the personnel committee and then suddenly I wasn’t. I hope I will be given opportunity for input.”

“We’ll need to change the bylaws to do this,” MacKay noted. “The bylaws tell us that we employ a manager and other employees.”

Haggard asked Legal Director Silberhorn to look into that point.

The Board then deferred further discussion on the matter to an executive session held at the end of the meeting.

Wine, music at benefit

Local talent will complement the 9th Annual Run for the Roses Wine Tasting on Friday, May 2 at The Fair Barn in Pinehurst benefiting Sandhills Childrens Center.

Moore County native fiddler David McDonald is a member of The April Fools who will open the evening by playing from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. The April Fools include Sherman Jourdian [guitar and jug] and Steven Hedgpeth [banjo].

Led by Seven Laker Larry McCune on clarinet, The American Heritage Band will play from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Made up of area musicians Bob Kucinski [clarinet], David Wall [trumpet and flute], Dick Burke

[trombone], Bob Fewkes [tuba], Ray Pardue [banjo] and Dave Byles [drums], In addition to great music, patrons may enjoy tasting over 100 wines donated by Sam Zahran & Sons and delectable appetizers donated by Ashtens, Bonefish Grill, Chef Warrens, Coach Light Café, Wine Bar, Elliotts on Linden, Little River Resort, Pinehurst Resort, Rhett’s, Sweet Fish Cakes, and The JFR Barn.

Ticketed entry to this event requires a tax deductible donation of \$50 to Sandhills Childrens Center in advance of May 2.

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Seven Lakes Times
April 18, 2008

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OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT – Woodlawn Square behind West End Post Office. \$600/mo. Call 910-673-0004.

HOUSES FOR RENT – One in SL North & one just outside Seven Lakes \$900/mo & \$1000/mo plus deposits. Call 910-246-8045 or 910-639-9123.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE - 720 square feet, first floor, water included. Lease and Security deposit required. Call 673-4800.

OFFICE SPACE – second floor rentals start at \$125.00 per month and up, water and electric included. Lease and security required. Call 673-4800.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT – at the Executive Center. 2 rooms and reception area. Will change to suit. Contact Fred at 673-1553.

NEW OFFICE SPACE – Seven Lakes Drive. 800 and 750 SF. Lease and Security deposit required. Call for Info 673-4800.

FOR SALE LOTS

SEVEN LAKES NORTH – Cul-de-sac lot. Flat and nicely wooded. \$28,500. Lot 705 Bunside. Lisa Stewart, Broker. Premier Property Real Estate, LLC. 603-4500.

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FOR SALE LOTS

SEVEN LAKES WEST – Lake Auman lake view, lot #4251, 111 Douglas Drive. .54 ac., current perk, septic permit, Survey/topo close to back gate. \$86,900. Owner 727-595-8070.

SEVEN LAKES WEST – Double lot 0.96 acre. 215/217 Longleaf Dr. Walking distance to BR Clubhouse. Nice pines. New perc. \$79,000. 910-673-2344.

SEVEN LAKES WEST – Combination water front, water view lots for sale 3156 & 4107. \$285,000. Great view from both lots. Call Fred at The Property Center 910-673-1724 or 1-800-334-7869. *tfn 9/29*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

SHOT GUNS & RIFLES – cleaned and refinished. 910-673-7623.

SPRING CLEANING TIME – Let me clean your house – weekly, bi-weekly or monthly. Reasonable pricing. Call Brenda at 910-220-8261. *4tp\$ 4/18*

HOUSEKEEPER – If you're too busy or tired to clean, just leave the cleaning to me. Call 910-572-3286. *4tp\$ 3/7*

CHRISTIAN'S QUALITY CLEANING – "Experienced Housekeeping" Call for estimates. Residential and Commercial. \$10 off first time cleanings. 910-947-5821 or 910-528-1177. "There's not job too small."

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PAWS & CLAWS PET SITTING – Accredited, Bonded, Insured Call 603-8285 for a FREE Consult. Visit www.freewebs.com/paws_clawspetsitting for great info. *tfn 7/6*

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SMITH'S PICTORIALS – turn your pictures into DVDs set to music. See example at www.myspace.com/Sean-Patrick36 Check videos. Call 910-603-2545. *1tp 4/18*

TREE SERVICE — ALLEN & SONTREE SERVICE. Topping, trimming, complete removal, clean-up, insured, 24 hour service. Free estimates, senior citizen discounts. Call James M. Allen at 910-974-7629 (Home) or 910-572-6818 (Cell). *tfn 12/7*

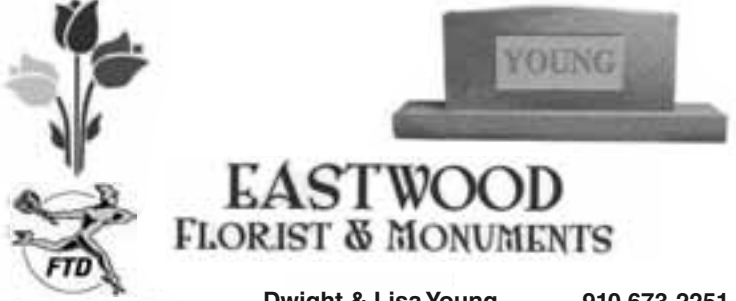
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MARY PUPPINS PET SITTING – NEW NUMBER 910-673-0047. 250 Grant St., Suite D. Visit www.marypuppinspetsitting.com for more info. Specializing in "last minute travel plans."

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New Golf Front Construction! 4 Bd/3 Ba with
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