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Volume 24 Number 1

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

November 14, 2008

Blue Ribbon Chefs



Danny and Allyson Neely of Seven Lakes West show off the four Blue Ribbons they won at the North Carolina State Fair for their Peanut Brittle, Chocolate Fudge, Chocolate Fudge with nuts, and Peanut Butter Fudge. The pair took home eleven ribbons from the 2008 Moore County Fair.

County cuts back

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The persistent economic slowdown has Moore County Manager Cary McSwain planning a no-tax-increase budget for next year, but that may not be enough to satisfy at least one member of the county's Board of Commissioners.

"We might need to be looking at how to get along with less

taxes next year," Commissioner Jimmy Melton told McSwain after the manager briefed the Board during its November 3 meeting on the county's response to difficult economic times.

"In business, we sometimes have to make some decisions we don't like," Melton, who owns a motorcycle dealership, added.

(See "Commissioners," p. 28)

Stonehill Pines PUD seeks Foxfire annexation

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Stonehill Pines, a proposed 1,500-acre master-planned community of homes, championship golf courses, and a hotel, formally presented a Planned Unit Development [PUD] application and petition for annexation to the Foxfire Village Council on Tuesday, November 11. Located north of Foxfire Road and east of Hoffman Road, a portion of the property is within the existing Foxfire Village Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ], with the remainder in rural Moore County.

If approved, the community would be annexed completely into Foxfire and developed over a ten to fifteen-year period. The Master Plan includes two championship golf courses, a private clubhouse, conference center, luxury hotel and spa, private trail system, retail and dining options, and parks and recreational spaces. Residences will consist of single-family and luxury attached homes.

According to Kevin Justice, president and CEO of Stonehill Capital Group, a Palm Beach Gardens, Florida based corpo-

ration, the low-density community will preserve the relaxed, small-town feel of Foxfire. Addressing a packed room of interested residents during the Council meeting, he said that protecting the environment is a major emphasis of the project.

"We are thrilled to work with such a beautiful piece of property," said Justice. "We are focused on the environment and are trying to achieve LEED certification on the hotel."

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design [LEED] (See "Foxfire," p. 32)

Westside hears AED pitch

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Automated External Defibrillators [AED] and higher usage fees for amenities are both on the minds of members of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors as they begin work on the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget.

Those issues surfaced during the Tuesday, November 11 Board Work Session, but a more intensive budget discussion is expected in a special Work Session scheduled for 2:00 pm on Tuesday, November 18.

The AED story

The lifesaving value of AEDs was the focus of a Work Session

presentation Buddy Spong of Project HeartSmart and the Moore County Chapter of the American Red Cross. FirstHealth of the Carolinas and the Red Cross are working together on the project that aims to place AEDs in public gathering spots

throughout the county — including the West Side Park Community Center.

Spong explained that victims of sudden cardiac arrest, if shocked with a AED within four minutes of the attack have a 90 (See "Westside," p. 30)

Club members approve sale

After the last issue of *The Times* went to press, we learned that members of Seven Lakes Country Club voted overwhelmingly to authorize the sale of the Club's old practice range.

The "Yes" votes numbered 171; while only 33 members voted against the sale. Converting that result to percentages, 84 percent of those voting on the measure voted approval.

A companion measure, authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$150,000 to meet cash flow needs, passed by a smaller margin — 148 for and 49 against, or 75 percent in favor.

The Times, PO Box 602, West End, NC 27376
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County swims against the tide in election

Three-quarters of Moore County voters cast ballots in last week's historic election, and more than one-third of those who voted took advantage of One Stop Centers to cast their ballot before Election Day.

County voters, as has been the case for many years, showed a strong preference for Republican candidates, even though they found themselves swimming against the tide in many races this November.

Sixty percent of Moore Countians voted for John McCain and Sarah Palin, bucking the national trend that will put the nation's first African American in the White House. Those votes were

part of a North Carolina total that, in unofficial returns, had Barack Obama and Joe Biden only 13,692 votes ahead of the McCain-Palin ticket, out of nearly 4.3 million total votes cast.

The election results will be made official after county election boards meet for their canvass; the Moore County Board's Canvass is scheduled for Friday, November 14 at 11:00 am.

While early voting has proven popular among Moore County voters — and likely contributed to the high voter turnout — it makes timely reporting of precinct by precinct results impractical. While precinct totals are available from the Board of Elections,

they do not include votes cast at the one-stop centers. Because many Seven Lakers cast their votes early, the election day totals for the precinct are not meaningful. The one-stop totals will be broken down and re-assigned to the appropriate precincts sometime in the next sixty days.

The US Senate contest that pitted newcomer Kay Hagan against incumbent Liddy Dole wasn't even close on a statewide basis, with Hagan garnering 53 percent of the vote to Dole's 44. But, in Moore County, those results were nearly reversed, with Dole taking 53 percent to Hagan's 43 percent.

One race in which the county results and state returns did jibe was the District US House seat that pitted incumbent Republican Howard Coble against Democrat Teresa Sue Bratton. Coble took 61 percent of the vote in Moore County and 67 percent across the portions of six counties that make up his district.

Republican candidates also prevailed in the NC General Assembly races, with incumbent Harris Blake prevailing over Abraham Oudeh in Senate District 22 and newcomer Jamie Boles besting Democrat Betty Mangum in House District 52.

Moore Countians went for Charlotte Mayor Pay McCrory in the Gubernatorial race, giving him 58 percent of votes cast; but statewide, Bev Perdue took 50 percent to McCrory's 47 per-

cent.

Similarly, Republican Robert Pittenger was the favorite in the Lieutenant Governor's race in the county; but Democrat Walter Dalton won the race handily statewide.

Turning to more local races, current District Attorney Maureen Krueger sailed past challenger Tony Berk, garnering nearly 78 percent of the vote.

Bruce Cunningham and Lorna Clack ran unopposed to retain their seats on the Moore County Board of Education, while incumbent Board member Kathy Farren defeated challenger Ed Dennison, taking 63 percent of the vote.

Running for a vacant seat in District IV, Laura Kelly Kite prevailed over Enola Lineberger

(See "Election," p. 29)

Project Linus Fun Day

by Dale Schmidt
Seven Lakes West

An original watercolor painting is being raffled to benefit Project Linus. Donated by local artist Andrea Schmidt, raffle tickets will be available at local crafts fairs and events, or may be purchased by contacting Pat Weber at 673-1457 or weberconsult@nc.rr.com

Project Linus is a 501(C) non-

profit organization whose volunteers, warmly referred to as "Blanketeers," provide love, a sense of security, warmth, and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade quilts, blankets or afghans.

During the past three years the Sandhills/Moore County Chapter has donated over 3,600 blankets to local agencies. If you are interested in becoming a "blanketeer" contact Pat Weber for more information and workshop dates.

On Friday, November 14, from

10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Project Linus will host its annual Fall Fun Day with The Coffee Scene and Bookshop by The Lakes in the Seven Lakes Business Village.

There will be baked goods to taste and purchase, crafts for sale, door prizes, raffle items, and Schmidt's original watercolor painting will be on display.

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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


Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

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|---------|----------|
| Nov 26* | Nov 20* |
| Dec 12 | Dec 5 |
| Dec 23* | Dec 18* |

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

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SLLA dues compared to other communities

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

A cost of living comparison report prepared by the Finance Committee concludes that the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] provides amenities and security at a cost normally associated with un-gated communities, Treasurer Denny Galford reported during the Thursday, November 12 General Meeting.

He said the committee had compared costs with local incorporated and unincorporated communities, explaining that there were many variables but the focus was placed on local taxes, fees, and amenities of an average home within each community. Incorporated communities are able to tap revenue sources such as sales tax, gasoline tax, local property tax. Most unincorporated communities in Moore County are gated neighborhoods with a basic fee plus supplemental fees, which vary depending on amenities.

The report showed the annual cost of taxes and fees in the Town of Aberdeen is \$703; Country Club of North Carolina, \$3,983; Foxfire Village, \$735; Pinehurst, \$1,457; Pinewild, \$1,251; Seven Lakes West,

\$819; Southern Pines, \$1,107; and Whispering Pines, \$880. These compare to \$887 paid by residents of Seven Lakes North and South.

Seven Lakes Landowners Association Meeting

11/12

Galford said that, before a dues increase is recommended, the Finance Committee will review Board members' budget requests and their impact on both next year's operating budget and long-range revenue needs.

"We must consider what we want our community to look like," said Galford. "There has been more emphasis this year on appearance that has been a little more outstanding than other years — and, I think, residents have responded favorably."

Continuing the Finance Report, Galford said dues collections last month were below budget and probably a sign of the weakening economy. However, he said year-to-date collections stood at ninety-four percent. Letters to delinquent members were sent out and interest will be

charged at the standard rate.

He reported interest on investments at \$470, booked on a cash rather than accrual basis.

Board of Directors expenses were up because of accounting and legal fees, and security expenses were high because of printing expenses for guest passes and decals.

"Overall we are a little over budget right now, at sixty-two percent at the six month mark, because of Board approved additional expenditures," reported Galford.

Following the meeting, Galford provided previous month invoices for review by request.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, former

Treasurer Steve Hudson recommended the Board look at cutting expenses rather than increasing dues. Specifically, he suggested a hiring freeze and eliminating employee bonuses. [See page 26 for more from Hudson on this topic.]

"The economy is in trouble . . . are you going to look after the landowners?" asked Hudson.

Nominating Committee

Director Bud Shaver thanked the Nominating Committee for their hard work in contacting and soliciting candidates for the Board of Directors. Nominations will be accepted until noon on Monday, December 1, with a final list of candidates presented to the Board at the Work Session to be held Thursday, December 4.

"We are continuing to seek

and solicit additional candidates," said Shaver. "We will accept any and all who step forward. The importance of the 2009-2010 Board must be stressed. Those elected will have the critical responsibility to select the next Community Manager."

There are now eight candidates running for the four seats up for election: Kent Droppers, Don Fentzlauff, Denny Galford, Steve Hudson, Bruce Keyser, Jr., Mike Pennington, Don Welch, and Randy Zielsdorf

Shaver said that he has found it difficult to find younger residents who are willing to run or feel they are knowledgeable enough about board activities to be effective board members. He encouraged future directors to seek younger members for their committees and to adjust their meet-

(See "SLLA," p. 23)

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Economic woes will delay planning projects

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Due to the weakened national economy, several large-scale long range planning projects at the county level are being "placed on hold," Planning Director Joey Raczkowski reported to the Moore County Planning Board on Thursday, November 6. Specifically he cited the Long Range Plan, Land Use Update, and the Master Water & Sewer Study. Raczkowski said that by restructuring and reorganizing staff, the County will move forward and prioritize Area A Plan implementation and several lesser projects including a storm water management plan.

Wireless Communication Towers

A controversial request to increase the height of a cell phone tower located in the Eastwood community raised many questions last year. Of interest was whether an ordinance lim-

iting tower height to under 200' would result in the construction of more unlit towers in rural county areas, rather than several higher and lighted towers in developed locations.

Coupled together with extensive changes in regulations at both the State and Federal level, officials decided it was in the best interest of the county to engage in a selective, competitive bid process to hire a new technology consultant firm to perform a comprehensive review of existing tower applications, regulations, and management processes.

Following staff recommendation, Atlantic Group was unanimously approved by the Planning Board. The contract will next go before the Board of County Commissioners for final approval.

Zoning Ordinance amendments

Accessory dwelling units, which include attached and detached

site-built and modular homes, will only be allowed on lots at least twice the minimum for the zoning district. The Planning Board approved the new text amendment, removing language limiting these dwellings to family and hardship requests in response to State law, but looked to the lot size allowance to maintain the intended density of the surrounding area.

In a related text amendment,

the Planning Board approved changes to secondary temporary dwelling units will only be allowed on lots 1.5 times the minimum size for the zoning district. Each permit is valid for two years and eligible for a two-year extension.

Temporary dwellings must meet all applicable setbacks and cannot be greater in size than the principal dwelling, nor less than 300 square feet.

Juniper Storage LLC

A mini-storage facility, to be built on a 5.86 acre parcel north of NC Hwy 211, west of the Juniper Lake Road intersection, was granted a conditional use permit contingent upon the applicant obtaining a DOT driveway permit. The facility plan included an existing entrance on 211 and a secondary entrance on Juniper Lake Road.

Rail crossing hearing is Dec. 2

The NC Department of Transportation has scheduled a December 2 public meeting to gather input on a railway corridor project that would upgrade the rail crossings at the entrance to Seven Lakes West and at NC Highway 73 in West End, while closing crossings at Mode Road and Edgewood Terrace.

The drop-in session will be held in the West End Elementary School cafeteria from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Members of the public may stop by, inspect plans, and offer comments at any time during the two-hour time slot.

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BOB is an experienced tennis player and is currently teaching children's programs and an adult Cardio Tennis Class (Wed. at 6pm) at 7 Lakes Country Club

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Lakers pitch in & clean up

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Donning work gloves and smiles, a small army of volunteer helpers and pickup truck owners deployed onto the streets of Seven Lakes North and South on Saturday, November 8, to collect yard debris, leaves, and clippings from thirty-four homes.

Offered as a free service to res-

idents who are otherwise unable to deliver their yard debris to the community site, Clean Up Day was a great success, according to Chair Sue Zeller.

Volunteers included Jim Carter, Jim Allen, Patrick Dye, Jared Debruin, Marti Elliott, Gordon

Zeller, Denny Galford, Don Truesdell, Ray Hutchens, Jr., T. Ray Jackson, the Matt Jarusinski family, Basil Kester, Ken Sparke, Keith Wood, Ken Collins, Ralph Shank, Linda and Al Geiger, Bert Montague, Rick Hineline, Robert Haan.



The Jarunsinskis get down and dirty helping out during the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Clean Up Day.







Sue Zeller chaired the SLLA Clean Up Day.

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Robertson: 'Blessed to have worked here'

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

This Friday, November 14, is Tony Robertson's last day on the job as the full-time Community Manager for the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA].

It's Robertsons' second stab at retirement; he took the SLWLA job after retiring from a long career in municipal management that took him from one end of the state to the other, from Lewisburg in the mountains to Smithfield in the coastal plain. He served as city manager for Nashville and Franklinton, as well; and spent five years as City Manager of Aberdeen before retiring.

Then Seven Lakes West came calling.

It's a post he's clearly enjoyed.

"I've been very blessed to have had opportunity to work here and to have the board members I have had to work with," Robertson told *The Times* on Monday.

"These Board members work very hard — and, like a lot of community work, it's a pretty thankless job. People are always ready to criticize, but very seldom do you get praise."

He's enjoyed the work, but there have been challenges, Robertson told *The Times*, chief among them getting landowners to realize the community is governed by a set of covenants, by-laws, rules and regulations.

"The majority of people here really care and are concerned, and follow the rules and regulations to the best of their ability," Robertson added. "Others don't follow them, often not because they don't care, but because they don't know."

Managing a landowners association can be more challenging than managing a municipality, Robertson said. "In city government, in most situations that arise, you have an ordinance or a law that you can go to that will tell you exactly what you are supposed to do," he explained. "In a landowners association, a lot of thing get done by the seat of your pants, simply because they've never been dealt with before."

Perhaps because of that ad hoc nature of association governance, Robertson noted, "there

seems to be whole lot more controversy than in municipal government."

"That's nobody's fault, really," he added. "People want their community to prosper and survive — and that's why a lot of things become controversial."



Tony Robertson

Asked what he sees as the challenges the community will face in the future, Robertson told *The Times* he expects the larger Seven Lakes-West End community will need to incorporate.

"I say this only from my own perspective and opinion," Robertson noted. "I foresee down the road that the North, South, and West are going to have to incorporate, primarily to take care of infrastructure needs."

"The way these communities are growing, they will be too big to be handled any other way. I expect they will have to consolidate into one town."

"I don't say it's the best solution," Robertson added, "but it may be the inevitable solution."

Asked about his own plans for the future, Robertson jokes that he might just start delivering pizza. "They called me

'Scratch' all through high school," he explains. "One of my buddies told me 'Pizza from Scratch' might be a good name for the operation."

But there's likely a better chance that Robertson will be found volunteering in the cardiac rehab unit at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Robertson nearly lost his life to heart disease a couple of years ago, and he said he wants to help folks as he was helped.

He told *The Times* that he's an avid flower gardener and also expects to do a lot more reading with a little extra free time on his hands.

"This is a great community," Robertson said of Seven Lakes West. "The vast majority of the people I have dealt with here have been very supportive, very friendly, very helpful. I am blessed to have had the opportunity to work with them."

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Eagle Springs company opens doors to the public

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Thirty years ago, Walter Harper started making durable, high-quality porch furniture using Appalachian white oak – a wood whose decay resistance rivals old growth giants such as teak, redwood, and cypress.

He opened a small factory in Eagle Springs and has operated a successful wholesale business ever since. For the first time ever, on Saturday, November 15 from 8:00 am to 4:00pm, Harper will open his doors to the public for a Grand Opening celebration of a new retail showroom.

No longer Moore County's best kept secret, Sittin' Easy offers a beautiful line of white oak furnishings in a style Harper jokingly calls 'Early American Contemporary Danish Modern.' The showroom features both new and clearance rockers, swings, bar stools, dining tables, settees, and more.

According to Harper, who has a master's degree in Industrial Arts and Product Design from NC State, there are 400 types of oak but Appalachian white oak, which only grows above 1,000 feet, was the historical wood of choice for outdoor needs. In addition, white oak is a sustainable wood, grown here in the United States, which can be re-harvested every forty to sixty years.

Sittin' Easy only uses top grade

white oak which is made waterproof through a lengthy kiln-dried process, creating a non-tropical, non-toxic wood especially suitable for dry climates.

Harper said Sittin' Easy, which he co-owns with his wife Kim, is primarily a wholesale supplier to home décor catalogs to patio shops nationwide. He also spends considerable time traveling to high-end craft shows and also sells online.

Based in the old Eagle Springs School, the converted 19,000 square foot factory and showroom will be open during regular business hours, Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and evenings and weekends by appointment.

"We do not craft disposable furniture but instead beautiful pieces that are made out of long-lasting, renewable materials," said Harper.

He explained how he redesigned his first style of swing twenty-four times over a two-year period, tweaking the contours and slats to achieve a very comfortable fit for all people. In fact, customers find his seating is so flexible, strong, and comfortable that cushions are not needed.

Harper's team uses a traditional mortise and tenon joint to construct each piece, finishing with linseed oil – a penetrating oil that soaks in and dries and won't peel and chip and crack.

Simple routine maintenance is all that is needed to keep his products looking good for years and years to come, however, a lifetime guarantee is provided.

"We stand behind our product and have had the same phone number for thirty years," said Harper.

Sittin' Easy can be reached at 673-0033, online at www.sittineasy.com and is located a quarter mile south of Rt. 211 and Hwy 705 on Eagle Springs Road.



Walter Harper of Sittin' Easy with Retail Manager Marla Morfin.

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'Flip & Fun' aims to keep kids in shape

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Crawling, tumbling, and way-too-busy giggling at her coach, eighteen month old Chelsea Thelen has no idea that her new weekly play date is really all about learning and exercise.

Flip and Fun Gym, developed by Westsider Debbie Castro-Giovanni, is a new recreational program that offers coordina-

tion and tumbling classes for kids from tiny tots to teenagers. A veteran coach with fifteen years experience teaching dance and gymnastics, Giovanni said she welcomes even the most basic beginners who have never tumbled before.

"I feel this community needs more things for children to do and all kids can benefit from exercise," said Giovanni.

Classes are held upstairs in the West Side Park Community Center on large padded mats with colorful soft obstacles for climbing, jumping, crawling, and playing. Giovanni also uses balls, blocks, toys, and music to incorporate different learning strategies while students have fun at the same time.

"I am very impressed with Debbie's program," said Chelsea's mom, Laurie Thelen. "She has everything all set up. The class is fun and taught at the child's pace and she's very patient and encouraging."

Each Monday, Mommy & Me-style Tiny Tumblers classes are held at 12:30 pm, followed by a Tumbling Toddlers class for three to five year olds at 1:30 pm.

For older children Giovanni offers a Flip and Fun Class after school on Mondays, where kids learn tumbling skills and develop coordination, flexibility, and self-confidence.

Flip and Fun Classes for nine to twelve year olds begins at 3:30 pm, thirteen to sixteen year old class at 4:30 pm, and five to eight year old children are welcomed at 5:30 pm.

Classes are one hour per week and tuition for each six-week enrollment is prorated at a

cost of \$10 per class. Registration packets are available at the Seven Lakes West Landowner's Association offices at the

West Side Park Community Center or by emailing flipandfungym@nc.rr.com



Coach Debbie Castro-Giovanni and Chelsea Thelen

Special Sandhills Methodist Services

The Sandhills Circuit of the United Methodist Church will honor all musicians on Sunday, November 23 during regular worship services; Pleasant Hill at 9:00 am; Eagle Springs at 10:00 am; and Marcus at 11:15 am. The Sandhills Circuit Youth meet at Marcus UMC every Wednesday at 6:00 pm. All are

welcome to attend these services.

On Sunday, November 30, Marcus United Methodist Church will share in The Hanging of The Greens Service beginning at 11:15 am. Members of the congregation will participate in leading this special worship service.

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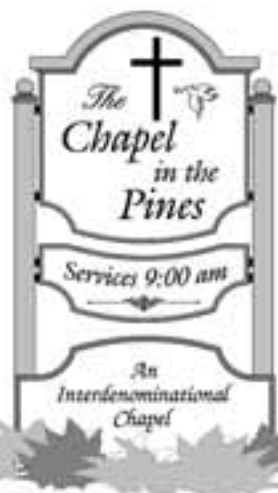
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Chaplain Pamela Hudson

The Chapel Choir

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines was founded in 1976 to serve the Seven Lakes Community and beyond.

Leach & Haynes exchange vows

Colby Elizabeth Leach and Daniel Dillon Haynes, of Raeford, were married Saturday, October 11, at The Weymouth Center in Southern Pines. Roger

Mitchell officiated the ceremony. A reception, hosted by the bride's grandparents and the bride and groom, was held at The Weymouth Center.

The bride is the daughter of Kelly Leach of West End and Jeffrey Leach of Germantown, Maryland. She is the granddaughter of Ron and Wynn Raines of Whispering Pines, Carol Leach of Chambersburg, Penn. and Wayne Leach of Casselberry, Florida. She is employed by Dr. A.T. Bassiri as a dental assistant in Fayetteville.

The groom is the son of Carol Eichler of Norwich, NY and Timothy Haynes of Guilford, NY. He is the grandson of Perley and Doris McChain of Sherburne, NY, and Eunice Smith of Norwich, NY. He is an Air Force T/Sgt stationed at Pope Air Force base.

Kelsey Leach, sister of the

bride, was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Jennifer Taylor of Eagle Springs and Jennifer Vanluven of Fayetteville. Emily Klinger was the flower girl.

Rob Mazzarello of Annapolis was the best man. Groomsmen included Jason Haynes,

brother of groom of New Berlin, NY, and Erin McGinnis of Linden.

The couple honeymooned in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. The newlyweds will reside in Raeford until transferring to MacDill Air Force base, Tampa, FL, in February.



Colby Elizabeth Leach and Daniel Dillon Haynes

Merry Mary Market

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church will host eighteen local crafters at the Holiday Merry Market on Saturday, November 22 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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New maintenance building wins praise

by Andy Lowe
SLLA Maintenance
Committee Member

The Maintenance Committee of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association met Tuesday, October 28 in the maintenance office, then later took a tour of the new building.

For many of us who had visited this location before it was a pleasant surprise. Bob Darr, the new maintenance supervisor, has performed a surprising feat. He has turned that building from a disorganized cluttered and unkempt location into an organ-

ized, cleaned, and painted-inside building that anyone would be proud of.

He has begun to clean up the

tool sheds outside and to get them organized for equipment storage.

Compliments to Mr. Darr.



The SLLA's newly completed maintenance building. The pictured bicycles are part of a sealed bid auction being held for various abandoned and/or surplus maintenance items. The auction will conclude on Friday, November 14.

Turkey Trot

Serious runners and casual walkers can get a "fit start" to the holiday season with the 28th Annual Turkey Trot on Saturday, November 22.

The USATF/RRTC-certified courses will begin at the FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness-Pinehurst, located just off Highway 211, and wind throughout the picturesque residential district of the Village of Pinehurst before ending back at the center. Events include a Half-Marathon, One-Mile Fun Run/Walk, and 5K & 10K races for all ages.

Registration opens at 7:00 am on race day. The One-Mile Fun Run/Walk begins at 8:30 am, the Half-Marathon starts at 9:00 am, and the 5K and 10K races start at 9:30 am. Entries will be accepted up to forty-five minutes prior to each event.

New age group divisions were added this year, expanding to fourteen years & under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70+. Awards in age group categories will be given for the 5K, 10K, & Half-Marathon. Overall male and female winners in all races will also receive a turkey as will the oldest male and female participants in the event.

Participants can register for the Turkey Trot at the FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness-Pinehurst or online with www.active.com. For more information call 715-1843 or e-mail jheimrich@firsthealth.org.

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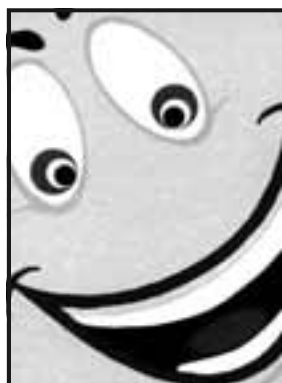
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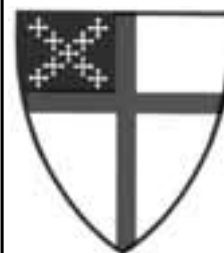
Looking for a good investment?

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The Seven Lakes Landowners Association Lakes and Dams committee is going to publish on a regular basis information concerning your septic system that has the potential for this large of a payback.

Please look for this column in future issues.

Seven Lakes Landowners Association
Lakes and Dams Committee



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Real Estate

By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

"CAVEAT EMPTOR?" — NOT TODAY

If you buy an old overcoat in a used clothing store and the sales slip states "Sold As-Is", you've bought it moth holes and all, right?

Well, maybe. This legal principle of "caveat emptor" (let the buyer beware) is dead or dying. We are living in an age of consumerism and it's hard to find a court that won't favor the buyer in a dispute. In fact, consumer groups and many government agencies are taking the posture that the seller must disclose everything.

If you have a problem in your home, don't mask it. A common example is the homeowner who spray paints a ceiling to cover

water stains caused by a leaking roof. If you have a problem that you don't intend to correct, be candid about it. Sure, some people will be turned off by it, but the serious buyer will be understanding about a problem openly displayed. Usually, they will discount the price by far less than the cost of repair. . . and a whole lot less than a day in court would cost.

• • •

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In memory of . . .

Roy Augustus Carter, 87, of West End, died Monday, October 27, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Carter was the son of the late Addison Colifax Carter and Wincey Swink in Jackson Springs. He was an active member of the West End Presbyterian Church all of his life.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a charter member of the American Legion Post in West End, and later also helped to charter the West End Fire & Rescue Department where he was a member for over twenty-six years. Later he joined American Legion Post 1981 in Raleigh. He retired as a home builder in 1982.

Funeral services were held at West End Presbyterian Church on Thursday, October 30. The Rev. Larry Lyons officiated. Burial followed in the West End Cemetery.

He was preceded in death by his wife of fifty-eight years, Ruth Monroe Carter. He is survived by his daughter, Nancy C. Stone of Huntersville and a granddaughter.

Memorials can be made to West End Presbyterian Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 13 West End, NC 27376

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.

Edna Mae Gilmore, 93, of Robbins, died Wednesday, October 29, at her home.

Mrs. Gilmore was a long-time member of the First Baptist Church of Robbins.

Funeral services were held Saturday, November 1 at First Baptist Church in Robbins. Services were directed by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes. Burial followed in Pine Rest Cemetery.

She was preceded in death by

her husband, Hugh McRae Gilmore, and one grandson.

She is survived by sons, Sammy Gilmore of Seven Lakes and Ronnie Gilmore of Robbins; five grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Robbins, Building Fund, P.O. Box 400, Robbins, NC 27325.

Charles Jerome Wright, 59, died Monday, November 10 at his residence in Southern Pines. Mr. Wright was born in Alameda, CA, to the late Harry Jerome Wright and Elizabeth Barbara Vavrous.

A funeral service will be held at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes on Saturday, November 15, at 11:00 am with Pastor David Reynolds officiating. Burial will fol-

low in the Jackson Springs Cemetery.

Mr. Wright is survived by his sons John Robert Wright of Madison, WI; and Bryan Charles Wright of Boston, MA; a brother, Jeffery Lee Wright of Plymouth Meeting, PA; and a sister, Barbara Diane Barnes of Carthage.

A visitation will be held Fri-

day November 14 at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

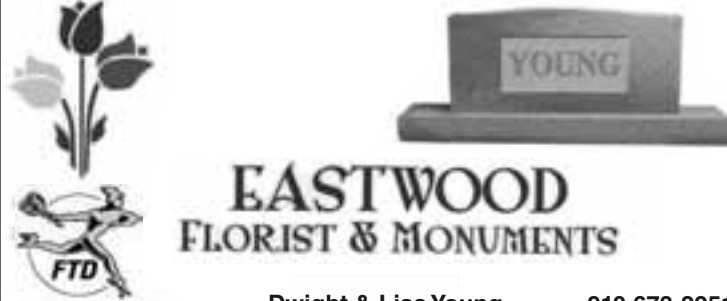
In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to: Alcoholics Anonymous at P.O. Box 2513, Southern Pines, NC, 28387 in memory of Charles Wright.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is serving the family.

Methodist Spaghetti Dinner

The Men of the West End United Methodist Church will once again serve their World Famous Spaghetti [okay, West End famous] on Friday, November 21 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Tickets are available for \$7.00 from the Methodist Men and will also be available at the door. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used to help support Men's Ministries, the Boy Scouts, Backpack Pals, and the Food Pantry. For additional information contact the Church office at 673-1371.




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Marines kick off Toys for Tots campaign

'Tis the season to be jolly! Children's imaginations will soon drift toward Christmas dreams and wishes.

The 2008 Toys for Tots Campaign, whose belief is "every child deserves a little Christmas," will begin in Moore County on Saturday, November 15. Local Marines and their helpers

will be collecting and distributing toys to numerous local agencies, churches, and community programs.

Ron Base of Pinehurst, a member of the Sandhills Detachment #1001 of the Marine Corps League, is the local Coordinator.

Last year over 8,000 toys were distributed to almost 4,000 chil-

dren in the county. Your help is needed to reach every child of families who are unemployed, underemployed, and homeless. How you can help?

- Donate a toy to your local TFT's campaign. Collection boxes are located at Beacon Ridge Country Club, the West Side Park Community Center, Curves, & Dollar General.
- Donate your time and effort to increase the number of toys collected.

- Donate service support by allowing collection boxes at your Church or business
- Make a tax deductible donation by writing a check to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation and mail to Ron Base at 55 Oak Hills Road, Pinehurst NC 28374. Financial donations are extremely helpful in giving the campaign the means to purchase educational or ethnic toys for children with special needs.

The Toys for Tots Foundation, your local Marine Corps League, and the children of Moore County will be most grateful for your generosity.

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Vietnam Vets sponsor bingo at VA hospital



by Joe Kristek, Vietnam Vets Chapter 966

Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America sponsored a night of Bingo with the patients at the VA Hospital in Fayetteville.

The Chapter was proud to also present sixty handmade Christmas stockings to the patients ward, as well as new reading material for the hospital library. The stockings were sewn by the ladies from Rosemary's Quilting Room located in Pinehurst.

The reading material came from the Seven Lakes West community library, compliments of Judy Pendleton.

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Extension Association collects gifts for troops

The North Carolina Community & Extension Association honored our soldiers with a special gift presentation when they held their annual meeting in October in Fayetteville.

Westsider Shirley Donaldson, a member of Sandhills Community & Extension Club, initiated the idea to provide comfort items for our soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Three pickup truck

loads were collected. Gifts consisted of home baked cookies, tooth paste, toothbrushes, Vienna Sausages, and other items. School children from Scotland County and West End Elementary School wrote letters to cheer

the soldiers and thank them for their service.

Pictured here are SFC Christopher Urdanek from Ohio; Shirley Donaldson; SP Scott Butler from Nebraska, Cpl Kelly Coats from Georgia; Sharon English, Scot-

land County Family Consumer Agent; and Juanita Bowen, South Central District President. The soldiers are member of HHC 3rd Brigade at Ft Bragg. All have served in Iraq and are due to deploy again.

Shoeboxes for the troops

The St. Andrews Equestrian Team under Coach Carla Wennberg will be packing Christmas shoeboxes for the troops, as they have done for the past several years.

Any person or groups who would like to participate packing their boxes and joining the team's

efforts are appreciated.

Shoeboxes will be picked up Monday, December 1. Phoenix Fashions in Seven Lakes is a participating drop off location.

For more information, call Nancy Wennberg at 673-5727 or Sandi and Bill Carl at 673-7711.



Instant Piano

Instant Piano for hopelessly busy people will be held on Wednesday, December 3 from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm at Sandhills Community College in Pinehurst. A beginning class in chord piano where, in one session, students will learn all the chords needed to play any pop song, any style, any key, reading chord symbols not notes. They'll also learn how to embellish songs using the secrets and magical shortcuts of professional piano players.

Prerequisites: If students don't know treble clef, send a SASE

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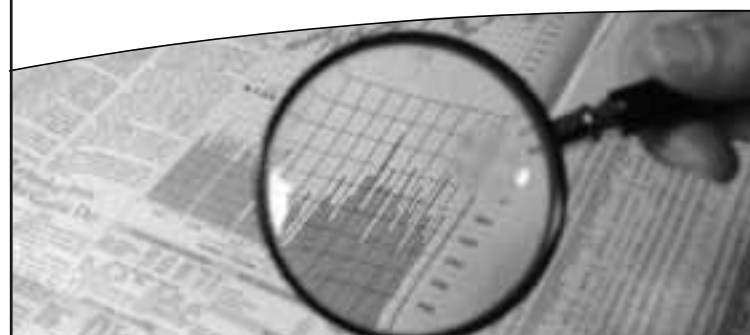


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Buelow is Kiwanian of Year

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

Gerry Buelow was presented with the Kiwanian of the Year award on Tuesday, October 28, for his outstanding work on behalf of the Club during the past year.

The speaker for the October 28 meeting was Scott Hartley, Chief Ranger at Weymouth Woods State Natural Area.

Ranger Hartley presented an interesting talk on the history and growth of the Sandhills and its importance to the retention of various types of wildlife, both animal and plant, which are unique to this area of the world. Weymouth Woods is one of thirty-four state parks in North Carolina.

In Colonial days, the Longleaf Pine was the dominant tree in the Southeast USA. That has changed thru the years, and the NC Sandhills is now the primary location for this tree, the State Tree of North Carolina. The oldest Longleaf Pine tree in the world is 460 years old, and is located in Weymouth Woods.

Hartley also mentioned that the Sandhills is the only location in the world where the Cockaded Woodpecker lives. This certainly explains why there are strict protection measures being enforced in the area. The woodpeckers live only in live trees, and it takes four to six years for a bird to create a home/nest in a tree. Pine sap is both a blessing and a problem for the birds and is the main reason it takes so long to create a home.

While pecking the hole for their new home, the bird must be careful not to get stuck in the tree sap and die, which is a problem! But on the positive side, the sap as it bleeds down the side of the tree, provides a very important deterrent to attacks by snakes interested in making a

meal out of the young birds. Once created, the birds live in the nest for many years.

Ranger Hartley said that we live in a rather unique part of the world when it comes to growing

vegetation unique to the Sandhills, and also providing a home for several forms of wildlife, such as the Cockaded Woodpecker, which are also unique to our area of the world.



Ranger Scott Hartley with Ron McGaughey, Program Coordinator.



Gerry Buelow accepts the Kiwanian of the Year award from President Ken Jenkins.

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Farms and Families...A Portrait of 4H Heritage will be held at the Agriculture Building located at 707 Pinehurst Avenue in Carthage on Monday, November 24. The program begins with a meal at 6:30 pm.

Tickets are \$10 per person, \$5 for children twelve years and under, are available at the Chamber of Commerce office and the NC Cooperative Extension office in Carthage.

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NOVEMBER ACTION

Lot #2147R - Under Contract

116 Fox Run - SOLD!

109 Stallion - Under Contract

113 Sandham - Under Contract

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- **Project Linus Fall Fun Day** – 10 am – 4 pm, at Bookshop By the Lakes & The Coffee Scene, Seven Lakes Business Village. Baked goods to taste & purchase, crafts for sale, door prizes, raffle items, and blanket making demos and kits for check out. Information, Pat Weber at 673-1457.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- **Sittin' Easy Grand Opening** – 8 am – 4 pm, Old School Building, Eagle Springs Road. Wholesale handcrafted white oak porch furniture business opening its showroom to the public for the first time ever. New and clearance swings, rockers, gliders, tables, more. Information 673-0033 or visit www.sittineasy.com
- **Cooking with Carmela: Simple Elegant Appetizers** – West Side Park Community Center. Demo followed by hands-on cooking workshop. Simple but elegant and festive appetizers for the holidays. Registration Thursday, November 6. Space limited. Cost \$12.50. Information, 673-5314.
- **Marcus United Methodist Church Chicken & BBQ Fundraiser** – 11 am – 6 pm, Marcus United Methodist Church, 2081 Windblow Road, Jackson Springs. BBQ Chicken will also be available. Plate

donation is \$7.00, and dinner is offered eat-in or take-out. All proceeds benefit mission projects.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 6 pm, Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Moore County Board of Education** – 7 pm, Central Schools Building, Carthage.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- **SLWLA Board Budget Work Session** – 2:00 pm. West Side Park Community Center.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- **The Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 pm – 4 pm, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Seven Lakes Business Village. Great works of art by local artists. The Gallery will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays 1 – 4 pm throughout the holiday season.
- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 4:30 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Dale Schmidt will present, "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Future Energy Prices." Will the higher energy prices which are forecast to occur over the next ten to twenty years force significant lifestyle changes? Free event open to all men and women of

Seven Lakes. Don Welch, 673-6701 or Bill Mamel, 673-8970.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- **Rufus Barringer Civil War Round Table** – 7 pm, Southern Pines Civic Club, corner of Ashe & Penn, Southern Pines. Featured speaker Peter Cozzens will discuss the writings of Ambrose Bierce. Info: 315-1213.

call Pat Weber at 673-1457.

- **League of Women Voters Meeting** – 11:30 am, Table on the Green, Midland Country Club, Pinehurst. Dr. Susan Purser, Superintendent of Moore County Schools, will be the featured speaker. Public is welcome. Cost \$12 and includes lunch. Reservations, Charlotte at 944-9611.

• **World Famous Spaghetti Dinner** – 5 pm – 7 pm, Fellowship Hall, West End United Methodist Church. The

Men of the West End United Methodist Church will once again serve their World Famous Spaghetti [okay, West End famous] Dinner. Tickets are \$7.00 and will be available at the door. Proceeds will be used to help support Men's Ministries, the Boy Scouts, Backpack Pals, and the Food Pantry. Information, 673-1371.

What's When Calendar

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

- **Holiday Fun Decorating the Gates** – all day, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Join the Women of Seven Lakes spread holiday cheer, and help to prepare and hang greenery and bows for the North, South, and West gates. Information,

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- **28th Annual Turkey Trot** – 7 am, FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness, Pinehurst. Half-marathon, one-mile fun run, 5K & 10K for all ages wind throughout the residential district of the Village of Pinehurst. Registration opens at 7 am, fun run begins 8:30 am, Half-marathon begins 9 am, 5K and 10K begin at 9:30 am. Event charge of \$15-\$25. 715-1843, or www.active.com

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- **Merry Mary Market** – 9 am – 4 pm, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Seven Lakes Business Village. Eighteen local crafters will be offering hundreds of gift items from jewelry to house wares to baked goods. Come in and get a head start on your Christmas shopping.
- **2008 Celebration of Seagrove Potters** – 9 am – 6 pm, Luck's Cannery, 798 NC Hwy 705, Seagrove. Featuring many potters and collaborative pieces, the event will showcase exhibits, auctions, a children's pottery tent, demonstrations, and refreshments. Friday night Gala Opening tickets are \$35. Exhibits continue on Sunday, Nov 23 10am – 4 pm. General admission \$5.00. Children under twelve are free. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** – 3:30 pm, Congregation Church of Pinehurst, Linden Road. Join hands, hearts, and voices in an Interfaith Service with Temple Beth Shalom, the Congregational Church of Pinehurst, Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church, McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, and Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines. Familiar hymns and prayers of the church and synagogue offer opportunity to share common faith traditions and give thanks together. Acoustic music and refreshments will follow. Please bring canned goods or Winter items such as coats, new undergarments, and blankets as a Thanksgiving Offering to be donated to the Sandhills Moore

Coalition for Human Care.

- **Holiday Concert** – 5 pm, Belford Baptist Church, Jackson Springs. Join in a celebration of Friends and Family Day at the 9:00 am Worship Service.
- **Thanksgiving Service** – 7 pm, Bensalem Presbyterian Church, 2891 Bensalem Church Road, Eagle Springs. Rev. Wes Brandon will preach and Sandhills Circuit Co-Pastors Revs. Myron and Barbara Dice will serve as worship leaders. A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. A love offering will be taken to support local mission projects. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- **Farms and Families...A Portrait of 4H Heritage Dinner** – 6:30 pm, Agriculture Building, Carthage. Hear how times have changed on the farm and in our communities as local people's stories are shared in an original video production during the 25th Annual Farm City Banquet. Local author Jim Dodson will serve as Master of Ceremony. Program begins with a meal at

6:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 per person, \$5 for children twelve years and under, are available at the Chamber of Commerce office and the NC Cooperative Extension office or by calling 947-3188.

- **Sandhills Natural History Society Meeting** – 7 pm, Weymouth Woods auditorium, Southern Pines. Join Specialists Randy and Becky Westbrook for an in-depth look at invasive plant species and the efforts of the U.S. Geological Survey to eliminate harmful, exotic species within native ecosystems. Visitors are welcome. Information, 692-2167 or visit online www.sandhill-snature.org.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- **Thanksgiving Day**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- **Hanging of The Greens Service** – 11:15 am, Marcus United Methodist Church, Eagle Springs. The Sandhills Circuit of the UMC regular worship services are held in Pleasant Hill at 9:00 am; Eagle Springs at 10:00 am; and Marcus at 11:15 am. All are welcome to attend these services.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

- **College Club Meeting** – 11:30 am, National Golf Club. Featured guests the Note-a-Belles, a Sandhills area women's singing group, will perform a variety of carols and sacred and humorous songs. The College Club members expand their knowledge through various speakers, programs, and interest groups, as well as providing two scholarships at the end of the year. The club meets six times per year. Info: Katharine Bozarth 255-6286.
- **SLWLA General Meeting** – 7:30 pm, Westside park Community Center Great Room.

– 9:30 pm, Sandhills Community College. A beginning class in chord piano where, in one session, students will learn all the chords needed to play any pop song, any style, any key, reading chord symbols not notes. They'll also learn how to embellish songs using the secrets and magical short-cuts of professional piano players. Registration, 695-3766.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

- **Plaid Tidings: Opening Reception** – Sunrise Theater. Moore OnStage presents a Christmas version of the hit "Forever Plaid" with singing swinging holiday favorites in everyone's favorite color – plaid! Show continues through December 14. Reservations, 692-7118.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

- **Instant Piano Class** – 6 pm



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Seven Lakes Ladies rack up State wins

by Barb Horan

Seven Lakes Tennis

Seven Lakes is still on the tennis map thanks to the winning efforts of two ladies teams who represented the Seven Lakes Country Club Tennis Center at the Super Senior State Championships.

The championship team will move on to the Southern Sectional Championships that will be held in Columbus, GA in late March. Winners will then advance to National Championships in April of next year.....let's hope these ladies can continue to win and represent the SLCC in a National Championship – now that would really be something!

Barb Keiffer and her ladies 3.0 60's team came home State Champions by just nosing out the team from Lake Norman. The local players on the 60's team are Barb Keiffer, Carole Gorman, Ellie Lyons, Barb Horan, Betty Milligan, Kate Peterson, Ally Vogel, Jan Staaf, Mary Pagano, Marilyn Quintana, and Carol Dunbar.

Barb Horan and her 3.0 70's team came up against a team from Downeast who proved to be just a bit too strong. I guess you could say, you win some and you lose some – it just wasn't our

day. The 70's ladies players are Joan Carter, Ally Vogel, Joyce Charles, Marilyn Quintana, Judy Streit, Edie Barrett, Carole Gorman, Ellie Lyons, Myra Taylor, and Barb Horan.

These teams were among 700 tennis players from around the state and all came together in Greensboro and played in six different locations throughout the Greensboro area. This USTA event was established to provide adult recreational tennis players throughout the country the opportunity to compete against players of similar ability levels as well as age levels.

This is first time in several years that SLCC has had two teams represent the Tennis Center.

Several players play on both teams — which at times can prove to be very difficult — but it all contributes to the growth of the tennis program.

There are several groups of junior players and this is a great way to show them that tennis can be a life long passion.

Lions hear Dr. Purser



Secretary Shirley Donaldson & Dr. Susan Purser

Dr. Susan Purser, Superintendent of Moore County Schools [MCS], presented a very informative program to the Seven Lakes Lions Club on Thursday, November 6.

She explained that Phase I of the MCS Master Facilities Plan is underway, and much has been accomplished since last November when the people of Moore County showed such generous support of the school bond referendum.

Ground has been broken for a new middle school with opening planned for the 2010-2011 school year.

Energy is focus at SL Forum

Dale Schmidt will present, "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Future Energy Prices," at the Seven Lakes Forum on Wednesday, November 19 at 4:30 pm.

Will the higher energy prices which are forecast to occur over the next ten to twenty years force significant lifestyle changes?

Schmidt's analyses of official U.S. energy forecasts indicate that certain aspects of our energy future could become 'ugly.'

The Forum is held on the upper level of the West Side Park Community Center.

All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend.



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Women of Seven Lakes ring in the Holidays

by Pat Weber

Women of Seven Lakes

An inspirational concert by Project Succeed Handbell Choir on Thursday, November 6, kicked off the holiday season for the Women of Seven Lakes. Edna McNeill of Sandhills Community College introduced the choir who performed "It's a Small World," "We Gather Together," and "Let There be Peace on Earth."

The Handbell Choir meets weekly for practice and is an outreach program of Project

Succeed, a curriculum which provides mentally-disabled adults the opportunity to acquire academic and life skills that will help them function successfully in daily living.

Classes are held Monday through Friday on the Sandhills Community College campus and include language, math, social science, health, community living, consumer education, and job skills. Initiated five years ago under a grant, the program now operates under State funding and has a current enrollment of

thirty-seven students, of varying levels of ability. For more information on Project Succeed, contact Dave Hale at 695-3933 or haled@sandhills.edu

New Resident?

The Women of Seven Lakes welcome all interested community women to participate in their meetings and special events. New Seven Lakes residents should call Laura Douglass at 673-1817 to receive a Welcome Bag filled with coupons and information from many local

businesses and organizations.

Get ready for the Holidays

Deck the halls with Greenery & Holiday Fun on Thursday, November 20 at 10:00 am at the North Clubhouse. Plump bows and prepare garlands for hanging at the entrance gates, help is needed both indoors and out. Delicious refreshments will be provided.

On Friday, November 21 at 10:00 am, decorators will meet at the Westside mail house for more 'decking and donning' projects. And on Monday, November

24, come decorate the North Clubhouse Christmas tree. For more information, call Pat Weber at 673-1457.

Pinecrest High School Chamber Ensemble

The Women of Seven Lakes meeting on Thursday, December 4, will feature the Pinecrest High School Chamber Ensemble, a nationally-recognized and award winning choir.

The meeting will be held at 1:00 pm at the West Side Park Community Center. All are welcome to attend.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Five congregations in the Fox-fire area are joining hands, hearts, and voices in an Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 23, at 3:30 pm. This year's host site is the Congregational Church of Pinehurst on Linden Road, across from Elliott's restaurant.

This third annual Thanksgiving gathering is sponsored jointly by Temple Beth Shalom, the Congregational Church of Pinehurst UCC, Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church, McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, and Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines.

Representatives from each congregation designed the service to invite neighbors into a worship setting in which various faith traditions express their gratitude for the blessings of this shared community, nation, and world.

Using familiar hymns of the church and synagogue, sharing words from the Psalms and the prophets, praying in Hebrew and English, will offer worshippers an opportunity to share their common faith traditions and give thanks together for their many blessings.

Everyone in the community is welcome and participants are invited to linger for acoustic music and refreshments following the service to enjoy getting to know their neighbors.

Worshippers are asked to bring canned goods or desperately needed Winter items such as coats, new undergarments, and blankets as a Thanksgiving Offering, to be donated to the

Sandhills Moore Coalition for Human Care.

As we offer thanks for the

many blessings of this community, we will also remember that some are in need.

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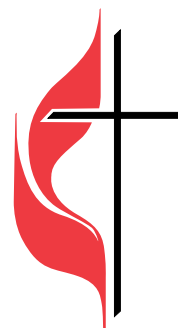
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Moore OnStage: Dreaming of a 'Plaid' Christmas

Looking for a way to ease into the holiday spirit?

Then don't wait a moment longer, make your reservations to see "Plaid Tidings," the Christmas version of the hit "Forever Plaid."

The heavenly quartet is mak-

ing a come-back, singing swinging holiday favorites in everyone's favorite color – plaid! Moore OnStage brought "Forever Plaid" to the Sandhills two and a half years ago and if you missed that show, be sure not to miss this one.

Opening at the Sunrise Theater on Friday, December 5 with a wine reception hosted by Billie Ertter from Hair Biz @the Cottage, The Plaids will be singing through the weekend and then continuing on the following Thursday, December 11

– 14, for a total of seven performances.

Playing The Plaids are Baxter Clement as Sparky, who was last seen on the Sunrise stage as Buddy Holly, Torin Wright as Jinx, who will be reprising his role as an original Moore OnStage Plaid, Jamie Helsman as Frankie, who entertained as Teddy Roosevelt in the 2007 production of "Tintypes," and newcomer Rob DuPont as Smudge, who was discovered at Temple Theater while playing in last year's show "Godspell."

The Plaids will croon their tight harmonic renditions of musical hits from the '50's and '60's,

intermixed with some really hilarious schtick.

All of this will happen with a little help from musical director Steve Menendez and director Robbie Gay, who directed "Buddy Holly" for Moore OnStage last year. It's a holiday fruitcake of a show, filled with Christmas tunes that have all been "plaidized" and tied up with a big Christmas bow on top!

For more information and reservations, call 692-7118. Please do not call the Sunrise Theater. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$12 for students eighteen years and under. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Purser to address League

Dr. Susan Purser, the Superintendent of Moore County Schools, will address the League of Women Voters of Moore County and the public at a luncheon meeting on Tuesday, November 18. The luncheon will be held at Table on the Green at Midland Country Club in Pinehurst. The public is welcome to attend with a prior reservation. Check in time is 11:30 and the meeting will start at 11:45. The cost for the meal is \$12, payable at the door by a check made out to the League of Women Voters of Moore County. For reservations, call Charlotte Gallagher at 944-9611.

In Moore County, Dr. Purser serves on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and was formerly a member of the United Way Board of Directors, the Ruth Pauley Lecture Series Board of Directors, the Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors, the FirstHealth Board, and the Moore County Public Education Foundation.

She is also a founding member of Moore Friends for Mississippi, a group who coordinated the "adoption" by Moore

County of a town in Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina.

She has served as the vice-chairman and chairman of the Sandhills Region Education Consortium, and, at the state level, she served on the State Superintendents' Advisory Council and as the Chairperson for the

N.C. State Textbook Commission.

She was also named an Outstanding Communicator in 2005 by the National School Public Relations Association.

For 2007-2008, she was named the Sandhills Region Superintendent of the Year.

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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

ing times to accommodate working adults as a means to broaden the base of potential candidates.

Following the meeting, *The Times* met briefly with Don Welch. He said he changed his mind about not running for election because he feels next year will be very important and exciting.

“I thought it through and, if elected, I feel I can make a contribution,” said Welch.

Lakes & Dams

A teaser for a new series of articles on the importance of maintaining septic systems debuts in this issue of *The Times* [See page 10]. Director Don Truesdell said the Lakes & Dams Committee met with Moore County septic inspectors and have initiated a very informative dialogue.

He reported that Emergency Action Plans [EAP] for the Community’s high hazard dams have been submitted to the State, and he recommended that the Board approve a contract with S&ME to draft an EAP for Timber Dam. While Timber is not currently listed as a high hazard dam, and therefore is exempt from State EAP requirements, Truesdell argued that the dam being reclassified was “not a matter of if but when.”

Almost \$70,000 of the \$100,000 Lakes & Dams budget has been used six months into the fiscal year. Truesdell said the S&ME proposal for Timber Dam was \$7,700, and several stream crossing surveys would need to be completed at an additional cost of approximately \$2,000.

By completing the EAP prior to the State’s requirement, Truesdell said, drawing on his experience overseeing the remediation of Echo Dam, the Association would save up to \$20,000 in unnecessary reports.

After discussion, the Board agreed to review the request during the December Work Session.

Community Standards

“Clean Up Day I feel was successful, and I am most grateful for the hard work of Sue Zeller and Ray Pardue,” said Director Don Welch. “The large pile of

debris at the dump site is a testimony to the pride of the community in cleaning their own yards and helping their neighbors.”

He reported that landowners depositing yard debris on vacant lots could be charged with trespassing and brought before the Judicial Committee.

The Community Standards Committee has received excellent response from landowners cited for violations. Welch said rental properties and absentee owners appear to be the most frequent offenders and the com-

mittee was looking at ways to address the problem.

He reported that a Community Standards booklet, compiled by Nancy Blythe, would be available soon and distributed to new landowners.

Welch reminded members that all unregistered boats and trailers stored at Sequoia Point would be removed after Sunday, November 30 and disposed of by the Association.

Architectural Review

Director Sally Kindsvatter reported two new houses were

approved last month; one was a custom home. The committee also approved two new roofs and a sunroom addition.

Maintenance

In the last few weeks, specifically since Bob Darr was hired as Maintenance Supervisor and detailed records were kept and reported, there has been \$548 in direct costs to the Association because of vandalism.

“There are a couple of bad kids doing some bad stuff and it’s not acceptable,” stormed Director Bud Shaver.

Other recent expenses included replacement of a small copper tube fitting for the backhoe at \$250. Shaver said a member was able to repair the mower used to maintain the dams, and cautioned the Board that a replacement mower will cost approximately \$70,000.

He reported that the Maintenance Building has been renovated and that policies have been put in place requiring equipment to be cleaned after use and before being stored.

The Maintenance Committee

(See “SLLA,” p. 24)



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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 23)

completed an inventory of all equipment valued less than \$2,000, and also a survey of the stables and pasture fencing. The committee is also surveying roads and completing a long range paving plan.

"Progress is being made that hasn't been made in many years and I'm pleased with it," said Shaver.

Acknowledging Hudson's comments regarding the economy, Shaver said the Maintenance Department budget has increased less than six percent over the last nine years.

"If you want the department to do what is needed, you're making it difficult on that kind of budget."

Security

Director Gary Caulk echoed Shaver's comments on vandalism, reporting that two vehicles were broken into. However, it was also reported that on Halloween night, when hundreds of little ghouls and goblins were afoot in the community, not a single incident of vandalism was reported.

Caulk advised residents to keep their vehicles locked and valuables out of sight when

parked in Seven Lakes or elsewhere, and encouraged residents to call their guests into the gates several days in advance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Recreation

Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane reported that the Recreation Committee postponed the decision to purchase playground equipment while they review options and solicit additional bids.

"We want to make sure we buy the right piece and get the best bang for our buck. Don't misunderstand, new playground equipment is priority one for this committee, and we will ask for funding in next year's budget," said Beane.

He also thanked volunteers at the Children's Halloween Carnival, which was a huge success, and Seven Lakes EMS for donating safety glow sticks.

Beautification

Director Sally Kindsvatter thanked her committee and all the volunteers who assisted with cleaning up Sequoia Point. She reported the committee was interested in removing the unused concrete boat ramp located at Sequoia Beach.

Shaver said he had deferred her request and had asked Community Manager Dalton Fulcher to research whether the ramp should be left in place as an ADA-compliant amenity.

Beane recommended the Lakes & Dams and Maintenance Committees meet to discuss the issue in more depth.

Other Items

President Randy Zielsdorf asked members to keep Fulcher in their thoughts and prayers. He was unable to attend the meeting and out of town visiting with his daughter who is undergoing cancer treatment. Steve Hudson also asked for thoughts

and prayers for Jack McCarthy, who is home recuperating from a heart attack and successful quadruple bypass surgery.

Zielsdorf said, as the holidays approach, he encouraged all residents to brighten the season with lights and decorations.

"The lights make for a great family night out. Seven Lakes keeps getting better and better each year," he said.

Judicial Committee Chairman Dave Kinney said the recent appeal of a Judicial Committee decision to the Board of Directors revealed that the Board has no policy in place for handling appeals. He suggested that the Board meet in the im-

mediate future with their attorney to draft a policy.

During the Public Comment period, Ray Ulansey queried the Board on where they stood in response to his request to create an on-line blog and forum for discussion.

Shaver responded that an electronic forum was not without merit; however, with so many things on their plate, the Board has not had time to discuss how to implement his proposal.

Welch agreed. "We have not had another Work Session since your presentation to discuss it. I think it is an excellent idea and I hope to make it a routine thing."

Acoustic Music Circle

McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church invites local musicians to participate in an Acoustic Music Circle on the third Sunday of each month from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the round in the Fellowship Hall. Leading the Circle are Jill McCloy, hammered dulcimer; David McCloy, fiddle; and David McDonald of the April Fools on fiddle and guitar. Music of various genres will be played especially Old-Time and tra-

ditional music of Appalachian, Irish, and Celtic influence. The type of music played will vary depending on the interest and talents of the musicians who attend. Listeners are welcome too, and light refreshments will be served. There is no admission charge. McDonalds Chapel is located at 1374 Foxfire Road, just one mile from Foxfire Village. Contact Amy McDonald at 295-6608 for more information.

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West End Elementary Honor Roll announced

Principal Johnnye Waller and the faculty of West End Elementary School announce that the following students have been named to the distinguished list and honor roll for the first nine weeks grading period.

Kylie McLaughlin, Luke Mear-
es, Liam Nowicki, Adrianna Tay-
lor, Abby Wallace.

Fifth Grade: Noah Allen,
Madeline Anderson, Katie Bach-
man, Cydney Baldwin, Naythan

Batalla, Veronica Batson, Dylan
Blake, Allie Britt, Samuel Cantrell,
Jena Cardenti, Jake Castro-Gio-
vanni, Nicholas Chappell, Neil
Clark, Kelsey Collins, Sarah
Davidson, Cassie Deberry,
Nicholas Dove, Drew Furr, Melis-

sa Garcia, Hailey Gentry, Kain
Godwin, Hunter Goodwin, Amalia
Harsany, Baylee Hinson, Noah
Hoffman, Julia Horton, Chris
Jiang, Sydnie Kavanaugh, Chris-
tian Lance, MacKenzie Lewis,
Lauren Mabe, Sarah Mabe,

Hunter Martin, Brent McDow-
ell, Dylan Mead, Kate Morris,
Kassady Owens, Stevie Pap-
pas, Sean Pollard, Estefanie
Rodriguez, Dameon Scott, Chris-
tian Stepnoski, Helen Szew-
czak, Hunter Williams.

Distinguished List

Fourth Grade: Christopher
Bailey, Jordan Blake, Erin Bridg-
man, Christina Cobos, Joseph
DiPrima, Ashlynn Fitzgerald, Ella
Kate Gilliam, Ramsey Goodwin,
Dominique LeGrande, Conner
Paszko, Tristan Price, Caleb
Robinson, Sydney Shepherd,
Samuel Shutt.

Fifth Grade: Alexandra
Barnes, Ryan Clark, Hannah
Florence, Lauren Goodwin,
Meghan Hamilton, Riley Hamil-
ton, Chloe Hoffman, Ethan
Horne, Evan Jingle, Carson
Maples, Zach Martinez, Miran-
da Miller, Gillian Munro, Con-
nor Nicholson, Mikayla Niewald,
Leydy Renteria, Clay Richardson,
Sophie Romaine, Nathaniel
Skoog, Pierce Strayer, Paul Von
Hardenberg, Michelle Wenerd,
Drew Williams, Sam Williams.

B Honor Roll

Fourth Grade: Alan Alvarez,
Kaycie Atherton, Seth Camp-
bell, Sabrina Chambers, Alicia
Cox, Christopher Cox, Elizabeth
Cox, Alyssa Drake, Matthew
Garner, Elisha Harrington,
Nicholas Mabe, Abigail Martin,

SLLA Recreation Adult Dance Classes

Seven Lakes Dance is offer-
ing a Friday night Adult Class,
from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm, at
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ter at Seven Lakes North.
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OPINION

\$700 billion. How many brownies is that?

My Summer was all about that lucky number eight; but, these days I can't seem to avoid 700. You know, as in \$700 billion!

Yikes, I'll muse, that sounds like a lot of money. I mean a million is plenty so a billion is what, like twice that?

As usual, my math skills are lacking so I decided to look it up: Turns out a billion is either a thousand million or a million millions depending on which country's system you use — or trust, for that matter.

Luckily, with a second grader in the house, I have access to a wonderful set of reference materials to explain such abstract concepts. According to the

weighty tome, how much is a billion? I've learned that if a billion kids made a human tower they would stand up past the moon and a sports stadium could hold a billion goldfish.

More helpful was the page detailing how if you started counting today, you'll reach a billion in about ninety-five years.

That's a lot of counting!

Darling Hubby, scion of a high school math teacher and all-around numbers whiz, has a

much more tactile understanding of a billion especially after he spent the better part of last week sorting Jack's immense Lego collection into twenty-six differ-

ent bins, by size and function.
[An Open Letter to Santa - Dear Sir: Please inform the elves we're all set for plastic blocks this year. Cordially, Jack's Mom]



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

But the real question is where is this magic \$700 billion going to come from? Personally, I'd recommend yard sales and baked goods: they're always popular with the neighbors and some specialty items would probably market well. Let's see, how about Fannie Mae fruitcake, Bailout brownies, and some Sour-no-dough bread? And don't forget some Paulson punch on your way out the door.

If the inside-the-beltway DC crowd gets really ambitious, golf tournaments are another golden opportunity. They could call it Mulligan's for Millions or maybe Golf Fore Debt-Free America. Don't we have a club around

these parts called National? A perfect fit, I say.

But, of course, this is the U.S. economy after all, so perhaps we'll be better off by tackling this problem in the manner we're accustomed to — throw it on the credit card.

I mean what's the problem paying \$2,000 or so a piece when you've got cash back rewards? That'll rack up at least a buck or so. And just imagine all the Disney Visa points Congress could earn on \$700 billion?

Which all reminds me of one of Jack's favorite jokes, What do you call infinity plus infinity plus one?

"Two infinity and beyond!"

Raise dues? How about looking for savings?

During the annual meeting this past March, I made the statement that whomever was voted onto the new board should look at the budget. A budget takes you from the beginning to the end of the fiscal year.

We are now in a bad economy that is causing many money problems for a lot of landowners and yet at the October open meeting, Mr. Galford mentioned wanting a dues increase about four times.

He stated that there were requests for over \$229,000 in extra money for next year. He never did give a list of items wanted, so many landowners

wonder what he has in the form of requests? But instead of a dues increase, why not go over the budget and look for ways to save money.

Just look at what the Country Club has done. They have a hiring freeze, no raises, and no bonuses. We have over \$6,500 in bonuses in Mr. Fulcher's budget. When I reported bonuses to the community last year, Mr. Zielsdorf said that he thought that the time had come to stop them. What about now? Other areas include IRA contributions over \$9,000 not to mention that we landowners pay eighty percent of the employees' health

insurance!

All one has to do is to look around at the local, state, or national news to see how things are. Many companies have had salary cuts, no raises, and offering health coverage but with no company involvement. Things are not good with the economy, yet our board still wants to spend money instead of saving it.

Mr. Caulk, in the October 16 work session, wants the board

to pay for an employee Christmas party! How about doing away with the \$6,500 in bonuses and giving a gift certificate for a meal

board put a stop to this?

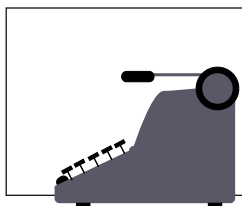
One part of the Community Manager's job is to supervise the maintenance department. Dalton Fulcher has been in charge of this for over twenty years, yet now the board had to hire Bob Darr, who has done an outstanding job, to do Mr. Fulcher's job and get maintenance in line. Just a simple question: shouldn't Bob Darr's salary come out of Mr. Fulcher's pay?

These are but a few of the problems or examples in the budget that the board could look into. There are many more. Shouldn't we have budget cuts instead of dues increases? Again, with the economy in the shape it's in, will the board look after the landowners?

PS: You haven't even looked into resurfacing the roads, have you?

Your Turn

Steve Hudson
Seven Lakes North



at a nice restaurant? Or at the Country Club. From the looks of things, the Country Club could sure use the money.

Our Community Manager will tell you that he is for the employees. Each year, he puts in for a four, five, or six percent salary increases or raises plus money for bonuses. Isn't it time the

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Letters to the Editor



Your letters welcome!

The Times welcomes letters from our readers, and we print most all we receive. You will need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached. We accept letters delivered by e-mail, fax, or the US Postal Service. Or you can drop your letter off at our office in the Seven Lakes Business Village.

RSVP honors top volunteers

Eighteen individuals or groups were nominated this year in Moore County for the thirtieth anniversary of the North Carolina Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

The top five nominees were announced at a Volunteer Recognition Breakfast held October 16 at the Senior Enrichment Center. The breakfast was sponsored by RSVP [Retired and Senior Volunteer Program] and emceed by Al Mangum of Life 103.1 FM.

The winners were Communities in Schools, nominated by Aberdeen Elementary School; Mena Holloway, nominated by Habitat for Humanity; Dot Greenwood, nominated by League of Women Voters of Moore County; Gerald Galloway, nominated by United Way; and Barbara Coleman, nominated by Moore

County Department of Social Services.

Coleman was awarded the local Volunteer Medallion and her name will be submitted to a statewide panel that will evaluate entries and select twenty recipients from the state for the State Medallion Award.

In addition, RSVP honored their volunteers for greatest number of years of service and greatest number of total hours.

Honorees were Ernie Hanford with twenty years; Ethel Hurley with seventeen years; Era Mae Rickman with sixteen years; and Rosemary Ouelette with fifteen years.

Patricia Finnerty has 4,980 hours; Dick Wolstenholme with 4,743 hours; Joan Wolstenholme with 4,612 hours; and Marion Sharkany with 4,498 hours.

Special Thanksgiving Service

A special Thanksgiving Service will be held Sunday, November 23 at 7:00 pm at Bensalem Presbyterian Church, located at 2891 Bensalem Church Road in Eagle Springs. Rev. Wes Brandon will preach and Revs. Myron and Barbara Dice will serve as worship leaders.

A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. A love offering will be taken to support local mission projects.

Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

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Priorities

Sooner or later, the inevitable question pokes its nose into our lives: what and where are our priorities at this very moment and will be for the remainder of our existence? To what extent does our ability to love need to be strengthened and how can friendships be deepened for the benefit of both parties?

Have all my years enabled me to sit back and continually muse about experiences long past? Or, God willing, is there more to learn, like familiarizing myself with

how to help those whose need for compassionate assistance is ever present and greater than our own?

A goal certainly worth achieving is to be able to offer yourself. In my case, in however amateurish way I may be at it.

We all know persons who can gently reach out when they sense that someone needs encouragement. Caring is simply part of their makeup, frequently traceable to their upbringing.

We should thank God that we can be instilled with a "feel" for the need of others. There is no greater joy than to fulfill His wish for us.

Yes, time after time gratitude can emerge from some form of heart-based support.

It's sort of like lifting our soul upon hearing the sheer happiness emanating from the throat of a songbird just outside our kitchen window.

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Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

"I think we all agree about a tax-neutral budget, but we may need to look beyond that to reducing some taxes."

McSwain quickly assured Melton that "tax-neutral" was only a starting point and that he would indeed be looking for ways to reduce the tax burden on Moore County property owners as he prepared the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget.

Last year, both the manager and the commissioners had contemplated a tax increase of as much as 9 cents per \$100 of valuation. But, as the budgeting process wound down, that figure began to shrink, ultimately to a 2.9 cents.

County property owners currently pay 47.9 cents per hundred, an additional 2.5 cent to fund EMS services, plus additional property taxes that vary by fire district and municipality.

Time to cut the budget

County Manager Cary McSwain shared with Commissioners during their November 3 meeting a letter to the county staff that described cost-cutting measures to be implemented immediately.

McSwain said the economic slowdown makes revenue shortfalls likely. He noted that the state has in the past responded to its own cash flow problems by delaying or withholding tax payments due to the counties.

Acting now to cut expenses, before any actual shortfalls occur, McSwain said, would help avoid more painful cutbacks later.

The county's cost-cutting measures included:

- Leaving vacant positions unfilled for at least thirty days and up to 120 days at the dis-

cretion of the manager.

- Reducing overtime — unless it can be used to save the cost of adding personnel.
- Putting a hold on capital projects where that can be done without cost to the county. All projects are frozen until January, when they will be reviewed based on their importance and the state of the economy.
- Revisiting the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget, department by department, to see which programs and expenditures can be eliminated with the least impact on citizens.
- Increasing scrutiny of a variety of on-going expenditures, including those for fuel, cell-phone use, use of county vehicles, energy costs.

McSwain encouraged each county employee to look for opportunities to reduce expenses and to share those with their supervisor.

McKenzie's advice

Board Chairman Colin McKenzie, who will end his twelve year career on the Board at the end of the month, had his own suggestions for addressing the county's financial future and noted he was particularly concerned about the county's ability to build a new jail and administrative building.

McKenzie suggested going out for new bids on an extensive government software package that the board has had under consideration for a couple of months. The original request for proposal [RFP] generated only one bid, which appeared to make McKenzie and some other commissioners uneasy.

McKenzie suggested revising the RFP in house and seeking

new bids, noting that "under the present economic conditions, I believe we will get more than two bids and a much better contract price."

Turning to the county employee health insurance policy, McKenzie called the current bid process "the best example of the fox guarding the hen house I've ever witnessed."

He complained that, during the last budget cycle, the staff presentation was being completed just as the meeting got underway in which commissioners were to be asked to vote on the plan.

He encouraged county staff to prepare and RFP now and allow it to be reviewed by the county's

Government Efficiency Advisory Board before it is sent out for bids.

Finally, McKenzie said the budgeting process during the past two years has brought information to the commissioners too close to the June 30 deadline for approval.

"I've been here twelve years, and, to the best of my knowledge,

we have never been up against the wire for time as we have the last two years."

He urged the County Manager and staff to get budget projections into the hands of commissioners earlier so that they have time to study the recommendations before voting.

(See "Commissioners," p. 29)



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Commissioners

(Continued from page 28)

Veterans Office

The ongoing war on terrorism is increasing daily the number of veterans and the backlog of benefits claims filed with the Veterans Administration, Moore County Veterans Service Officer George Hunt told the Commissioners during their November 3 meeting.

Hunt was making his office's annual report to the Board, which is traditionally done in the meeting just prior to Veteran's Day.

Hunt said the nationwide backlog of Veteran's claims for benefits now totals 830,000, with 35,000 of those in the Winston-Salem regional office. The Moore County Veterans Office assists local veterans in filing and expediting review of their claims, a task that involved 6,491 office visits and 7,577 phone calls in the

past year.

Moore County's 10,614 veterans received \$24.5 million in VA benefits last year, Hunt reported.

The three member local office moved to new quarters in the Ayers Building this year which gave them a waiting room and private offices in which to interview clients. A key future goal for both the local office and the VA as a whole is using computerization to move to a paperless system of filing and tracking claims.

A new priority for the office is establishing a local program to assist homeless vets. Over the past year the office assisted six homeless veterans, three of which had families. Currently, they are transported to Fayetteville, which has a temporary shelter and a program that can

help the veteran find a job. Hunt said he hopes to be able to establish a local shelter for the same purpose.

Hunt said additional funding will be required to bring the Veterans Memorial in Carthage up to date by adding the names of 5,000 additional veterans. Currently, the memorial displays the names of 7,303 veterans and another 162 who were killed in action.

Other Business

In other business the Commissioners:

- Approved a resolution required in the application process for a \$650,000 grant from the North Carolina Rural Center to help fund infrastructure improvements that will bring county water to the Stonehill Pines subdivision planned near Foxfire. Public Works

Director said the projected \$2.5 million cost of the project, which includes water lines, water tanks, and new wells near Pinehurst, will be born by the developer. The grant is based on a pledge by the developer to create sixty-five full time jobs.

- Appointed Commissioner Cindy Morgan the Board's representative in the NC Association of County Commis-

sioners process of developing legislative goals to be forwarded to the General Assembly.

- Learned that the Moore County Finance Office has for the twentieth year in a row received a commendation for excellence in financial reporting from the County Government Finance Officers Association.

Election

(Continued from page 2)

with 58 percent of the vote.

Republican Tim Lea ran unopposed to retain his District IV seat on the County Board of Commissioners, and Republican Nick Picerno was also unopposed in the General Election as he sought to replace Chairman Colin McKenzie in the District II spot.

In the Judicial races, Moore County falls into court District 19B, which found Marcie Quist of Southern Pines and Rob Wilkins of Asheboro competing for the post. Though Quist won Moore County 58 percent to 42 percent, Wilkins won the district-wide contest 56 percent to 44 percent.

Moore Countians voted for

former NC House Speaker and District 52 Representative Richard Morgan over incumbent Superintendent of Public Instruction June St. Clair Atkinson, but Atkinson prevailed in the statewide contest.

About half of all North Carolina voters marked the straight

party ticket, and 59 percent of those who did so voted for the Democrats.

Roughly half of Moore Countians also went for the straight party line, but 57 percent of those voted for Republicans.



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West Side

(Continued from front page)

percent chance of survival, with very little chance of heart or brain damage. But the odds drop rapidly with each additional minute between the attack and treatment. After nine minutes, the chance of survival drops below fifty percent, with a substantial likelihood of damage to the heart and brain.

Spong, who lives in Seven Lakes North, said it took him six minutes to drive from his home to the Community Center for the meeting, noting that it would be very difficult for Seven Lakes or Moore County EMS to make a quicker trip from their Northside base.

Placing an AED in the Community Center, he explained, could literally be the difference between life and death for a resident or guest who suffered a heart attack while attending a community function in the facility. The \$1,500 units — a little large than a laptop computer or school lunchbox — are nearly completely automated. As soon as the case is opened, a loud, clear human voice begins issuing operating instructions, repeating them if necessary until the operator gets it right.

What is actually required of the operator is minimal — essentially just removing clothing from the victim chest, opening up a sealed packet containing two adhesive pads and applying them to the victims chest, and then stepping back. The unit checks for a heartbeat. Finding none, it administers the electrical charge to restart the victims heart. If a heartbeat is present; the unit will not deliver the shock.

Project HeartSmart has

installed one hundred units in locations throughout the county so far, with forty-four installed in Moore County Public Schools. Every school in the county now has at least one unit, Spong said.

Units have been delivered to Seven Lakes Country Club, the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, and West End Presbyterian Church, but are still not available at Beacon Ridge Country Club, the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse, or West Side Park Community Center.

Spong said Pinehurst Resort has placed units in start houses and halfway houses on all its golf course, as well as on the carts of its rangers — making it probably the safest place in Moore County to have a heart attack. Las Vegas casinos, DisneyWorld, and US airports have all bought into the technology, he noted.

The \$1,500 cost of the unit, which lists for \$2,395 includes \$200 that goes into a Project HeartSmart fund that will be used to maintain the units. Moore County EMS is working with the project sponsors to map the locations of all the AEDs in the county and plans to inspect them twice yearly to make sure they are working properly.

Board members in attendance at the Work Session expressed support for acquiring one or more units, though whether to place them at the Community Center, the gatehouse, or Johnson Point all seemed up for debate.

"I feel we definitely need one or two or three," President Mary Anne Fewkes said, pledging to consider the matter further in

next Tuesday's budget work session.

Fee schedule

President Fewkes opened a discussion of SLWLA user fees by noting that the topic is one that often gets overlooked in the larger budget planning process. The Association allows some community organizations to utilize its facilities at no charge, but charges for private use of Johnson Point, the Great Room, and other spaces, with non-residents and commercial users paying a higher rate than SLWLA members.

In response to a question from Fewkes. Community Manager Tony Robertson estimated that, overall, about seventy percent of those renting SLWLA spaces are community members.

Board members first focused on their concerns that some members of the community may

reserve facilities for a "private party" that is actually a business or marketing get-together. Both Fewkes and Legal Director Ed Silberhorn said they had firsthand knowledge of such abuse of the system.

After some discussion Board members agreed to develop a form that would require the landowners renting the space to certify that it is for private, non-commercial use. They also agreed to raise fees for commercial and non-member use of Johnson Point from \$150 to \$150 for the use of one gazebo, \$250 for the use of two of \$300 for the use of the whole site.

Turning to the use of the Great Room, Fewkes told her fellow directors that, in some instances, individuals have reserved the Great Room for, for example, a wedding reception, and then "sit on that reservation and shop around for another hall." Once

they have found an alternative site, they cancel with the SLWLA late in the game, costing the Association rental revenues.

After discussion, the Board approved a policy change that will require payment of a \$300 deposit for the Great Room when the reservation is made — even if that is a year in advance — and will mandate that half of that deposit be forfeited if the reservation is cancelled within sixty days of the event.

Turning to other uses of Community Center spaces, Director Silberhorn asked the Board to consider changing the current policy of not charging a rental fee to providers of Recreation Committee sponsored classes when those instructors charge a fee to participants. For example, the SLWLA Recreation Committee has recently added classes in Yoga and Tai Chi, sponsors

(See "Westside" p. 31)

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West Side

(Continued from page 30)

Cooking with Carmella, and has just begun Flip and Fit tumbling exercises for children — all of which charge participants a fee.

Silberhorn said he understood the Recreation Committee's position to be that it can be difficult to attract the providers of such classes and that any facilities rental fees charged by the Association will be passed along to class participants. Noting that some of those classes result in increased insurance costs for the Association for the benefit of only a few members, Silberhorn said he felt it is "unfair for the Association to subsidize that."

Both Silberhorn and Director Ron Shepard suggested that any fee charged to instructors should be relatively modest—in the \$25 to \$40 range.

Because Recreation Director Karen Milligan was unable to attend Tuesday's Work Session, both Silberhorn and Robertson suggested that any decision on the matter be deferred until the November 18 Special Budget Work Session, and other members of the Board concurred.

After the Board had spent roughly forty-five minutes discussing the Fee Schedule, President Fewkes, noting that there were a number of matters to be discussed in executive session, brought a halt to the discussion, asking that it be continued on November 18.

Public Hearings

The Board gave preliminary approval to a bylaws revision that would implement public hearings on upcoming decisions "of significant interest to the membership." In accordance with SLWLA Rules and Regulations, the Board will accept public comment on the amendment before giving it final approval.

Ed Silberhorn presented the

amendment, drafted in part in response to a *Seven Lakes Times* editorial that recommended to both Seven Lakes landowners associations the use of formal public hearings in connection with major decisions like the Lake Auman dam remediation or the hiring of a community management company.

The revise bylaw Article V, Section 3 would allow a majority of the Board to designate a particular item as "one of significant interest to the community." Items so designated would be open for public comment at two Board meetings before the Board finalizes any decision on the matter. Should an emergency decision be required on a matter of significant interest, a two-thirds vote of the Board could override the public comment requirement.

"We have always had member comments at our Board meetings," Silberhorn said, in presenting the amendment, "and we have always had a second meeting at night for the members. I think we have done well in allowing for public input, but we can always do better."

"We are trying to be as transparent as possible," President Fewkes added. "There will be times that we are going to be faulted for not doing so, but we are trying to do our best."

The Board unanimously approved the first reading of the amendment, which will be open for public comment at work sessions and general meetings until January.

Other business

In other business the Board:

- Heard from President Fewkes that she and Gerhard Hergenbahn had attended a Work Session of the Moore County Board of Commissioners to propose a land swap, in which

a half-acre county owned well site on the West side would be exchanged for an Association site currently used for a county radio antenna. Commissioners asked Public Works staff for more information on the value of each property, Fewkes explained. "This will be moving, but it will be slow moving, I am sure, so don't hold your breath," she added.

- Because Treasurer Kathy Kirst was not able to attend Tuesday's meeting, deferred questions regarding financial reports to the November 18 Special Work Session.

- Heard concerns from Director Ray MacKay that Community Association Services, Inc. [CAS] had not met the terms of its contract by failing to provide by October 31 a projection of 2009-2010 administrative costs. MacKay asked what sanctions

would be imposed on CAS, noting that President Fewkes is responsible for administering the contract. Reporting that the cost estimates were now in hand, Fewkes said the Association was responsible for the delay and added that, in her view, CAS was not in violation of the contract.

- Heard from Environmental Director Mick Herdrich that the Association is still waiting for state approval of remediation plans for the Lake Auman dam. Herdrich said the relevant division of the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources Engineers had recently experienced staff cuts and personnel turnover which had delayed the approval. Fewkes said three state engineers currently had seventy dams on their agenda. "We are not a high pri-

ority because our dam is not in danger of breaching," she added.

- Heard from Security Director Blaine Rowland that Sheriff's deputies report a decrease in the number of West Side speeders.

- Heard from Architectural Review Director Ron Shepard that he had met once and was scheduled to meet again with developer Bob Van Houten to review the proposed rewrite of the SLWLA Architectural Standards. Once the developer's revisions are incorporated, Shepard said, the document will again be offered for public comment and Board approval.

- Heard from Legal Director Ed Silberhorn that Superior Court Judge James Webb had heard on November the Association's motion for summary judgement in the Terrill lawsuit.

(See "West Side," p. 32)

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Foxfire

(Continued from front page)

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"Our goal is to be a great neighbor to the town of Foxfire and Moore County," said Justice. "We want to make this a very special place that you can be proud of."

Justice said their first step will be construction of a \$3.3 million water system. In April 2008, the Council approved a resolution allowing Moore County to provide the project with water with the understanding that a water line to the development will also be extended to the Village's water system.

In addition to providing a potential link to county water at a substantial savings to the Village, if approved, annexation of Stonehill Pines would increase the tax base for Foxfire Village, provide employment opportunities for county residents, and, the Council hopes, enhance the image of Foxfire as a quality residential and recreational community.

While no specific plan details were available or any questions allowed, Erickson said there would be plenty of opportunities to learn a great deal more about the project in upcoming Foxfire Planning Board meetings.

Leslie Frusco appointed to Council

Leslie Frusco, a Certified Public Accountant [CPA] and four

year resident of Foxfire was appointed to the Council and sworn in as Finance Officer during the Tuesday, November 11 meeting. She replaces longtime Councilman Wally Peckitt, who announced his resignation last month.



Leslie Frusco

Frusco is President of the Foxfire Property Owners Association

and past treasurer of the Foxfire Ladies Golf Association. She has an MBA and eighteen years of corporate accounting experience. She and her husband, Jack, relocated from Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and she is currently a self-employed CPA.

Mayor Erickson said Frusco had met on several occasions with him and Peckitt and they both agreed she is the right person for the job.

Peckitt also served as the Foxfire Village Mayor Pro Tem. Councilman Ed Lauer was invited to fill the position and was sworn in on November 11.

Woodland Circle Extension

Tom Collins reported Foxfire has received approval to finance the project and must award the contract in the next 120 days.

"Over the last few months the financial collapse has hurt a number of parties but I assure

you the major property owners associated with the project are not concerned," said Collins. "They are concerned it won't get built."

Collins said with the blessing of the property owners and their signed and documented authority to assess the project, a solid set of plans and specifications, and a contract in hand for \$300,000 under the engineer's estimate, he implored the Council, "Let's get this project underway, Mr. Mayor."

Finance

Councilwoman Frusco reported the General Fund at \$158,000; Water Fund at \$300,000, including a substantial amount from loan proceeds budgeted towards construction of two new wells; and \$135,000 in an escrow restricted fund.

She said funds advanced to
(See "Foxfire" p. 33)

West Side

(Continued from page 31)

Silberhorn said he is hoping for a ruling before Christmas. Even if Webb finds in the Association's favor, however, that will not resolve all aspects of the suit, though it will improve the SLWLA negotiating position.

- Heard from Silberhorn that he has worked with CAS to develop a three-stage collection process aimed at securing payment from landowners who are delinquent in their dues payments.

- Heard from President Fewkes that developer Bob Van Houten had, at his request, been made a member of the Dam

Committee.

- Discussed a revision to the rules and regulations that would allow the Association to issue fines for minor offenses without resorting to a full review by the Judicial Panel, which would be brought into the matter only if the fine were contested. Board members were asked to develop a list of minor infractions within their areas of responsibility for consideration at a future meeting.

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Sophisticated,
or Downright Silly . . .

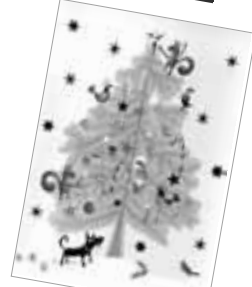


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Foxfire

(Continued from page 32)
the Woodland Circle Extension project were \$227,000 and payments on two annual bank loans were \$30,000 and \$41,000 respectively.

Water

Councilman Lauer reported the Village continues to negotiate for land purchase and is in the process of developing several new wells to mitigate radium levels.
Regarding the adjusted water rates for Condo Buildings A and C, Lauer explained that the buildings were overlooked during a rate adjustment last Summer and have now been brought in-line with standard rates. The buildings have a single water meter – however if desired, condo owners could have individual meters installed at their expense.
“Everything is being assessed in as equal and fair way, to the best we can do it,” said Lauer.

Streets

Jokingly calling himself “The Sandman,” Councilman Vic Koos said several Village roads lack shoulders or ditches which results in sand collecting in the roadway. He said this creates both a cosmetic and safety problem.
Koos said he has been removing the sand, by the shovel full, and relocating it to a project at his home as well as for fill at the Village Green Park.
He encouraged residents to call him, “If you have a need for sand, I’ll bring it to you. Free of cost!”
Zoning
Zoning Administrator Mimi Ainsworth reported two townhouses sold in the previous month, and one application was received for a single family residence.

Parks

Reporting for the Parks Committee, Ainsworth said the North Carolina Parks and Trust Foundation [PARTF] grant application will be resubmitted with a petition signed by residents asking for the funding. This is a unique and original idea that the committee hopes will achieve a good result next year. She encouraged all Village residents and others who use the pool

and tennis courts to consider signing the petition.
Planning
Planning Director Craig Ramey said his committee has identified several conflicts between Village ordinances and property in the ETJ under Residential Agricultural [RA] zoning. Specifically he said the committee sought attorney review of those sections concerning unpaved roads on equestrian properties and to define what types of domestic farm animals are acceptable.
The committee also recommended the Village’s park and pool areas should be classified

as recreational districts to preserve assets and limit major residential development in their immediate areas.
Ramey said Tom Collins had reviewed the ordinances and suggested a soils report, storm water management plan, performance bond, pavement design plan, and other supporting materials should be required of any proposed major subdivisions.
According to Collins, if the pavement of a road is not designed for the specific soil substrate, it will deteriorate. He believes this is why some east-side Village roads are deteriorating rapidly.

Public Safety

Councilwoman Page Coker thanked coordinator Tommy McCaskill and participants of a recent CPR and First Aid course offered through the Village CERT program. A repeat class will be scheduled next year.
Action Items
In other business:
• The Council approved a contract with Municipal Code Corporation, not to exceed \$11,925 to review and update Village ordinances for compliance with the laws of North Carolina, and to organize and revise the Table of Contents, and provide both printed and

electronic versions.
• The PUD Quality Assurance Team, with membership consisting of Tom Collins, Neil Smith Engineering, Hydrostructures, an engineering consulting firm, and Village’s attorney, was approved. The team will work with Village staff to review the Stonehill Pines PUD application.
• The Council resolved to allow Moore County to enforce the new Animal Control Ordinance.
• A Special Meeting will be held Wednesday, November 19 at 2:00 pm, at Town Hall.



Susan T. Adams

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116 Cottage Grove. Spectacular waterview house across from Lake Sequoia. Two master suites, three bedrooms, two baths, open floor plan, Carolina rm, fireplace, and a beautifully landscaped yard. **\$249,000**



137 Sunset Way. This lovely home in the gated community of Seven Lakes North has three bedrooms, two baths, Carolina Room, large kitchen, double car garage and a workshop under the house. Many extra features . . . **Only \$199,000**



4155 Big Oak Church Rd. Commercial buildings with over six acres. Office complex has 8 offices upstairs and 12 offices on the main floor. Conference room and kitchen area. The second building is a renovated gym, complete with office spaces, baths and manufacturing area. Equipped with fire and burglar alarms, T1 phone lines hard wired to every office, access to 3 phase wiring and has a 400 amp automated generator **\$1,050,000**

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132 Andrews Circle **\$84,500**
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\$1200 per month + utilities.
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Seven Lakes Times
November 14, 2008

CLASSIFIEDS

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ELECTRIC LIFT CHAIR – Blue upholstery, like new. Used for short time. Asking \$225. Call 673-0180. *1tp \$ 11/14*

ROCHESTER VISTA PRINT – singed & numbered. As is - best offer. Shelves - five units, 68"x29" in wood like finish: \$15 each. Women's Takar Outback multi-speed bike in very good cond: \$75. Like new computer table: \$25. Call 673-7674 & leave number.

TODDLER GIRLS CLOTHES - 24 months & 2T (very good cond.) All for \$35. Infant girl toys (very reasonable) White Simmons baby w/removable canopy (like new) \$125. Call 910-635-6641 or 910-639-2013. *1tc 11/14*

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FIREWOOD FOR SALE – Pick-up load, cut to desirable length, \$65. Iraq Vet would appreciate your business. Call 639-4969 or 428-1950.

R U MOVING? – We have large boxes, 20"x15"x10". \$1.00 each. Contact Classical Conversations at 910-687-0267, 314 Grant Street, Unit E, 7 Lakes.

MATTRESS SALE – Pillow top sets All New Mattresses. Full-size \$200. Queen size \$225, King size \$300. Luxury Queen & King sets all below half price. Clearing from warehouse facility. 910-639-9555. *1tc 5/30*

HEADSTONES AND PET MARKERS - all sizes. Also installing death dates. 639-4084.

FOR RENT STORAGE BUILDINGS

8000 SQ. FT WAREHOUSE FOR DISTRIBUTOR – or manufacturing. Located on Hwy 211, West End. Call Owner/Broker @ 910-315-6300.

HILLCREST MINI WAREHOUSE, LLC — Affordable storage in Seven Lakes. Units are located at 351 Grant Street, across from K.R. Mace Electric. Unit sizes – 10x10, 10x20. Units have lighting. Call 910-673-7320 for rental information. Urgent calls may be directed to 910-690-6491.

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

1.85 ACRES GOLF FRONT SL SOUTH – 112 Cambridge Ln., panoramic golf views, walk to club house, 3,300 SF + full lower level, lots of storage, huge garage, HW, granite, high end features. \$424,000. www.TammyLyne.com FrontGate-Pinnock Properties 910-603-5300.

LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT LOTS – 2 beautiful lots, 110 & 112 Dennis Cr, fairly level, mature pines, deep water cove, septic permit, \$250,000 & \$260,000 or buy both at discount, owner is ready to sell! www.TammyLyne.com FrontGate-Pinnock Properties 910-603-5300.

WATERVIEW LOT LAKE AUMAN – 158 Otter Dr., septic permit in file \$65,000; **SEVEN LAKES SOUTH** – 102 Tiverton, corner lot, septic permit & 103 Lancashire, very private, septic permit \$26,500 each or buy all great building lots at discount! www.TammyLyne.com FrontGate-Pinnock Properties 910-603-5300.

CEDAR LOG HOMES – 6x8 Tongue & Grove Cedar Logs; Best Insulation. Many Plans or Custom Designs. **Whelan Realty, LLC** 1008 Seven Lakes Drive, www.WhehanRealty.com Call 910-673-1818.

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CONDOS FOR RENT – \$475 - \$875. Condos for sale. \$129,000 - \$169,900. Broker/Owner 910-585-0363.

SL NORTH – 3BR/2BA, 2-car garage. \$950/mo + dep. + ref. Call 910-400-5112 or 910-783-6841.

7-LAKES WEST WATERFRONT HOME FOR RENT – 3BD/2BA w/Carolina Rm & Wonderful Views. Asking \$2,000 a month & will accommodate Short or Long Term Lease. Pets Negotiable Call Christy@Edwards Real Estate for more Information at (910)673-1884.

7 LAKES WEST HOME FOR RENT – one level brick 3BR/2BA office, dining \$1600/2,500 sq ft plus utilities no pets or smoking 2 car garage. Call 673-3471.

FOXFIRE 2BR/2BA GOLF FRONT/WATER VIEW – furnished inclds cable TV, water & trash pick-up \$700 plus, \$700 sec dep. Call 673-3471.

FOXFIRE LOFT – single bedroom \$525. \$525+utilities deposit, no pets. Call 255-0092.

HOME FOR RENT SEVEN LAKES NORTH – 3 BR, 2.5 BA, sun room, fire place, 2 car garage, 1.5 acre, walk to lake & park, \$1300 plus utilities per month. Contact: John Williams 910-992-6318.

SEVEN LAKES NORTH (2)HOUSES FOR SALE OR RENT – or lease option. 2BR no garage - \$875/mo or \$135,000. 3BR/2BA w/2 car garage, \$1050/mo or \$165,000. Call 910-639-9123.

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 AVAILABLE - 2 spaces, 720 square feet each, first floor, water included. Lease and Security deposit required. Call 673-4800.

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

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Project Linus celebrates the publication of their "Heartwarming Recipes," a hardback, tabbed collection of 250 tried and true recipes from the kitchens of Project Linus Seven Lakes Workshop Blanketeers and Featured Contributor Lucy Ingram.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Seven Lakes Times
November 14, 2008

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CA SCREEN & FENCE – screened in porches, screen repairs. Eze-Breeze Porch and Garage Enclosures let you have a screened in porch in the summer and an enclosed porch the rest of the year with vinyl sliding panels. Pull down shades for screened in porches. Area dealer for Phantom Retractable Screens. Free estimates, 910-603-1636.

EQUESTRIAN FENCES & RIDING RINGS – equestrian jumps – wood-vinyl-aluminum fences. Free estimates, call CA Screen & Fence 603-1636.

TWO LADY TEAM – will do basic or major house cleaning. Contact Cathy or Tonya @ 910-571-2261, 910-220-1707 or 910-428-1931, if no answer leave a message. *2tp\$ 10/31*

PERSONALIZED PET-CARE – Mid-day walking/care available. Marie 295-0016.

HAPPY TAILS PET SITTING – Bonded, Registered Veterinary Technician to care for your beloved pets. Call for your free consultation 910-638-4584.

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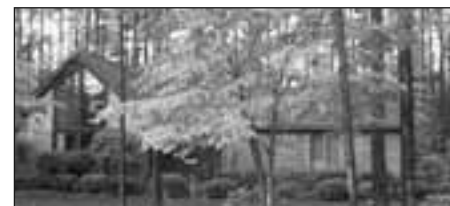
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Lot 4 Foxfire Road
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138 Andrews Drive, 7 Lakes West
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121 Harwich, 7 Lakes South
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46 South Shamrock, Foxfire
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110 Otter Ct, 7 Lakes West
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TBD Richmond Rd, Foxfire
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