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Volume 24 Number 9

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

March 6, 2009

## Contract will pay Fulcher \$75,550

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Community Manager Dalton Fulcher released to *The Times* on Tuesday a copy of his employment contract with the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA].

The contract provides that Fulcher will retire on December 31, 2009 and will be paid \$75,550 during 2010 as a consultant to the Association.

Fulcher released the contract after *The Times* reported its \$75,500 value on Monday, based on information provided by former SLLA Director Ed Nuti. The story was published on *The Times* website at [www.sevenlakes-times.net](http://www.sevenlakes-times.net).

times.net.

Nuti said Fulcher had shown him a copy of the contract.

The text of Fulcher's contract is printed on page 25 of this issue, alongside a statement from SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf that explains the Board's approach to managing Fulcher's retirement and the transition to new community management.

Fulcher announced in October that he would retire at the end of 2009; Zielsdorf announced in late January the existence of a consulting contract that would pay Fulcher a small monthly retainer.

"He will no longer be an  
(See "Contract," p. 24)

## Seven Lakes needs one voice on water

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Everyone agrees: Seven Lakes is vulnerable when it comes to 'big picture' issues within Moore County -- in particular, our future water supply.

"If this area doesn't organize and push for water, the Pinehurst area will take over," reported Dalton Fulcher, community manager of Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA]. "That is to say, Pinehurst has been very forceful pushing for water and sewer at the Board of Commissioners. We too, need to

develop an organization to be competitive in the water system to make sure we get what need. This is a rich area for growth."

Fulcher's recommendation to the Board of Directors during the Wednesday, February 25 Open Meeting, was in response to a meeting of the Seven Lakes Civic Group, with guest speaker Nick Picerno, Chair of the County Commissioners, and the recently signed Interlocal Agreement between the Towns of Robbins and Pinehurst.

Southsider Dave Kinney, Pres-  
(See "SLLA," p. 30)

## Clowning Around



Savannah Dwiggins, Alexa Giovanni, Sara Renfrew, & Taylor St. Onge had a great time meeting Ronald McDonald at the new Seven Lakes McDonald's. [Michelle Bolton photo]

## Westside debates fee hikes

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Concern about increase in Westside fees -- particularly for guest use of the swimming pool -- dominated the public comment segment of the February 24 meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA].

Former SLWLA Treasurer Lois Rocco, after praising the Direc-

tors for the time and energy they devote to the community, urged the Board to revisit their decision to increase fees for pool guests and to treat the non-resident children and grandchildren of Westsiders as "guests."

Last year's fee schedule exempted non-resident children and grandchildren from guest fees. In the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Fee Schedule, approved by

the Board late last year, that exemption has been eliminated, and guest fees have been increased significantly: from \$2 to \$5 for a daily pass, and from \$25 for an annual pass good for four guests to \$200 for an annual pass that includes 120 visits to the pool. The new fee schedule also includes seven-visit and thirty-visit passes that cost  
(See "Westside," p. 27)

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# Promote your business at Chili Cook Off

by Kim McNeill Tew

Seven Lakes Business Guild

Plans for the 2nd annual Seven Lakes Business Guild Chili Cook-Off and Street Fair are sizzling and off to an excellent start. The event is planned for Saturday April 4, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the corner of Trade Street and Grant Street next to Master Kleen.

Activities are planned for all ages including clowns with balloons, piñatas, and a bouncy house for kids. Adults will be able to participate in the Fatal Vision program sponsored by the NC Highway Patrol. This gives you the opportunity to drive a golf cart with goggles

that simulate different levels of intoxication. Live music will be provided throughout the day. The Guild is still working out the details for more entertainment.

For those of you that don't eat chili, Project Linus will have hot-dogs and baked goods for sale. Also many local businesses and clubs will be setting up booths with information, handouts, and items for sale.

Tasting will begin promptly at 11:00 am and will continue until the chili runs out or 3:00 pm – whichever comes first! To participate you will need to buy this

year's mug for \$7 which permits unlimited tasting or purchase individual tickets for \$.50 each or three for \$1.00. Tasters will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite chili and honor one chili team with the People's Choice Award and \$100. Celebrity judges will be on hand to pick their top three who will also receive cash prizes. Seven Lakes Business Guild President Randy Merritt of the Seven Lakes Friendly Mart will be choosing the President's Award and \$50 for the best decorated booth.

This event is continuously growing and taking shape as

more vendors and chili teams enter. Take this great opportunity to promote your business or club to your friends, neighbors, and customers.

It is not too late to get your booth, contact Judy or Kim at

673-4240 for more information. You may also visit the website at [www.7lakesbusinessguild.org](http://www.7lakesbusinessguild.org) for the latest information and schedule of events.

Come out for what is sure to be a great afternoon full of fun.

## SLCC named one of NC's Top 100 courses

by Mike Spayd

Seven Lakes Country Club

Seven Lakes Country Club received great news on February 17 from the North Carolina Golf Panel. The Club was informed that they will be included in the Panel's ranking as one of the Top 100 courses in North Carolina for 2009.

The rankings are determined by averaging vote totals of approximately 150 panelists from across the state with the stipulation that panelists can only vote for courses they have played.

Seven Lakes hosted the Rating Panel this past Summer and received enthusiastic accolades from the panelists who played. The exact ranking of the Club will not be known until the April edi-

tion of the Business North Carolina Magazine is released later this month. Being selected as one of the Top 100 courses, of the 560 that are in the state, is indeed a well deserved honor for the Club.

The Club would like to give everyone in Seven Lakes a chance to share in the good news by holding a contest to see who can guess where the Club will actually place on the list.

To enter, simply send your guess along with your name, address, and phone number to Seven Lakes Country Club Top 100 Contest, 200 Seven Lakes South, Seven Lakes, NC 27376. The winner will receive a complimentary round of golf for four at Seven Lakes, the Sandhills newest member of the Top 100.

### 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](mailto:mail@sevenlakes-times.net).

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

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

\*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

## Women of 7 Lakes host Taste of the Town

The Women of Seven Lakes will host their 5th Annual "Taste of the Town" on Monday, March 30, at the West Side Park Community Center from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. All proceeds benefit the First Health Foundation Cancer Care Fund, and the West End United Methodist Church Food Pantry.

Fourteen restaurants, including some of the annual favorites, and several new restaurants, will feature their culinary specialties this year. Wine, beer,

water and coffee are included. Raffles will be held with many gift certificates prizes from area restaurants.

In addition, a special and separate Fine Wine Tasting by Elliotts on Linden, will be held from 4:00 to 5:00 pm downstairs at West Side Park Community Center prior to the Taste of the Town.

Tickets for both events are still available. Fine Wine Tasting tickets are \$10; Taste of the Town tickets are \$20 each. Tickets will be sold at community mail houses or you may call Sandi Carl at 673-7711.

## Little Miss Seven Lakes Nominations

Nominate your favorite miss for the Little Miss Seven Lakes Contest.

All community girls between the ages of six and eleven are eligible to participate.

The winner and two princesses will be selected by random drawing and invited to participate in the Seven Lakes St. Patrick's Day Parade, scheduled for Saturday, March 14 at 11:00 am.

Nominating forms and collection boxes are located at the mailrooms and the offices of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association and Seven Lakes West Landowners Association.

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# Stonehill Pines will have Nicklaus Golf Club

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Scotland, Tuscany, New Zealand, St. Lucia . . . Foxfire.

The Village moved another step towards welcoming their new, very exclusive neighbor during a Special Meeting on Thursday, February 19 of the Foxfire Planning Board. Before a packed room, representatives for Stonehill Pines presented a revised Master Plan of the proposed 1,500 acre world-class community of golf courses, hotel and spa, and one thousand new homes.

Stonehill Pines will be the newest addition to The Jack Nicklaus Golf Club, one of only four locations in the United States and thirty-six worldwide. An exclusive access and reciprocity program within the Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course family, these courses have been handpicked by Nicklaus as the most ideal locations in some of the most sought-after markets around the world.

"This will be a very special place and an instrumental part of the Nicklaus legacy," said Kevin Justice, president and CEO of Stonehill Capital Group. "We want to keep the history and tradition of this area and build upon that."

A phased long-term development with public dining and retail spaces, the low density community of 1,050 homes will be

anchored by a luxury resort hotel plus other private recreational facilities including two championship golf courses and clubhouses, a greenway trail system, and active recreational spaces. According to the proposal, Stonehill Pines will enhance the financial and aesthetic well being of Foxfire Village while preserving the relaxed, small town feel that makes Foxfire an attractive place to call home.

On behalf of Stonehill, Dave Neill of Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP in Raleigh, explained project planning began with the golf course. "The course set the initial theme of using what is there naturally and working with the land."

He identified the top three priorities in the Master Plan as safety, quality of life, and minimizing environmental impact. By working around existing conditions, including streams, wetlands, and natural topography, and using the low density model of clustered homes, only twelve percent of the property will be covered with impervious surfaces, with fifty percent of the property designated as open space.

Phase One of the project will include construction of the main entrance off Hoffman Road, a 300' roundabout and meandering spine road, construction of the North Course and Clubhouse,

installation of a new 12" water line connected to Moore County Public Works, and a wastewater treatment facility. Later phasing will add the South Course, luxury hotel and villas, retail and dining village, recreation facility, and mixed-use residential development.

The main entrance will include turning lanes and all construction traffic will be routed away from the Village center – along Rt. 211. The development's interior roads, including the entrance and spine road, will be privately maintained to standards approved by the Foxfire Quality Assurance Team. The proposed circulation plan also includes bridging over sensitive areas, a manned, arched entrance gateway, and an extensive network of greenways and pocket parks.

"These are not sidewalks but an alternative pedestrian network that links the entire community with bike paths, trails, and cart paths," said Neill.

Water is a critical and limited resource in Moore County, and water concerns are heavily addressed in Phase One. According to a resolution approved by the Moore County Board of Commissioners last year, the Master Plan includes an agreement to construct three additional wells for the county's system, removal of a 6" waterline bottleneck on Linden Road, installation of a 12" water main on Foxfire and Hoffman Roads from a connection point on Linden Road, and a new 500,000 capacity elevated water tank. In addition, the development's wastewater treatment plant will produce water that can be used for irrigation, so

that no potable water will be used for irrigation anywhere within the community, including residences.

"This is not a project that often comes across the table. I am very honored to participate in this significant and wonderful project," Neill said.

Foxfire Planning Chair Craig Ramey reported the Board submitted approximately forty-five questions to the Foxfire Quality Assurance Team. In addition, members of the Planning Board addressed Stonehill directly during the Special Meeting, and a third public meeting on the Stonehill Pines PUD and rezoning

application is scheduled for Monday, March 9. Foxfire residents are welcome to submit questions, in writing, prior to the meeting.

Once the Master Plan receives Planning Board approval, a Public Hearing before the Village Council will be held on the annexation request and Planned Unit Development [PUD] rezoning application, before final approval can be granted.

If no significant or unanticipated hurdles arise, the final approval process could be completed as early as Tuesday, March 10.



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## Get out your Green!

Wear green and join your friends and neighbors in a celebration of St. Patrick's Day at the Seven Lakes Annual Parade and Corned Beef Luncheon on Saturday, March 14.

Marchers will step off promptly at 11:00 am from the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse, the luncheon immediately follows.

Project Linus will be selling hot coffee, baked goods, hot dogs, chips and drinks during the parade and will also have a group marching.

Children and a responsible adult are invited to join the Project Linus marching team, meet in front of the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse at 10:45 am.

There will be balloons for the

walkers and blankets if the children want to carry one during the parade. Have some fun and support Project Linus.

Call Pat Weber 673-1457 if you have any questions.

Corned beef lunch plates will be served to help weary paraders build up their strength. The cost is just \$5 and includes sandwich, chips, and drink.

For more information on the parade or to register your group or club to participate, please call Deirdre Florence at 673-2808.

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# Vote on double dues increase questioned

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Nothing in the bylaws says you can't do it.

That's apparently the essence of the advice the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Finance Committee received from Attorney Hunter Stovall when they asked whether the Annual Meeting ballot could include a vote on dues increases for three consecutive years.

The SLLA Board eventually decided to ask for a \$50 increase in two consecutive years, which is what landowners will find on the ballots in their Annual Meeting packets. Those packets, mailed last week, generated an immediate response on the SLLA Blog from folks who are careful readers of the Association's bylaws.

Former Director Ed Nuti wrote, "The dues ballot that we just received is asking for approval of an increase in both FY2009/10 and FY2010/11. I believe that this is illegal according to our By-Laws in Sec. 4.3; which state that only one year's dues can be fixed at each annual meeting. The requested increase for FY2010/11 would have to be voted on at the annual meeting in 2010. Here is how the By-Law reads today: '4.3 Annual Meeting: "The Annual Meeting of members shall be held on the 4th Sunday of March of each year for the purpose of electing directors of the Association, fixing dues for the year ....'"

He reiterated that point in an email directly to the current members of the Board.

But Nuti and Attorney Stovall evidently come at the bylaws with different perspectives.

SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf told *The Times*, "The concept of asking for a dues increase for this year and next fiscal year -- basically two increases at one time -- was reviewed by the Association's attorney Hunter Stovall last October. Stovall said yes, it could be done. At that time, we were inquiring about three consecutive years, but with the current economy, we decided to pull back our request to two increases."

Interviewed by *The Times* on Monday, Community Manager Dalton Fulcher said, "Hunter ruled that, yes, you can do that,

because the Bylaws also say that, the next year, it can be reversed. His opinion was that it didn't say that you can set it — but it doesn't say you can't set it — for the next year. The next year either the residents or the Board could reverse it."

Fulcher said the Board could call for a vote to revoke the second year increase or residents could accomplish the same thing by means of a petition drive.

Asked whether that meant the Board could ask landowners to approve a cost-of-living increase each year for the next ten or fifteen years. Fulcher said that would, in fact, be possible. "A number of communities already do that," Fulcher said.

Treasurer Denny Galford confirmed Fulcher's explanation of Stovall's advice: "I agree with Dalton. Stovall advised us there was nothing in the bylaws that would preclude us from asking for a future dues increase. He felt comfortable with his interpretation, because the bylaws do permit any future board the opportunity to change any advanced increase in dues prior to the time it would become effective."

"The November, December, and January minutes of the Finance Committee indicate that discussions were held by the committee on dues collections tiered over a number of years," Galford explained. "We also considered asking for a percentage increase on a continual basis. We decided on the \$50 dues increase for this year, and an additional \$50 for next year, because of the changing economic situation."

Both Zielsdorf and Galford stress that the main objective of asking for two consecutive \$50 increases was to make clear to landowners that simply increasing dues by \$50 this year would not be enough to meet the community's needs.

"The reason we decided to do it this way was because a one-time increase would not be nearly enough for road paving," Zielsdorf told *The Times*. "We determined that, at a minimum, a \$100 a year dues addition would be necessary to repave the roads. We didn't want to have to come back next year and say, 'We need more money for the roads.' By doing two increases at

once and by committing that money in a segregated account that can only be used for roads or dam remediation we can accomplish our goal. It's a lot cleaner to do it this way."

"The most important consideration for the Finance Committee," Galford said, "was to advise the membership that a

one-year \$50 dues increase would not be sufficient to provide for roads and dams remediation. We wanted to be open to the membership; and, therefore, did not request a one-time \$50 dues increase this year, knowing that next year we would need an additional \$50 dues increase."

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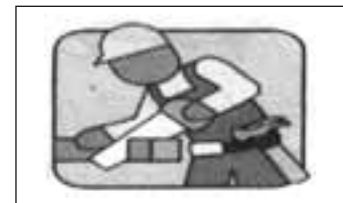
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## St. Pat's Party at Our Lady of Americas

On Saturday, March 14 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Our Lady of the Americas Catholic Church in Candor will present a special St. Patrick's Day Party featuring Ray Pardue and the American Heritage Band.

Dinner will be corned beef and cabbage with cheesecake for dessert prepared by resident chef, Joe DiPrima. Draft beer also included.

Hot dogs and soda will be

available for children who don't eat corned beef and cabbage.

Advanced ticket sales only — no tickets will be sold at the door.

General tickets are \$20 per person for twelve years and up, \$5.00 per child six to eleven years, and free for children five and under.

To purchase a ticket, visit Jack's Place Restaurant or call Laura Rolls at 673-4077.



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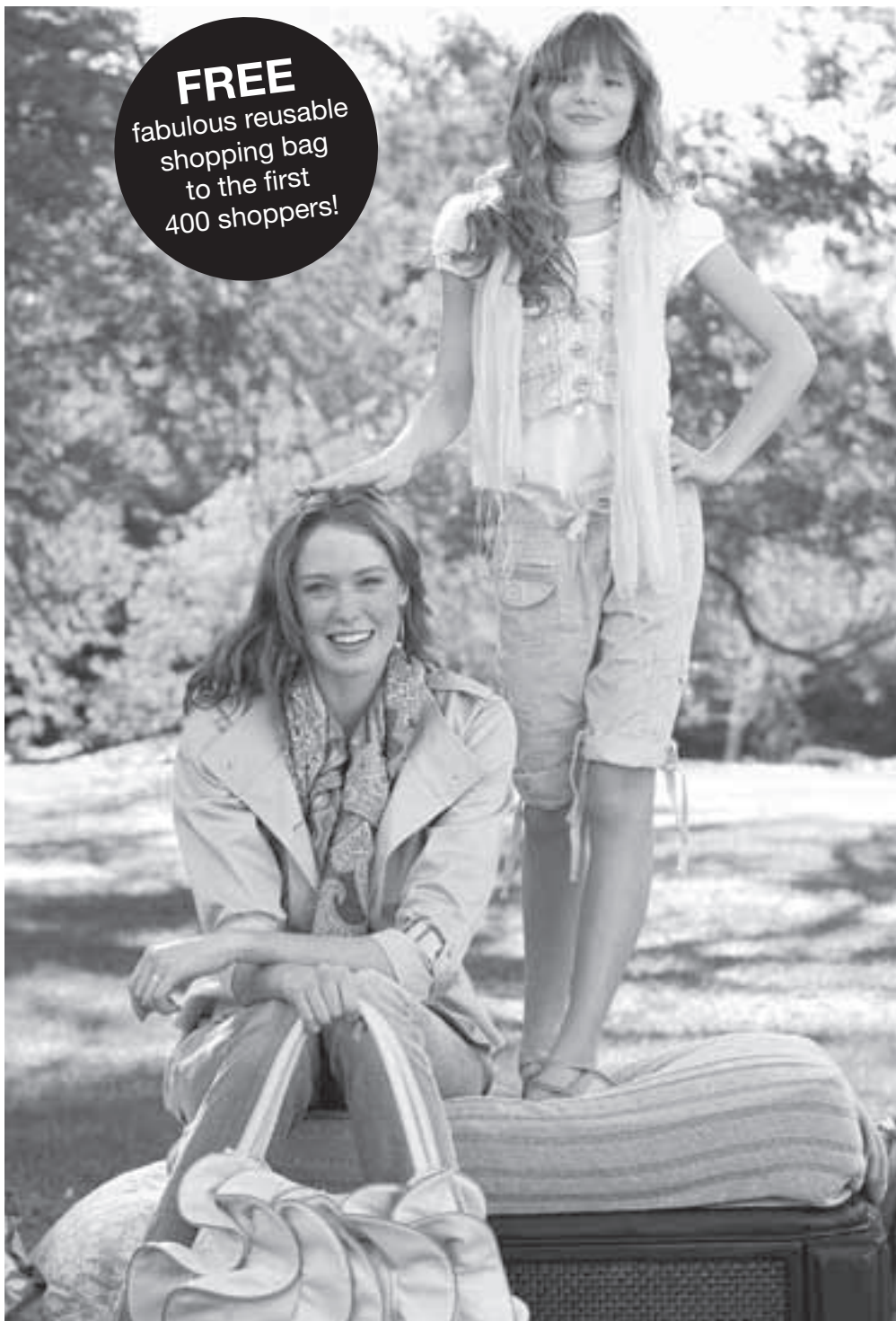
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# County approves design contract for \$47M complex

Moore County's Board of Commissioners has approved contracts with two architectural firms that will design a new jail, public safety building, and county administration building — a complex with a total projected cost of \$47 million that will sit down the hill from the Historic Courthouse in downtown Carthage.

That reflects a substantial discount over the originally projected \$74 million pricetag, a reduction accomplished by reducing the square footage of both the public safety building and the jail, along with savings attributable to a substantial decrease in construction costs that has accompanied the downturn in the global economy.

The Board approved a \$421,000 contract with LS3P Boney for the County Administration Building and a \$1.67 million contract with Ware-Bonsall. The actual fees the firms will collect are pegged at five percent of the construction costs; the amounts approved by the Board are the upper limit.

County Construction Manager Victor Walk told the Commissioners that the Sheriff's Office had worked closely with the consulting firm Solutions for Local Government to configure the public safety building and detention center, which will be linked by corridors to the existing county jail. That effort reduced the size of the public safety building from an initial projection of 61,000 square feet to 40,000 square feet; and the jail, from 154,000 square feet to 79,000 square feet. The jail will ultimately include 260 beds.

Concerned that the cost of the project, when construction bids come in, could exceed what the county is willing to pay, Commissioner Tim Lea asked both Sheriff Lane Carter and County Manager Cary McSwain whether the construction plan included the ability to build a jail with fewer beds and then add more as the need for beds expands — a modular approach. Though Lea asked several times, it wasn't clear that his question was answered.

Lea also asked whether the jail would be full as soon as it as finished.

“Once it goes on line three years from now, are we going to be able to use all 260 beds?” he asked.

“We don't want to build a jail that doesn't have any room when we open it,” County Manager Cary McSwain replied.

“What I don't want to do is go through this whole process and not be able to afford it,” Lea said later. “That's why I want to be able to have a modular approach. I want to know that we can build less cost-wise, if that's what we need to do because of cost.”

Walk estimated the design and construction of the jail and public safety building would take a bit under three years, while the administration building should take a little over two years to complete.

“As I understand it, this is a three step process,” Lea said. “The design comes back to us and we decide whether to bid it. The bids come back, and then we decide whether to build it.”

County Manager McSwain confirmed that that is the process. He also noted that the architects would present their renderings and master plans to the Board of Commissioners for input and approval before proceeding with the more detailed design stages of the project.

## Six years, \$25 million in public works projects

Since 2003, the county Public Works Department has spent over \$25 million on 26 separate water and wastewater projects, Utility Operations Manager Ben Vaughn told the Board of Commissioners.

After some complaints from Pinehurst residents during a Thursday, February 19 Commissioners Work Session that the county was dragging its feet in infrastructure projects — in particular a new sewer line in Old Town and around Lake Pinehurst — Commissioner Tim Lea asked that the Public Work Department report on its capital project activity. The county owns the water and wastewater systems that serve the Village of Pinehurst.

County Manager McSwain said Vaughn's presentation would

be expanded to show projects that are planned for the future and would be shared with the county's municipalities.

The county's sewer system handles waste from the towns of Aberdeen, Carthage, Pinehurst, Southern Pines, and Vass and processed over 1.4 billion gallons of wastewater in Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

The county water system serves 11,500 customers — including the residents of Seven Lakes and McLendon Hills — and delivered nearly 820 million gallons of drinking water in FY 2007-2008.

The capital projects completed since 2003 include a wide range of large and small projects — from the \$14 million East Moore Water District to \$52,000 spent on chlorine analyzers. Projects that directly impact Seven Lakes included the \$1.15 million water main that carries water from Pinehurst to Seven Lakes and the \$562,000 interconnection of the two Seven Lakes Water tanks.

Just as important was the connection of the Pinehurst water system to the East Moore Water District, which allows treated water to be purchased from Harnett County and used in the Pinehurst-Seven Lakes water system.

## \$25,000 grant approved for business relocation

The Commissioners approved a \$25,000 grant that will help Kolcraft Enterprises, Inc. consolidate its operations in Aberdeen. The family-owned manufacturer of crib mattresses is headquartered in Chicago, but, like many businesses attempting to weather the economic downturn, is looking to consolidate operations.

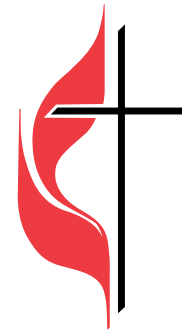
The grant will allow it to move all of its manufacturing capability to Aberdeen, where it currently employs 145 workers. The grant is contingent upon Kolcraft adding 23 more jobs at the Aberdeen facility, as well as relocating \$250,000 in equipment to that plant. The move is expected to cost the company between \$130,000 and \$170,000.

(See “Commissioners” p. 31)

## Bolton Builders win Home of Year Award



**Bolton Builders** won a 2008 Moore County Home Builders Association Home Of The Year Award Of Excellence for the Pinewild home of Gary and Joan Secrest. The awards were announced Thursday night, February 16, during the kick-off of the Association's Spring Home & Garden Show.



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## **To the Landowners of Seven Lakes North and South: The Ballots are in your hands – it is time to be heard!**

-----

After careful consideration and considerable debate The Advocates recommend the following:

### **For SLLA Board of Directors:**

**Highly Recommended – agents for positive change**

**Kent Droppers  
Steve Hudson**

Neither candidate sought our endorsement  
nor are they affiliated with one another



### **Not Recommended:**

**Denver Galford**

- Repeatedly denied reasonable requests for information
- Principal behind the SLCC driving range eyesore

### **VOTE NO For the Dues Increase:**

In a letter to the Board and printed in the Times on 2/20 The Advocates made four requests – three were not met

- Item 1 – FAILED – Transparency of financial and/or employee agreements
- Legitimate requests for information repeatedly denied
  - Consulting agreement with the outgoing Community Manager remains shrouded in secrecy
- Item 2 – FAILED – Commitment not to increase salaries
- Bonuses rolled into base salaries and no longer discretionary
- Item 3 – PASSED – Continued operation of current amenities
- The Board took no action to reduce amenities
- Item 4 – FAILED – Reduce Administrative Expenses by 10%
- General Fund expense is up 2.3% for FY2009-10
  - Three new trucks hastily purchased at a cost of \$45,000

**Before we spend millions on roads, we deserve a plan! One that includes solid Engineering, current quotes, and proper timing. Do not be fooled by the “motherhood and apple pie” sales pitch by the Board!**

**Submitted by Ron Erskine and paid for by The Advocates**

# Don't send that cash to Don Welch in China!

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Your mother was right: don't believe everything you read!

The good news is that Rev. Don Welch did not lose his wallet in China. The bad news is, if you received an email from his Hotmail account, requesting money to assist him in this fictional plight, you've been a target of a scam.

Several Seven Lakers received fraudulent emails on Tuesday that appeared to have come from Welch's account asking that they wire him funds in China. It was a hoax and, hopefully, all the recipients recognized it for a hoax.

Hotmail and other web-based email services have become frequent targets for this type of fraud. Criminal hackers will either guess the victim's password or obtain it through phishing messages. Phishing is a related scam where official looking,

phony websites or emails will ask users to verify their account information or password.

Once the hacker knows a victim's password and the victim's account is compromised, the scammer takes control of their email and will send pleas for help and financial assistance to

everyone in the victim's address book.

There are several steps you can take to protect yourself. First, use common sense and don't believe everything you read -- especially when using online sources. Second, be extremely cautious if you are asked to pro-

vide personal information such as your account, PIN, or credit card information. Third, create a strong password.

A password should appear to be a random string of numbers, symbols, and letters, that is at least eight characters long.

A simple method for creating

a strong password is to use the first letter of each word in an easily remembered sentence. An example, I have two children, two cats, and one dog -- would be IH2C2C&1D

## Would you invest \$175 to save \$10,000?

by Lakes & Dams Committee,  
Seven Lakes Landowners  
Association

The following list are items recommended by the Moore County Health Department to keep your septic system functioning correctly:

Limit the amount of water you send through your system daily. This is probably the single most important thing you can do inside your house. If you send too much water through, it flushes out

to the drain field before the heavy solids have sunk down and can clog up your lines in your fields. Remember the effluent from your house has to sit in the tank long enough [24 hours] for the solids to sink to the bottom of your tank.

Use liquid laundry and dish-washing detergent. Powdered detergents have a clay base which globs up like kitty litter in your septic tank and is hard to remove.

Limit use of heavy household cleaners including bleach.

Limit use of anti-bacterial soaps and cleaners. Too much of these can kill the beneficial bacteria in your septic tank. Instead, whenever possible, use mild detergents, baking soda, vinegar, borax, or other natural substances.

Avoid flushing medicines down the drain.

Drastically limit the use of your garbage disposal. Items

such as eggshells, coffee grounds, and bones can clog your system and do not decompose.

Please watch for our next article. Thank you.

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# Pinecrest Players present 'Crazy for You'

It's time to break out your tap shoes and your cowboy boots as the Pinecrest Players theatre program present *Crazy for You: The New Gershwin Musical* as their spring production March 20-22. Full of dancing showgirls and lazy cowboys, the action takes place in 1930 between the bustling stages of Broadway and the ghost town of Deadrock, Nevada.

The musical, based on the songwriting team's original production of *Girl Crazy*, debuted on Broadway in 1992 and won the Tony Award for best musical. This production is a true tribute to the classic musicals of the 1930's and 40's, complete with Gershwin favorites such as *Someone to Watch Over Me*, *I've Got Rhythm*, *Embraceable You*, *Slap that Bass*, and many more.

The storyline follows Bobby Child, a banker in New York City who really just wants to dance all the way to Deadrock Nevada, where he is being forced to foreclose on an old theatre, owned by Everett Baker.

While there, he meets and instantly falls for the lone cowgirl of the town, and daughter to Everett, Polly Baker. To help her save the theatre, he calls up his friends from New York, a troupe of Folies Girls from "Zangler's Folies," and dresses up as Zangler himself. The real fun begins, of course, when the real Zangler shows up.

Senior Bradley Gibson plays Bobby Child, as he steps into his last role on the Pinecrest Play-

ers stage. He has been seen over the past years as the Beast in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and Bernardo in *West Side Story*.

Joining Gibson is newcomer to the Pinecrest Players Rachel Stewart, daughter of Mark and Sandy Stewart of McLendon Hills. Stewart is no stranger to the stage, though, as she has performed with the Pinecrest Choirs, and was Moore County's Outstanding Teen of 2007.

Senior Brenton O'Hara takes on the role of Bela Zangler. O'Hara performed as Gaston in last year's *Beast*. Other leading roles include Matt Carriker as Lank Hawkins, Jennifer Archer as Irene Roth, Emily Kline as Lottie Child, Andrew Soboeiro as Everett Baker, Evan Lyne as Eugene Fodor, and Miranda Sparks as Patricia Fodor.

Rounding out the cast of cowboys are Anthony Bartolo, Erin Wilson, Adam Fogleman, Nick Smith, Liz Wilson, Brittani Goodwin, Rachel Lax, Kevin Bean, Daniel McKinney, Taylor Miles, Aaron Shamberger, Savannah Fitzgerald, Josh Carrico, Denise Masten, Sarah Meany, Laura

Ott, Arrielle Jones, and Paige Harrelson. The chorus of showgirls includes Jordan Kennedy, Blaine Hooper, Mary Jessup Gooden, Dani Quichocho, Emily Ott, Charlotte McDonald, Braylin Bayless, Lauren Bonville, Carina Houseman, Clark Williams, Tara Bornhorst, Jill McIlwain, Emily Rolland, Mary Allison Bennett, Mackenzie Barry, Tina Stenseth, Erin Hennings, Katie Russell, Destene Kinser, and Liza Myrick.

Artistic Director Adam W. Faw, of Seven Lakes, and his actors have barely had time to catch their breaths after their successful dinner theatre *A Night at the Copacabana* in January.

Faw and Musical Director James Brown will be teaming up for their fifth year together, having combined forces to create recent productions such as Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and *West Side Story*.

The duo is joined for the first time this year by Choreographer Gary Taylor, director of Taylor Dance Company, along with assistant choreographer Trish Coates and dance captain Eliz-

abeth Fowle.

Faw is very excited to work with Taylor, "Having seen his work and knowing his reputation as a choreographer, I feel he is a welcome addition to the talented professionals already working with our students. He has already stepped the dance up a huge notch."

Senior Madison Hartney has stepped into the demanding role of technical director, overseeing all of the construction and painting of the large scale scenery.

Eve Von Bleyle will be stage manager, with Cyrus Taylor as assistant stage manager. Mary

McKeithen and Marci Haberstroh of Showboat Costuming are the costume designers. David Godsey of Extra Mile Audio is the sound engineer for the production.

The production will open Friday night, March 20 and Saturday night, March 21 at 7:00 pm. The Sunday matinee will be at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$12 for general admission, and \$10 for students under 12.

Presale tickets are available at the Arts Council of Moore County at the Campbell House in Southern Pines. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

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# Law firm adds partner, expands services

The Gorenflo Law Firm in Seven Lakes Business Village is expanding — and getting a new name in the process.

Clark Campbell, a Pinehurst-based attorney with a practice focused in real estate, has joined Mike Gorenflo and Bob Bierbaum in the firm, which will now be known as Gorenflo Bierbaum & Campbell PLLC — or GBC Law for short.

"We've been discussing expansion for some time," Bierbaum told *The Times*. Campbell's expertise in real estate practice will allow the firm to expand its service to customers in that area, while freeing up some of Gorenflo's time to begin to offer clients estate administration services.

"Mike has been doing estate planning for years," Bierbaum explained. "But when the same clients came to us to administer the estate after a death, we were referring them out to other firms."

"My own perception is that estate administration is a field that requires great attention to details," Bierbaum said.

"Anyone who has worked with Mike knows there is no one in the profession that pays closer attention to detail and will advocate more strongly for his client." He added that it will be a great advantage to the firm's estate planning clients to be able to call on the same attorney when it is time to actually put those plans into motion.

Adding Campbell's real estate expertise to the firm will allow Gorenflo to expand his person-

al practice into estate administration, while allowing Campbell to establish a bigger presence in the Seven Lakes area. Campbell will continue to maintain an office in Pinehurst as well.

In addition to estates, Gorenflo is the firm's expert in business formation and other business-related legal matters. And he will continue to work with his existing real estate clients.

Bierbaum's own areas of expertise are employment law and domestic law, as well as criminal and traffic cases. The firm has expanded its geographical reach in the traffic law area, and Bierbaum now handles traffic cases in Moore, Montgomery, Richmond, and Lee Counties.

He is also handling the design and development of the firm's soon to be launched website at [www.gbcnclaw.com](http://www.gbcnclaw.com), which will offer plenty of consumer-oriented legal information — including some very useful interactive features.

For example, one application that Bierbaum has planned will allow the unlucky individual who has received a traffic ticket to enter the details about the citation and get an estimate of how many points it will add to his or her Division of Motor Vehicles and auto insurance records.

Information on estate planning, business law, and real estate transactions are also planned, including some downloadable forms that will allow clients to be better prepared when they meet with their attor-

ney.

In addition to its new website, Gorenflo told *The Times*, the firm is also going "paperless," using digital storage for documents rather than row up on row of filing cabinets.

Gorenflo, who moved to Seven Lakes West in 1982 as a teenager, formed The Gorenflo Law Firm, PLLC, in Seven Lakes in 2001. A graduate of Appalachian State University, he graduated from the North Carolina Cen-

tral University School of Law in 1999.

Bierbaum, who also lives in Seven Lakes West, is a graduate of St. Andrews College in Laurinburg and also received his law degree from the NCCU School of Law. He joined The Gorenflo Law Firm in 2003.

Campbell, a Pinehurst resident, is a graduate of Trinity College in Hartford, CT, and of the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University in Washing-

ton, DC.

The firm plans an open house and ribbon cutting to celebrate their expansion on Thursday, March 26, at 4:30 pm.

As part of the celebration, they will present a donation of \$500 to the nationally-recognized debate program at Pinecrest High School.

Gorenflo Bierbaum & Campbell PLLC is located at 105 Seven Lakes Court. They may be reached at 910-673-1325.

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**Bob Bierbaum, Mike Gorenflo, and Clark Campbell, partners in Gorenflo Bierbaum & Campbell PLLC.**

# Sandhills Winery opens in Seven Lakes Plaza

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

A place where everyone knows your name and they are always glad you came — is how Leslie Rose characterizes her new shop, the Sandhills Winery. "This is our community and I want to be more than just a merchant."

Fifteen year residents of Seven Lakes South, Leslie and Bob Rose opened Sandhills Winery in late February and have scheduled a Grand Opening Celebration on Friday & Saturday, March 13 & 14. Events will include a Friday night wine tasting starting at 5:00 pm, and all-day wine specials and tastings on Saturday.

"I always wanted to work at something I love — and we love wine," said Rose. "It is so much fun to smell, taste, and savor..."

She explained that Sandhills Winery will offer an extensive variety of fine wines, a few everyday varieties, with plenty of special \$3.99 closeouts from wineries.

"We'll have a rotating selection of wines always available and we'll always have tastings. If you have a favorite, come see us — we can beat grocery store prices and we give a ten percent discount on cases," Rose said.

Open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, and by appointment, Sandhills Winery will also host Thursday night wine tastings and some events on Fridays.

"Don't drive into town!" declared Rose. "Why not have a place right here in Seven Lakes that you can go, meet your friends and have a glass of wine?"

Rose said wine tasting events will feature different themes and countries and, hopefully, some local musical talent.

"It will be a festive atmosphere ... a place for the community to come and meet together. It's all about putting smiles on faces."

Rose said wine tastings are especially important because people often go through different stages of wine preferences.

"Try before you buy," said Rose. "If you don't like it, we'll find something you do!"

The shop will also feature a fully-functioning winery and the

Rose's will craft their very own specialties using grape juice concentrates from Australia, New Zealand, California — all over the world.

"We'll ferment it here and flavor it with oaks. Then we let it burgle and gurgle," said Rose, anticipating their first bottles will be ready for purchase sometime next year.

"The whole process is so much fun. The smells are just fantastic when you have a good brew going."

Sandhills Winery is available for private events and the Rose's will also coordinate and pour

for private functions in homes.

And do you need a special gift? Sandhills Winery will offer "Wine-o-Grams" and wine accessories for sale.

Rose explained she is taking baby steps as a business but that she welcomed new ideas for what locals might be looking for.

"People shouldn't be afraid to learn about wine. We're not snobs — it's about having fun with it!"

Located in the Seven Lakes West Plaza near Peking Wok, Sandhills Winery can be reached at 673-2949 or at [www.sandhillswinery.com](http://www.sandhillswinery.com)



Bob & Leslie Rose of Sandhills Winery

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# In memory of . . .

**Donald L. Thayer**, 59, of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, February 18, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Thayer was born in Ocean-side, CA, the son of Edwin Thayer, of Seven Lakes, and the late Hazel Mae Thayer.

He is survived by his father, Edwin Thayer; two sisters, Deborah Thayer, of Vass; and Gayle Olszanski, of West End; and three nieces.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.

**Jean Shelton Lee**, 79, of Jackson Springs, died Sunday, February 22, at Sandy Ridge Assisted Living in Candor.

A native of Stokes County, Mrs. Lee was the daughter of the late Ezra and Gladys Shelton. She was a homemaker and was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin Lee.

Survivors include daughters, Dianne Baker, of Pinehurst and Gail Lee, of Eagle Springs; five sons, Gerald Lee, of Jackson Springs, Larry Lee, of New Orleans, LA, Wayne Lee, Charles Lee and Danny Lee, all of Jackson Springs; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 25 at Briggs-Candor Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed at West End Cemetery.

**Robert F. Ely**, 84, formerly of Foxfire Village, died Monday, February 23, at Bedford Court in Silver Spring, MD.

He graduated from Union Endicott High School and worked for RCA in NYC. He served in the U.S. Army for two years during World War II. He attended and graduated from SUNY Oswego and became a high school teacher in Freeport, Long Island.

He received his masters degree from the University of Indiana. He was a professor for twenty-seven years, and retired to Foxfire Village in 1984.

He was a volunteer tutor at Sandhills Community College. He was preceded in death by his sister, Margaret Nichols.

Mr. Ely is survived by his wife of fifty-seven years, Mary Lou [Post] Ely; two daughters, Mary Lou, Binghamton, NY, and Patricia, Ellicott City, MD; and also five

grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to your favorite charity.

**Ned Roland Green**, 81, died Monday, February 23, at home in Seven Lakes.

Mr. Green was born in Upper Arlington, OH. He graduated from Upper Arlington High School and attended Denison University in Granville, OH. He worked as business manager for the State of Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Education Association.

Mr. Green served as president of Brookside Country Club in Columbus, OH, and president of Beacon Ridge Country Club in Seven Lakes.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Luke and Beatrice Green, his brother, Luke Green, and a granddaughter, Morgan Perdue.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughter, Michelle Peele, of Southern Pines; son, Tom Green, of Columbus, Ohio; daughter, Lynda McDermott, of New York City, NY; brother, Ron Green, of Pinehurst; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held Saturday, February 28, at The Chapel in the Pines. The Rev. Fran Stark officiated.

Memorial donations may be made to FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374 or Seven Lakes EMS, 714 Seven Lakes Dr., West End,

NC 27376.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes served the family.

**Larry Eugene Cagle**, 56, of Eagle Springs, died Friday, February 27.

Mr. Cagle was born in Moore

County the son of the late Williams Ritter and Doris Cagle. He was a textile worker.

Funeral services were held Thursday, March 5 at Zion Grove A.M.E. Zion Church in Eagle Springs, directed by McLendon Funeral Home of Ellerbe. Burial

followed in the church cemetery.

He is survived by a son, Derrick Baldwin, of Ellerbe; sisters, Rhonda Cagle and Valerie Cagle, both of Eagle Springs, Carmasita Carter, of Fort Lane, IN,

(Continued on page 13)

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# In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 12)

Lucille Cagle of Greensboro, Mary Ritter, of Robbins, Nancy Ritter, of PA; brothers, Calvin Ritter and Bethy Ritter, both of Robbins, Tommy and Len Cagle, both of Eagle Springs, Jonny Ray, of Greensboro, Bruce Cagle, of Pinehurst, Timothy Ritter and Gerald Ritter, both of PA.

**Rita A. Lapkin**, 82, formerly of Foxfire Village, recently of Richmond, VA, died Sunday, March 1, at Spring Arbor Assisted Living facility.

Mrs. Lapkin was born in New York City and lived in northern New Jersey prior to her retirement in 1986. She retired to Foxfire Village in 1986.

She worked as a secretary of the planning board in Montvale, NJ. She was involved in the local organization of Foxfire Village as head of the Appearance Commission.

She was preceded in death by her husband of fifty-four years, Norman M. Lapkin.

Survivors include her son Glenn Lapkin and a grandson.

Visitation will be held at Boles Funeral Home in Southern Pines today, Friday March 6, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Funeral services will be held at the family gravesite in Bethesda Cemetery in Aberdeen on Saturday, March 7, at 2:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, commemorative gifts may be made to the National Aphasia Association, 350 Seventh Ave, Suite 902, New York, NY 10001, (800) 922-4622.

Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines is in charge of arrangements.

**Louadgie McDonald Steele**, 93, of Jackson Springs, died Sunday, March 1, at Sandy Ridge Assisted Living in Candor.

Mrs. Steele was born in Moore County the daughter of the late Donald Thomas and Alice Cadell McDonald. She was a homemaker and a member of Marcus United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Nathaniel Steele, and a son, Ralph Earl Steele.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 4, at Marcus United Methodist Church, directed by Briggs-Candor Funeral Home. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She is survived by a son, Thomas Nathaniel Steele, of Jackson Springs; a daughter, Shirley Steele Craven, of Norman; a sister, Pearl Lovelace, of Reidsville; four grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to Marcus United Methodist Church, c/o Linda Williams, 141 Research

Farm Rd., Candor, NC 27229 or to FirstHealth Hospice Foundation 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374

**Ruby Virginia Callahan Hargrove**, 88, of Seven Lakes, died Sunday, March 1.

Mrs. Hargrove was the daughter of the late Henry C. and Marion Cameron Callahan in Vass. She graduated from Vass-Lakeview High School and received a nursing degree from Mary Elizabeth Hospital in Raleigh.

She was active in several church organizations at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and served as a volunteer at FirstHealth Moore Memorial Hospital.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George F. Hargrove, Sr; stepmother Mary Harris Callahan; three brothers, Howard Callahan, Edison "Ed" Callahan, and A. Mack Callahan; two sisters Eva Idol and

Louise McCaskill.


Survivors include daughter Marian Hargrove Baker of Aberdeen; son George F. Hargrove, Jr., of Sunnyvale, CA; son Charles C. Hargrove, of Herndon, VA; daughter Eva Hargrove Brown, of Charlotte; son Matthew Brian Hargrove, of Raleigh; son Patrick Dowling Hargrove of Seven Lakes; and daughter Betsy Hargrove Black, of Florence, SC; nine grandchildren; two step grandchildren; and two step great grandchildren.

A Rite of Christian Burial was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Thursday, March 5. The

Rev. James M. Labosky officiated. The rite of committal will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Community Home Care and Hospice at 185 Illinois Ave Southern Pines, NC 28387; Animal Advocates of Moore County at P.O. Box 3399 Pinehurst, NC 28374; the Alzheimer's disease Association 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215; or St. Joseph Guild at 100 Waters Drive Southern Pines, NC 28387.

The family was assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Pinehurst.



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# The Times interviews SLLA Candidates

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

The Times interviewed each of the six candidates for the upcoming election of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association.

With four seats in the running, the majority of the Board, the outcome of this election will have a critical impact on the long range future of the community as the incoming Board has the difficult job of transitioning to new management later this year. Each candidate had the opportunity to respond to the following questions, which had not been provided in advance:

1. What specifically made you decide to run?
2. If you are elected what, specifically, do you want to accomplish?
3. How many hours a week do you think serving on the Board will require – and should require? Which particular Board area of responsibility [such as Lakes & Dams, ARB, Finance] do you feel you could best contribute to considering your background and interests?
4. Have you previously served on this or any other Board? Do you have previous committee work? Do you feel you are current with the issues facing Seven Lakes through meeting attendance and/or news coverage provided by *The Times*?
5. If you got to design the process for transitioning to new community management, how would you do it? How do you decide who, if an individual, or whether a company?
6. Assuming the dues increase passes, the major roads are repaved in 2011 and no major dam expenses or remediation are anticipated, what are steps that Seven Lakes should be taking now and in the near future to ensure as the economy recovers, this community will remain competitive with other newer Area A developments, such as Stonehill Pines?

stable Board in place while we find a replacement," Zielsdorf said, explaining his decision to seek a second term in office.

**Accomplish what?** "My primary objective is going to be find good community management," said Zielsdorf.

Hours and Board responsibilities? Zielsdorf said directors should anticipate serving an average of five hours a week – an hour a day. "If you're spending more than that amount of time then there is a problem."

"This year, I am particularly interested in the transition team. That's where I'll be putting my focus," Zielsdorf said.

**Previous experience?** "Yes and yes," responded Zielsdorf to whether he has previous Board experience and is current with the issues facing the community.

Zielsdorf is the current President of the Board and has also

served for two years as the president of the Faculty Senate at Montgomery Community College.

**Transition process?** "The first thing - sooner rather than later - after the next Board gets seated is to interview community



Randy Zielsdorf

management companies," said Zielsdorf. "This will assist us in creating a model for what we want to see in our next management."

After interviewing two or three companies, Zielsdorf said the Board should commence speaking to, at a minimum, three individual candidates.

"By then we should have a good feel for what is we needed. If a company looks good, we should go that way. If an individual looks good, we should go that way."

**Keeping Seven Lakes competitive?** Zielsdorf said looking forward, Seven Lakes and its neighboring communities must assemble a representative group for the entire area.

"As we move into the future, if it's not water issues it will be something else as this area gets developed. We need something

that will allow us to speak with one voice," said Zielsdorf. "We don't want to be put into position where we remain little isolated outposts where, instead of asking our opinion, they [federal/state or local agencies] will bypass us when making decisions."

Zielsdorf said another opportunity to stay competitive will be in selecting the best management. "The next community manager will need to act more like a town mayor. The manager needs to be our advocate and be able to call on other mayors and municipalities. We need someone who will really be representing us – Board members come and go."

He also encouraged more recreational events that showcase the community, such as the North Carolina Open Water

(Continued on page 15)



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## Randy Zielsdorf

**Why run?** "With Dalton [Fulcher] announcing retirement, I think it is important to keep a



# SLLA Candidate Interviews

(Continued from page 14)

Swim, Seven Lakes 7K, and leasing the stables for special events.

## Mike Pennington

**Why run?** "There are not enough younger people involved in our community," Pennington said. "I'm not saying anything bad about the decisions being made – rather I'm concerned that there are a lot of younger people in the community whose needs are not being addressed."

**Accomplish what?** Pennington said the opportunity to spend time on his boat is what drew him to the community.

"I love my boat and being out on the water. We need to take care of what we have," he said.

"Specifically, I'd like to see more boat slips because over the long term it brings revenue into the community – and I think enough people out there would be willing to pay for it," said Pennington.

**Hours and Board responsibilities?** Pennington said he was most interested in chairing the Lakes and Dams Committee.

"I'm willing to put in as many hours as needed...some jobs, like Lakes and Dams, may require more hours than others

but I feel it is important to stay hands-on for something so critical to the community – even serving twenty hours a week if that is what it requires," said Pennington.

**Previous experience?** Pennington said he is required to serve on many boards through his employer.

"I plan events, hold training courses throughout the year, and serve on the Safety Committee," said Pennington.

He said he keeps current with issues through reading *The Times* and by speaking with other residents.

"I try to talk with people and see what they think and which



Mike Pennington

way they think things should go, so if they can't attend the Open Meetings, then I can voice their opinion for them."

**Transition process?** "My boss lets me run the department the way I want to – we discuss things and it works," said Pennington. "Anybody in the community manager position should be able to run the community. That's their job and we're paying them. The board should be there to oversee, to catch mistakes, and to help fix them."

Pennington said the transition process should include a probationary period allowing the Board to impeach or fire the new manager if they don't like the ways things are going.

"We shouldn't be held captive by who we pick," said Pennington.

**Keeping Seven Lakes competitive?** Pennington said he would like to see more indoor recreational facilities for children.

"A place with something for the little ones to the seventeen year olds," said Pennington. "I don't want the older kids out there vandalizing anymore than anyone else, but if they don't have something to do, they get bored."

"I love our community! I think we have a lot of great people," concluded Pennington.

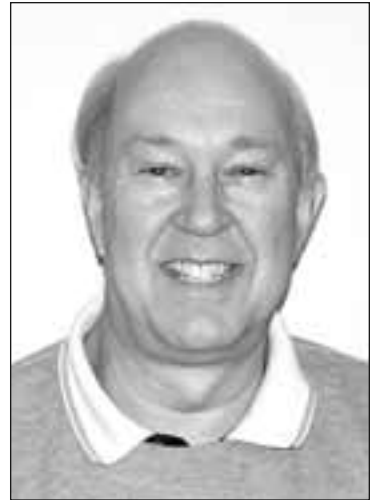
## Steve Hudson

**Why run?** Hudson said he became interested in serving again following a telephone call from the Nominating Committee and because of his desire to

see more openness on the Board.

"Let's let the sunshine in. We're all equals. We all own the Association so we should be able to

(Continued on page 16)



Steve Hudson

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# SLLA Candidate Interviews

(Continued from page 15)

see anything associated with it."

**Accomplish what?** "I'd like to have complete openness of finances and Board meetings," said Hudson.

In particular, Hudson said he was disappointed that the current Board has opted to schedule monthly Work Sessions at 8:30 am.

"Holding meetings at that time is detrimental to more people being involved. Most people can't be there and my general feeling is the more input from the community the better. The current board does not seem to care that landowners may have some good advice they could contribute during Work Sessions," said Hudson.

He recommended Work Sessions would be better attended and more productive if held at 6:30 pm.

**Hours and Board responsibilities?** Hudson said he anticipates serving from ten to fifteen hours a week would be required, depending on which department you are chairing.

He said his previous experience have provided him with a strong background for chairing the Finance Committee, but that he would be willing to serve in any position.

"I would serve wherever I am needed," he said.

**Previous experience?** Hudson served for two years as Treasurer of the Association.

"My background and experience, I think, would serve the community well. I feel I am very

current with what is going on in the community through coverage in *The Times* and also from attending Open Meetings of the Board."

**Transition process?** "We need to look at two areas; individuals and management companies," said Hudson.

He recommended seeking out resumes from individuals while also searching for and interviewing management companies and the communities they serve.

"The Board would then need to sit down and analyze what we would get and look at a comparison of costs – what do we get for what amount?"

Additionally, Hudson said he would propose two Town Hall-type meetings to present the findings of the Board and to allow the community to have an opportunity to discuss and make comments.

"We need everyone to come in, sit down, and discuss it. Let's get your ideas out," said Hudson. "I don't think the Board should be restrictive in getting opinions from the community."

Hudson mentioned that a similar public hearing was held to discuss state-mandated repair costs for Echo Dam. "Everybody that wanted to say something had the opportunity at that time. Again, we are all in this together."

**Keeping Seven Lakes competitive?** "We need to analyze the long range plan being worked on right now and lay out what infrastructure items -- buildings and such - need to be replaced

and work towards that end," said Hudson.

He also suggested the Association should consider purchasing adjacent properties to use for boat and trailer storage, which would, in turn, enhance the appearance of the community.

## Bruce Keyser, Jr.

**Why run?** Keyser said this year's presidential election inspired him to run.

"I realized I wanted to get more involved and what better place than your own community?"

Keyser said he reads coverage of local issues as much as possible.

"It seems we have a lot of issues. I'm not really sure why everyone can't seem to get along but I want to try to help and get

more involved with the community."

**Accomplish what?** "It boils down to what position I'm elected to but I would like to see this community take a closer interest in the younger population of the area."

A resident of the Seven Lakes as both a teenager and again as a parent himself, Keyser said he believes there was more for children to do in years past.

"That playground hasn't changed since I was a teenager except for a few things added on," Keyser said.

He described Friday and Saturday evenings at Northside Park with kids enjoying the Game Room and athletic courts.

"There was always a crowd. We'd play basketball, tennis, and games until 10:00 pm every

Friday and Saturday. And I was in 4-H – we had the Seven Lakes Stables 4H Club."

Keyser by continuing to attract younger generations, property  
(Continued on page 17)



Bruce Keyser, Jr.

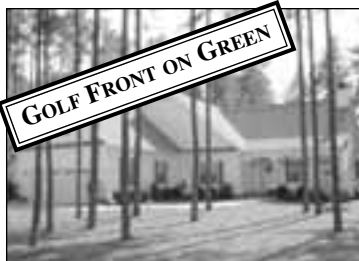
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# SLLA Candidate Interviews

(Continued from page 16)

values will increase.

"This community was not designed to be a retirement community. But, as we are today, I don't feel we have maintained the facilities to attract young families."

**Hours and Board responsibilities?** Keyser said serving on the Board should not take more than five to ten hours a week.

"The board is not running Seven Lakes. There is a Community Manager who is in charge and people on the payroll. To oversee should not take more than five to ten hours but I am concerned that it might end up being quite a bit more than that."

Keyser said his professional background owning a construction business provided him with skills best suited for chairing the Architectural Review Board or Maintenance Committee.

"I'm in construction and very familiar with the materials and know what the requirements should be for labor and costs. With thirteen years experience in management, I am very good at scheduling."

**Previous experience?** Keyser said he has no experience serving on a Board but that he feels he is up-to-speed with issues facing the community.

"I'm as current as *The Times* allows me to be," said Keyser. "I am committed to being more involved but I've found it can be difficult to know what the real issues are when you just keep going through all the complaints."

**Transition process?** "The answer needs to come down to the community – whether they want the community run by an individual or a management company," said Keyser.

Personally, he said he believed the Board should look to hire Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane.

"I think Chad would be a very good manager and we should look to hire him for the position."

**Keeping Seven Lakes competitive?** Keyser said a well-developed marketing plan with advertising and an improved Association website were untapped opportunities for growth.

He also suggested more emphasis should be placed on Community Standards and encouraging residents to help

make the neighborhood more appealing and to work cooperatively with each other.

"Instead of having *The Times* as the place to air problems – let's try to work together. We're the talk of the town when we start hanging our dirty laundry in the newspaper," Keyser said.

## Denny Galford

**Why run?** "I enjoy the fact that I can benefit the community with my accounting background," said Galford.

**Accomplish what?** Galford said the most important thing that he would like to accomplish is to continue working collegially with the other Board members and to continue the work he began this year, specifically in the financial areas.

**Hours and Board responsibilities?** Galford said he cur-

rently spends approximately twelve hours a week on Board activities, but that he believed that two to three hours a week was more appropriate for a Board member.

"With the accomplishments of the last year, we have reduced



Denny Galford

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the demand on directors and placed the responsibilities back with the Community Manager," Galford said. "However, I am willing to devote as many hours as are required to do the job correctly. Next year will be the transition year and that will require additional work in making that difficult decision."

**Previous experience?** Galford is the current Treasurer and has also been very active in the community, serving as president, treasurer, and secretary of the Seven Lakes Country Club.

"I feel very current with the issues facing the Landowners Board and that is where I want to devote my energy."

**Transition process?** Galford recommended that a resident with Human Resources experience should be recruited to join the Transition Committee. He also suggested both the Board and Committee should contact management companies and solicit presentations.

"By utilizing the knowledge of the management company presentations, we could easily develop an effective job description and then make the decision whether to hire an individual or a company."

**Keeping Seven Lakes competitive?** "Passing the dues increase will give the community

(Continued on page 20)



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- **Fridays Fish Fry** – 5:30 pm – 7 pm, St. Anthony of Padua Parish Hall, 320 N. Ash Street, Southern Pines. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, dinner includes baked or fried fish, hush puppies, French fries, green beans, cole slaw, fruit salad, and beverages. Event continues Friday nights through April 3. Children under six eat free; \$5 children seven to twelve; \$13 adults.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7**

- **Kiwanis 26th Annual Pancake Breakfast** - 7 am to 11 am. Held at WEE cafeteria. Tickets \$6. Children under 5 eat free. Tickets available from all Kiwanis members. Don't miss wonderful breakfast and fundraiser.
- **Organic Vegetable Gardening Workshop** – 10 am – noon, Armory Park, Southern Pines. A hand-on continuation of seminar, Taylor Williams and Paige Burns will discuss the botany of vegetables, container and raised bed gardening, and more. 947-3188.
- **Painted Bird House Craft Class** – 3 pm – 4:30 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Kids will have fun painting a house for our fine feathered friends just in time for Spring. \$10 fee covers all supplies. Must preregister at least three days in advance. Register at SLWLA office.
- **Puttin' on the Ritz** – 6 pm, Country Club of North Carolina. Sandhills Habitat annual fundraiser Spring Gala offers

an escape to the decade of flappers, the Charleston, prohibition, and speakeasies. Cocktails, dinner, and silent auction. 295-1934 [www.sandhillshabitatgala.weebly.com](http://www.sandhillshabitatgala.weebly.com)

- **Sandhills Harmony Chorus Musical Comedy** – 7 pm, Owens Auditorium, SCC. "In the Mood" is set in 1945 at a radio



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**SUNDAY, MARCH 8**

- **Moore Philharmonic Orchestra Fundraiser Dinner** – 1 pm, Outback Steakhouse, Southern Pines. Sponsored by Outback Steakhouse, tickets are \$20/person for full dinner. Music performed by Orchestra members. [www.mporchestra.com](http://www.mporchestra.com)
- **Eddie Barrett & Goodman Legacy Orchestra** – 4 pm – 6:30 pm, Mr. P's, 155 Hall Ave, Southern Pines. 603-7660.
- **Lenten Revival** – 5:30 pm,

Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church. Christian Community is the theme of special Lenten services for spiritual renewal and transformation. Worship at 7pm is preceded by an evening meal at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall and a congregational song fest at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Hix.

**MONDAY, MARCH 9**

- **NARFE**

**Quarterly 'Eating' Meeting** – 11 am, Kenny's Country Restaurant, US Hwy 1, opposite the Shell Station in Pine Bluff. The National Active & Retired Federal Employees [NARFE] Sandhills Chapter

1895 welcomes all Federal, including USPS, active employees, retirees, spouses and surviving spouses to monthly meetings. Information, Vilma Geisert 215-5898 or George Sandoval 246-9881.

- **Sandhills Photography Club** – 7 pm, Christ Fellowship Church, corner of Midland and Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. Featured guests are wildlife photographers Vinny Colucci and Melissa Southern. Visitors welcome.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10**

- **Seven Lakes West Landowner's Association Work Session** – 8 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 3 pm, Game Room, Seven Lakes North. Guest speaker Chris Jones from the Sandhills Commu-

nity College will discuss computer networking.

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11**

- **Lenten Lunch Series** – 11:30 am, West End United Methodist Church. Service includes a devotion, Communion, and a speaker, followed by a light lunch consisting of soup and sandwiches. Luncheon is free and public is invited and welcome. Information, 673-1371.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 12**

- **Seven Lakes Landowner's Association Work Session** – 8:30 am, Conference Room, SLLA Office.
- **Seven Lakes Garden Club Meeting** – 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Featured speaker will be interna-

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tionally known biologist and wildlife photographer, Todd Pusser.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 14

- **Seven Lakes St. Patrick's Day Parade & Corned Beef Luncheon** – 11 am, Seven Lakes Northside Park & Clubhouse. All are welcome to participate and watch. Project Linus will be selling hot dogs, chips, and baked goods. Info: Deirdre Florence 673-2808.
- **Cooking with Carmela and Marjorie: Celebrating the Spring Bounty** – 1 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Class will incorporate all that Spring has to offer with dishes; baked artichoke with aioli saffron dipping sauce, cream of asparagus soup, boneless leg of lamb with fresh herb stuffing, and a medley of spring vegetables, and for dessert, a lemon goat cheese cheesecake. Recipe packets will be available. Cost is \$12.50/person. For information or to register, 673-5314.
- **5th Annual Silent Movie Event** – 2:30 pm & 7:30 pm, Sunrise Theater, downtown Southern Pines. A presentation of the most legendary of all screen lovers: Rudolph Valentino in "Son of the Sheik." Dave Drazin of Chicago will dazzle the audience with his skill on the piano as he provides the accompaniment for the film. Admission \$15 for adults, \$8 for children at 7:30 pm; \$10 for adults and \$8 for students at 2:30 pm. Tickets at Sunrise Theater Box Office, 244 NW Broad Street, or [www.sunrisetheater.com](http://www.sunrisetheater.com)
- **St. Patrick's Day Party** – 6 pm

– 9 pm, Our Lady of the Americas Church, Candor. Tickets are \$20/person, \$5.00 per child six to eleven. Children under 5 free. Includes entertainment by Ray Pardue and the American Heritage Band, corned beef and cabbage dinner, cheesecake for dessert prepared by our resident Chef Joe DiPrima. Draft Beer included. Hot dogs & soda available for children who don't eat corned beef and cabbage. Advanced ticket sales only—no tickets will be sold the night of the event! Tickets available at Jack's Place Restaurant or call Laura Rolls at 673-4077.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 15

- **Seven Lakes West Landowner's Association Annual Meeting** – 2 pm, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Acoustic Music Circle** – 4 pm – 6 pm, McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, 1374 Foxfire Road. Local musicians are invited to participate and all are welcome to listen. 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 traditional music of Appalachian, Irish, and Celtic influence. Refreshments served. No admission charge. Information, Amy McDonald 295-6608.

## MONDAY, MARCH 16

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

## TUESDAY, MARCH 17

- **League of Women Voters Meeting & Luncheon** – 11:30 am, Table on the Green, Midland Country Club, Pinehurst. District Attorney Maureen Krueger and Janet Currie, former Juvenile Justice Officer for NC, will speak on 'Juvenile Justice in Moore County.' The Pinecrest High School Debate team will also present on the issue of The National Popular Vote. Public welcome. Cost is \$12. Reservations, 944-9611.
- **Word of Life German Brass Ensemble Concert** – 7 pm, Seven Lakes Baptist Church. Brass music has always been a very important part of Christian music. Concert program will feature a variety of music. Public is welcome to attend.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

- **Project Linus Blanket Workshop** – 10 am - 3 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Bring sharp scissors, a snack or lunch, and come have some fun while helping the children of Moore County. We will have fleece to make blankets, blankets to inspect, and labels to sew on. Come meet your neighbors for a "feel good" day. Info: Pat Weber 673-1457.
- **Lenten Lunch Series** – 11:30 am, West End United Methodist Church. Service includes a devotion, Communion, and a speaker, followed by a light lunch. Luncheon is free and public is invited and welcome to attend. Information, 673-1371.

- **Kelly Cup Golf Championship** – 12:30 pm, Pinehurst No. 8, Pinehurst. Tournament benefits the Sandhills Children's Center. Entry fees \$200/player or \$800/team. Hole sponsorships available. Entry fees include greens fees, cart, and a delicious dinner donated by Outback Steakhouse. Information, Teresa Copper or Kathy Desmond at 692-3323.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 19

- **'Powerful Tools for Caregivers' Class** – 1 pm – 3 pm, Senior Enrichment Center. Info: for caregivers including stress management, communication skills, and coping. Classes free, weekly through April 23. Call 215-0900.



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# SLLA Candidate Interviews

(Continued from page 19)

the facelift needed to make us competitive with newer communities. Additionally, we have sufficient operating income to ensure that other minor repairs are completed in a timely manner and we must stress that we are a gated community," Galford said. "The survey responses emphasized the importance of the gates – if they are important to our current residents than they will be an important marketing tool for future residents."

## Kent Droppers

**Why run?** "At the coffee shop and in the paper, I just heard a lot of people complaining and it seemed to me that I didn't just want to complain," said Droppers when explaining his decision to run for the Board. "If I was going to have an opinion, I needed to do something about it. You don't have the right to moan and groan unless you want to get in there and try to be part of the solution."

**Accomplish what?** Asked what he hoped to accomplish on the Board, Droppers said, "I want the community to demonstrate excellence in everything that it does so that the vast majority of the residents feel that it is an outstanding value."

**Hours and Board responsibilities?** Droppers said he anticipates spending three to four hours a week on Board activities.

"I will manage the process to that level." He continued, "My strengths are in strategy and vision and I know how to manage people, so those are the areas where I am most interested. I have hired, interviewed, and managed a lot of people in my life – I know how to do that."

**Previous experience?** Droppers said while he has not worked on a community board, he has served on both church governing boards and corporate and joint venture boards.

He said he feels comfortable that he knows what issues are facing Seven Lakes, such as roads.

"On question we have is, are we appropriately staffed? I don't know because I'm not privy to performance reviews and structure information – nor should I be [as a non-Board member]," he said.

**Transition process?** Droppers said a straight forward cost/benefit analysis of transitioning to a new individual or management company is the first step.

"What do we get? What do we lose? This is a "make-buy" type of decision."

Dropper said if an individual is the direction selected, that the new manager should be a great manager – as opposed to a great leader.

"They are different attributes. It is the Board's job to provide leadership and the manager's job to implement. I will look for some-



Kent Droppers

one who is ruthlessly analytical," Droppers said. "Someone who can see what needs to be done and will get it accomplished. Last, we need somebody who can effectively manage relationships within the community – and I emphasize effectively. Not everyone gets to come into the office and burn up your day. Being effective is about good person to person skills."

**Keeping Seven Lakes competitive?** Droppers said he agreed with the Broken Window theory of community management.

"You can't have great grandiose ideas if abandoned buildings have broken windows and the cops don't provide protection," Droppers related explaining his experiences of living in New York City during a period of decay and crumbling infrastructure. "By cleaning up and doing little things you could then do the big things."

He continued, "I think for Seven Lakes, we need to implement exceptionally well. There is a brouhaha over the dues increase, but the majority of people don't mind paying when they see the Board is being a good steward and they are getting value for their

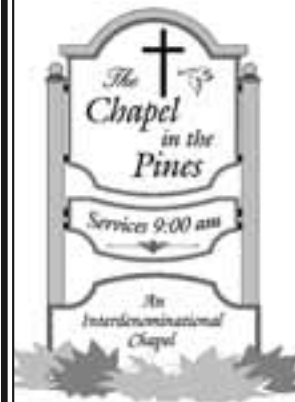
money."

Droppers said the sheer level of current discontent indicates a sizeable portion of the community does not agree.

"We need to communicate how and why and what they are getting for the money," said Droppers.

pers. "We need to implement a lot better than we are."

## Come & Worship with Us!



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Chapel in the Pines Chaplain

March 8

Greg Pilson, Soloist

March 15

Kathryn Buie, Soloist

Reverend Fran Stark  
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## Don't like the weather? Wait a minute.

Monday - Thirty degrees!

*Oh the weather outside is frightful...since we've no place to go. Let it snow, let it snow!* No school, just a houseful of dripping gloves, wet boots, soggy cold cats, and happy children.

Tuesday - Thirty-five degrees! Ice, ice baby to go...*Yo man, let's get out of here.* Umm, who forgot to turn on the heat? I mean this is North Carolina,

right? Brrr, stupid snow!

Wednesday - Forty-four degrees! *Spring fever, it's time for fun. Get up, get out. Spring is everywhere.* A crisp morning spent with a steaming mug of inspiration, bunny slippers, and the chipper chatter of birds. Aren't those budding trees lovely?

Thursday - Fifty-eight degrees! *I've seen fire and rain..and sunny days that I thought would never*

*end.* The earth smells so fresh and new. I better put down the java and get cracking on my garden...Life is good.

Friday - Sixty-nine degrees! *Sunshine on my shoulders, makes me happy.* "No, kids! We are not going swimming. How about a bike ride - uh, look your bikes are right over there. See, next to the pile of boots, gloves, and sleds."

Saturday - Seventy-three degrees! *Summer breeze, makes me feel fine!*

*Blowing through the jasmine in my mind.*

Yes, folks. Just another typical week of Spring in the

South — one crazy day at a time.



### Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

## Hudson urges 'No' vote on dues increase

Dear Editor:

Companies are closing their doors, retirement accounts and investments cut in half, people are losing their jobs, having salaries cut or shorter working hours and this board wants you

to vote for a dues increase for this year and next.

They go behind closed doors and vote unanimously to give a contract to Mr. Fulcher that will saddle us with more debt. They will not tell what this con-

tract includes. Yet it is a "contract" just like any other contract that should be open for landowners to review. It is our money, by the way.

Now, they say the dues increase is for lakes and dams,

and roads but to date there is no guarantee that that's where the money will go and stay.

Also, the policy voted in three years ago states that if it's over \$5,000 then it requires the board to vote on it. Why then did Direc-

tor Shaver ignore this and spend around \$100,000 that wasn't in the budget for pickup trucks or repair an old front end loader or for a building? Now, with this run away spending, the board's hoping for a dues increase.

I hope you will decide to vote 'No' on the dues increase.

Also, vote 'no' for Galford and vote 'no' for Zielsdorf. Do we really want Board members who deal behind closed doors and under the table?

Why not vote for those who will let the sunshine in?

Steve Hudson  
Seven Lakes North

Hudson is a candidate for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors. —GH

## Thankfulness

I've rarely become more refreshed than in moments when thankfulness for life and its bounties bursts out to supplement and reaffirm my thoughts when kneeling in a pew.

In many forms of life's circumstances, just a small act of kindness can help turn someone's faltering life in the right direction. Kindness in action is a sight to behold — full of the type of compassion the world needs more of.

Why should we think about the welfare of others we hardly know? Do we have cosmic questions to send out into space to help people stretch comfortably beyond the confines of their daily routines?

Why should we worry about their mental or physical well-being?

Don't we face

enough problems descending upon ourselves to leave little



### Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

time for concern of others?

My religion and yours can and do remind us that one of the most wonderful feelings that can come upon us is when we live with a strong consciousness that love and devotion as well as a constant thankfulness for the privilege of life itself are apparent on our journey.

## Correction

Dear Editor:

We would like to make a correction the the "Other items" as reported in your story on the Foxfire Village Council meeting on page 4 of the February 20 edition of *The Times*.

John and Louise Quella are not the developers of Reyn-

wood. They are residents. Robert Edwards is the developer of Reynwood.

John & Louis Quella  
Reynwood

[The Times regrets the error.

— GH]

SEVEN  
LAKES TIMES

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## Roast Chicken, Barbecue, an Auction, Raffle & Good Gospel Music!

There will be something for everyone on Friday, March 20 at Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church — good food, toe-tapping music, and the chance to bid on and win some real treasures!

Rotisserie chicken and BBQ plates by Rick's Catering of Laurinburg will be available from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. All plates are \$7.50 and advanced purchase is recommended. Delivery is available for ten or more plates. For advance tickets for the meals, contact Scott Ritter at 947-1957 or 638-5517.

Between 3:00 pm and 6:30 pm, local musicians will provide the best in bluegrass gospel for your listening pleasure. Auction at 7:00 pm will include tools, gift certificates for local restaurants, golf items and packages, pottery, Carhartt items, miscellaneous household items, and new and gently used merchandise.

A raffle drawing for three special items will take place during the auction: 1st prize -Holland gas grill; 2nd prize — handmade wall mount Curio cabinet; 3rd prize — golf items. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or \$20.00 for a pack of five and can be purchased in advance or at the event. You do not have to be present to win. For advance purchase of raffle tickets, contact Alan Black 215-3672.

All events will take place at the church located at 1444 Doubs Chapel Church Road in West End. All proceeds from the meals & auction go to the Community Mission fund of the church.

# Hot soups great for cold weather

Nothing is better than a bowl of hot vegetable soup in this cold weather!

I didn't put this recipe in the Project Linus cookbook because I made it up: and it's probably never the same.

I just made a pot, and I'm going to try to tell you how I did it. This makes a gallon or so.

### Vegetable Soup with Beef

Take a 3 - 4 pound beef roast and cut it into bite-size pieces. You could also use stew beef. Put the beef in a huge soup pot and cover it well with water. Cook about 30 minutes until it's almost done.

Then add about 2 large onions, 5 stalks celery, and 3 or 4 carrots [may substitute 2 cups of baby carrots].

I chop these coarsely in a food

processor. Add 2 medium potatoes — chopped, and two 16 ounce cans of crushed tomatoes.

Add 2 - 3 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce, 1 tsp. hot sauce, 1-2 tsp. salt, 1/2 tsp. black pepper, and 3 Tbsp.



## from Lucy's Kitchen

Lucy Ingram  
Seven Lakes South

beef bullion.

Cook on medium heat about 30 minutes.

Add any or all of the following vegetables: English peas, black

—eyed peas, lima beans, corn, or any you prefer. If the soup is too thick at this time, you may add up to a large container of beef broth.

Simmer about 20-25 minutes. Add 1/2 cup brown rice and simmer about 30 more minutes.

Here's another great soup for cold weather — and this is one of the few recipes I made up myself!

In fact, I just dumped things in, and this is how it turned out.

### Cream of Potato and Broccoli Soup

Ingredients

5 or 6 medium potatoes  
2 large onions  
1 large can chicken broth  
1-2 heads broccoli  
4-6 oz. cheese [your choice]  
3 Tbsp. butter  
2-3 cups milk [any kind, depending on how rich you want it]

Peel and cut up potatoes and onions into large chunks. Pour chicken broth into large pot. Add potatoes and onions.

Cook until tender, adding broccoli last ten minutes.

Blend all in blender and put back in pot. Add cheese and butter. Stir until melted. Add milk and salt and pepper to taste. Stir well.

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# Background on Fulcher consulting contract

Now that Dalton has made his employment agreement public, I wish to make the following comments. After I was elected to the board in March of 2007, it became apparent to me that we have approximately four to five dozen people in the community that really admire Dalton Fulcher, "he can do no wrong." We have an equal number of residents who really dislike him, "he can do nothing right." These two warring factions have been at each other for the last few years. They have caused much distraction regarding the day-to-day operations of the Association. In short, 90-95% of the residents have not been well served by these two warring factions.

My opinion of Dalton is that he is a genuinely nice person. I think he served the Association very well in previous years when Seven Lakes

was trying to become a growing, thriving community. But, since I have been on the board, I have wondered

whether another management style may be more appropriate, considering the tremendous change in demographics we have witnessed over the last ten years. I also felt that the distractions caused by the warring factions were not in the best

interest of the Association. With that in mind, I decided to ask the other board members in a closed meeting we had with our attorney on September 4, 2008, as to

## Board Notes

Randy Zielsdorf  
Seven Lakes  
Landowners Board

whether they desired to strike an employment agreement with Dalton. He was on record at the end of 2007 as saying that he wanted to stay until the end of 2010. I telephoned our attorney, Hunter Stovall, to let him know that we would be discussing

this issue in the "Additional Items" section of the agenda. I also mentioned that should the board decide to strike an employment agreement with Dalton that I wanted him to write the agreement. Neither myself nor the other board members have a legal background. For the sake of the Association and Dalton, I wanted to be certain that this was properly executed.

I can tell you that going into this discussion, the majority of board members had expressed some reservations about executing an employment agreement with

Dalton. But it was also felt that since Dalton had been managing the Association for more than 20 years, some of his knowledge might be useful to transition to new management. After about 45 minutes of discussion (Dalton was not present at this meeting), the board was unanimous in the content of this agreement. Hunter then wrote the agreement and delivered it to me at the end of September 2008. Dalton was informed what the agreement would contain. At the beginning of October

(See "Zielsdorf," p. 26)

## Contract

(Continued from front page)

employee after this year, and we're not going to pay him a bunch of money to do nothing," Zielsdorf said during the January General Meeting.

Since that announcement, the SLLA Board has refused to release the details of its consulting contract with Fulcher, despite requests from a number of landowners and *The Times*.

Zielsdorf explains in his statement [See above] that the Board's attorney had advised the Board that only Fulcher should release the information.

The contract specifies that the \$75,550 be paid in 26 equal installments of \$2,903.85. Those payments would actually total \$75,500.10, introducing a minor math error into the contract.

Should Fulcher for some reason become unable to provide consulting services to the Association during the term of the contract, he would be paid four payments after that point and then the compensation would end.

Should the Association terminate Fulcher either before or during the term of the consulting contract, it would nonetheless be obligated to pay him the \$75,550 consulting fee in full.

A facsimile copy of the contract and appended worksheets will be available on *The Times* website at [www.sevenlaketimes.net](http://www.sevenlaketimes.net) on Friday.

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# Employment contract with Dalton Fulcher

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## Employment Agreement

On this the 2nd day of October, 2008, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association, Inc. [hereinafter referred to as "Association"] and Dalton C. Fulcher [hereinafter referred to as "Fulcher"] [which are collectively hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"] entered into this Employment Agreement [hereinafter referred to as "Agreement"] for the purpose of setting forth the terms of Fulcher's employment for the period beginning as of the date of this Agreement and ending on December 31, 2010.

### Witnesseth:

WHEREAS, The Association, in recognition of Fulcher's years of service to the Association, desires to enter into an agreement with Fulcher facilitating Fulcher's retirement and the smooth transition of the operations of the Association to a new Community Manager; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants and agreements hereafter set forth, and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which hereby is acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Fulcher will continue to be employed as the Community Manager of the Association through December 31, 2009 at his current salary and with his current benefit package.

2. Fulcher will be employed on a consulting basis for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and ending on December 31, 2010. During this period Fulcher will be available to the Association Board of Directors and the new Community Manager on an as needed basis. Fulcher's compensation for this period will be \$75,550.00, payable in 26 consecutive equal biweekly payments of \$2,903.85.

3. In the event Fulcher should not be able to perform in his capacity as consultant for any reason, not including a unilateral action of the Association, during 2010, his compensation will terminate after four pay periods. In the event the Association should terminate Fulcher's employment or consulting status

prior to the ending dates set forth in this Agreement, the Association will pay Fulcher the balance of the compensation set forth herein. In the event Fulcher should obtain other employment during 2010 his compensation will be reduced by an amount equal to any compensation received from any such other employment.

4. During the remainder of 2008 and all of 2009 Fulcher shall continue to perform all of his duties as Community Manager, including but not limited to assisting in the recruitment and selection of the new Community Manager. During 2010 Fulcher shall perform all of the duties as a consultant to the Board of Directors of the Association.

5. All notices, demands and other communications required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been

properly given if delivered by hand or by certified mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid, to the Association or Fulcher, as the case may be, at their addresses first above written, or at such other addresses as they may designate by notice given hereunder.

6. This Agreement of Employment shall not be construed for or against either party hereto as a result of that party or that party's attorney having drafted this Agreement;

7. No delay or omission by either the Association or Fulcher in exercising any right shall operate as a waiver of such right or any other right. This Agreement may not be altered, amended, changed, modified, waived or terminated in any respect or particular unless the same shall be in writing signed by the party to be bound. No waiver by any party of any breach hereunder shall be deemed a waiver of

any other or subsequent breach.

8. Fulcher was not represented in the drafting of the Agreement by counsel. The Association has been represented in the drafting of this Agreement by Hunter Stovall, Attorney at Law.

9. This Agreement embodies the entire agreement between the Association and Fulcher. Any terms, understandings or agreements not contained in this Agreement shall be deemed null and void.

10. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

11. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, personal representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement the date first above written.

*Dalton C. Fulcher*

Seven Lakes  
Landowners Association, Inc.  
*By Randall A. Zielsdorf, President*  
*By Sally Kindsvatter, Vice President*  
*By Denver L. Galford, Treasurer*  
*By Donald P. Truesdell, Secretary*  
*By Gary W. Caulk, Director*  
*By Manila G. Shaver, Director*  
*By Donald J. Welch, Director*

*[The contract document that Dalton Fulcher released to The Times included a cost comparison of his 2008 and 2010 compensation. Scans of that comparison and the contract will be posted on The Times website on Friday, March 6. – GH]*

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# Zielsdorf

(Continued from page 24)

2008 the board had another closed meeting regarding personnel. At the beginning of this meeting, the employment agreement with Dalton was reviewed and signed by Dalton and all members of the board. Dalton announced his retirement (at

the end of 2009) at the October 16, 2008 work session.

Firing Dalton was never an option. In 2006, there was a concerted effort by the Board of Directors to fire Dalton Fulcher. The Seven Lakes Landowners Association spent \$3,239.00, in legal opinions in 2006 (FY

2006/2007) from Womble Carlyle. This law firm specializes in human resources. Don Truesdell, board president in 2006, told me the following:

"There are several reasons why Dalton was not fired. It takes a majority vote of the Board to fire the Community Manager. There

were never four votes. Womble Carlyle opined that the Association could be subjected to an age discrimination and wrongful termination lawsuit for the following reasons: 1) There were no grounds documented in his personnel file that would warrant termination; 2) North Carolina

has a public policy in force for the protection of the workforce. The Community Manager is the highest paid and most senior employee. If the Community Manager had been fired without any grounds for termination then the Association could have been

(See "Zielsdorf," p. 27)



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# Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

\$25 and \$75, respectively. Pool personnel will punch the passes each time they are used. Members will be given, on request, a complimentary guest pass booklet good for fourteen

visits to the pool

"I believe the 2009-2010 fee structure for use of the pool is not in the best interest of the community," Rocco told the Board, noting that she has eleven grandchildren and that seven of those

typically visit at the same time. "When they visit the pool, they typically stay for less than two hours," Rocco added.

She said she believed that all resident use of the pool will be limited by the new policy. "It will

make it cost-prohibitive," she said.

## Other residents

### express concern about fees

A number of residents followed Rocco at the mic to support her comments.

Jim Ambler noted that, despite the downturn in the economy, the

Board's FY2009-2010 budget raises not only dues but a variety of fees, including both mailbox rental and pool guest fees. "One of the reasons I came here," Ambler said, "is it's not a age-restricted community. I came here for freedom to do what I wanted to do. The pool is not

(See "Westside," p. 28)

# Zielsdorf

(Continued from page 26)

sued for age discrimination and wrongful termination. It is also against North Carolina State law to enforce a mandatory retirement age unless previously agreed to in writing."

About a month ago, the anti-Dalton forces leveled charges based upon NCGS such and such (NCGS means North Carolina General Statutes) that, by law, the employment agreement had to be released to the public. Since I have been on the board, I have received numerous emails about the Board of Directors violating this section of the NC code or that section of the NC code. Since I am not an attorney, I don't pay much attention to them. I do forward some of these to our attorney. The charges regarding releasing the employment agreement were forwarded to our attorney. He informed me that if the agreement was to be released, that Dalton should release it, not the board. So that is the direction that the board has taken. Dalton released the agreement for public knowledge today, March 3, 2009.

At the open meeting at the end of January, I announced the employment agreement that the board had struck with Dalton. I believe it was the following evening when I returned home from work (after 8:00 pm) there was a phone message from Laura Douglass of *The Times*. For the record, Laura and I are personal friends, but I think we do a good job of separating our friendship from board related matters. I returned Laura's call. She wanted more details about the 2010 consulting agreement with Dalton. I told her that Dalton would cease to be an Association employee after December 31, 2009, but that we had kept him on a monthly retainer for 2010 as a consultant. This meant that Dalton would have to pay all of his own taxes, both income and FICA (Social Secu-

rity/Medicare). She asked if she could use the words "small monthly retainer." At the time my thought process (it was now 8:30 pm, I only wanted to get dinner ready) was to say "... yes, that wording is good..." Had I been a little more alert, I would have told her to print "... an unspecified amount." But I am on the record as saying "a small amount." I have only one thing to add. If you want a board member who is absolutely perfect, *I am not your man!*

The added dues increase, \$50.00 for FY 2009/2010 and an additional \$50.00 for FY 2010/2010 is being dedicated solely to paving the roads and to

state mandated dam repairs, *not* to Dalton's one time consulting compensation for 2010 in the amount of \$75,550. The current price tag to repave all of our roads is approximately \$2,000,000. Without the dues increase the roads will simply go unattended until a future board reaches a decision on what to do.

Now is the time to let go of the petty bitterness that has been harbored by a small number of our residents for the last several years. Now is the time to look forward to getting new management for Seven Lakes.

*Thank you for your attention.*

*Randall A. Zielsdorf,  
President, SLLA*



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# Westside meeting

(Continued from page 27)

overused. When you go up to the pool, there are not that many people there."

"You'll force us to not use the pool and to go to the lake," another resident said. "That is not what this community was designed to do."

"The fees have been set by this Board," President Mary Anne Fewkes told the residents, noting that the task of setting policy can be difficult.

She said there are significant costs associated with the pool. Pool furniture that cost \$30,000 when the pool was opened five years ago already must be repaired or replaced, Fewkes said. In addition, new state requirements may add to the cost of managing the pool.

"The Board has to decide 'Do we raise dues for everyone or, in order to pay for the pool, do we charge the people who don't live here?'" she added. "When thinking about fees we are thinking about what is discretionary. This Board made the decision to set the policy very differently."

"I would advise anyone who is really interested in changing policy to get on the nominating committee — look at who you are going to vote for," she added.

Fewkes said that, in a community that includes 900 families, she had had perhaps a half-dozen emails opposed to the new fee structure at the pool — and as many in favor of it.

## Fewkes: Policy is set

"Has it been decided in concrete or could we canvass the community," Linda Horne asked Fewkes. "Is there any way to change your mind?"

"We have set the policy for it," Fewkes said. "We have looked very carefully at it. This is what is in place right now." Fewkes said she had received emails from folks "saying I don't want to be paying for all this stuff when I don't use it."

"We don't use the tennis courts, but we don't argue about paying for it," Horne responded.

"Future Boards will be looking at it very carefully," Fewkes said. "Think about a year from now. If this is something that you are really concerned about to that degree, plan, and, next August, come before the Board."

Rocco asked how the guest

policy would apply to residents of Seven Lakes North and South, noting that Community Manager Joan Frost told her they would be treated as guests rather than having reciprocal access to the pool and other amenities as has been the case in the past.

Fewkes said a new reciprocity agreement would be negotiated in April, after both Associations hold their Board elections.

Nancy Workman said she supported increasing fees in order to support upkeep of the facilities, but asked whether there was a legal requirement that lifeguards be hired for the pool. Fewkes said that it is not required currently, but regulations impacting pools are changing and those changes could include a lifeguard requirement.

Joe Kristek expressed skepticism that, based on their lack of diligence last year, the lifeguards hired for the pool would do a good job of checking folks

in and out and punching passes. But when President Fewkes suggested the Association would be hiring someone to check passes, the room responded with hoots of disapproval.

## Storage Yard Fees

"I am totally with Lois on the pool," Jerry Constantino said, noting that he, like Rocco, has eleven grandchildren. He then turned his comments to the subject of the fee to store a recreational vehicle [RV] in the boat and trailer storage lot, which will increase from \$240 to \$300 under the new fee schedule. The fee for storage of boats and utility trailers will increase from \$60 to \$75.

Recalling the history of the storage area, Constantino, said it was originally half its current size and was full. So RV fees were set significantly higher than those for boats and trailers. But the crowding problem has been

eliminated by increasing the size of the lot. He said a few utility trailers stored in the lot are as large as RVs and noted that there are also very large boats designed for the ocean rather than Lake Auman stored in the lot which also take up as much space as an RV.

"We are paying four times as much for a problem that doesn't exist anymore," Constantino said.

President Fewkes said it had been suggested at one point that the lot rental fee be scaled

based on the length of the item stored -- boat, trailer, or RV. She asked if Constantino would be willing to serve on a committee to reexamine that idea, and he agreed.

## Boat slips

Fees for boat slip rental at Johnson Point will increase by \$100 annually under the FY 2009-2010 Fee schedule, rising from \$600 to \$700.

"What are we going to get for the extra \$100 per year?" Dave (See "Westside," p. 28)

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# Westside meeting

(Continued from page 28)

Petrie asked. "The docks don't look any different than they did three years ago. Petrie noted that his boat had \$1,500 in damage done to it at one point and that it was set adrift on Christmas Eve morning with a number of other boats.

"You show \$38,000 income coming in from the slip rentals," Petrie said. "What are you doing with that money?"

Fewkes said they Association had installed motion detector lights at Johnson Point, added bumpers on the slips, and hired a sheriff's deputy to patrol on the weekend. When Petrie pointed out that the patrol has nothing to do with the boat slips, Fewkes noted that the income from rentals is applied to a variety of lake-related expenses. The Finance Committee had recommended increasing the fee to \$800, she said.

"It's a seller's market," Petrie responded. "You could probably charge \$1,000."

## Dam remediation

President Fewkes opened the meeting with a report that the Dam Committee had met earlier in the day with Dam Engineer Dr. Dan Marks. The project has been approved by the state and the process of soliciting bids for the work is about to begin, she said.

The NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources [NCDENR] inspected the dam on January 5 and had no comment about problems other than the issues that will be addressed by the remediation, she added.

The work on the dam is expected to begin in April and to take about two months to complete, Fewkes said. It will not be necessary to lower the water level in the lake to complete the project. Some information on the process to be used may be found on the Seven Lakes West website; questions may be directed to any member of the dam committee. They include chairman Mick Herdrich, Fewkes, Bob Fewkes, Paul Kirst, Bob Van Houten, John Goodman, and Ed Silberhorn.

## Terrill Suit

Legal Director Ed Silberhorn told landowners that he had received reports that the Terrill

lawsuit has been settled by all defendants, with a total settlement of \$180,000. SLWLA's share of the settlement was \$30,000. The Association's insurer, State Farm, paid more than \$120,000 in legal fees incurred by the Terrills, \$30,000 on behalf of the Association, and an undetermined amount of legal fees and settlement on behalf of others of its clients who were also defendants in the case.

Silberhorn said provisions of state environmental laws made the defendants liable for the plaintiffs' legal fees if even as much as a teaspoon of silt had reached the Terrill's cove because of unregulated construction activity. Though the Association continues to believe that the cove in question was always a shallow cove rather than having been silted in by runoff, Silberhorn said, the mounting legal bills made settlement the best option.

Silberhorn said that, as a result of the suit, State Farm had declined to renew the Association's Directors and Officers insurance. Through the efforts of the insurance committee, the Board was eventually able to secure coverage, but at quadruple the cost.

"We will be able to live this down," Silberhorn said. "It will take a while. We will slowly but surely impress the insurance company again, and our premiums will eventually go down."

## Annexations

Silberhorn said the Board has in the works four separate annexation agreements for neighborhoods inside the gates:

- Stonegate, a fourteen-unit neighborhood by the back gate that will involve a common maintenance plan like that of the Pinnacles.
- Chandler Hills, a twenty-five-home neighborhood that runs alongside Longleaf Drive from

Douglas to Joseph's Point.

- Parkwood, a ten-home development uphill from the mailbox.
- Clubhouse Commons, a twenty-home subdivision near the Beacon Ridge Country Club Driving Range.

All four areas have the right to use SLWLA roads without any agreement, but do not have the right to use the amenities. The annexation agreements will require that residents in those areas pay SLWLA dues and will give them access to the Association's amenities.

During the public comment segment of the meeting, several residents asked whether there were any additional areas that had access to SLWLA roads by right and thus would need to be annexed into the community. Silberhorn and President Fewkes both said there were no more such areas and that any further expansion of the boundaries of Seven Lakes West would be at the option of the Association.

In response to a question from Bill Price, Silberhorn said each of the four neighborhoods would utilize one of the existing sets of covenants in effect in various sections of Seven Lakes West: Stonegate will follow Seven Lakes West covenants, as will Chandler Hills; Parkwood will follow Seven Lakes West 5500; and Clubhouse Commons will be under Beacon Ridge Covenants.

## Architectural Review

Director Ron Shepard reported that the Board has given final approval to a new set of Architectural Standards. Shepard said the seven-member Architectural Review Committee [ARC] has a defined set of procedures that are used to approve and then follow the progress of projects, including new home construction, as well as alterations and additions.

The full committee meets at least monthly, but various members are typically involved in some phase of ARC work every other day, he said. Any approval must be signed off on by at least two ARC members.

When a home is finished and has obtained a certificate of occupancy from the county, Shepard said, ARC conducts a final inspection, issues a completion certificate, and returns any deposits.

## Annual Dues Mailing

Community Manager Joan Frost said annual dues statements will be sent to landowners at the end of March. The packet will include separate invoices for dues, vehicle registration, and boat stickers. Charges for mailbox rental will be included on the dues statement.

Landowners will be asked to correct any inaccurate information on the pre-populated forms before presenting them at the Landowners Office and picking up their stickers. Copies of doc-

uments proving boat ownership and the required liability insurance will need to be provided to the office.

Frost said she will monitor this year's process carefully in order to spot any improvements that can be incorporated into the process next year.

## Recreation

Recreation Director Karen Milligan reported on three upcoming events:

- The annual Easter Egg Hunt, which will be held on April 4 with a rain date of April 5. 2,250 eggs have been purchased for the event through a company in Georgia that employs folks with disabilities.
- A Support Our Troops craft day on May 2 will offer activities for both children and adults.
- The spring dinner-dance is scheduled for May 16, with "An Evening in Paris" as the theme.

(See "Westside," p. 30)

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# SLLA Meeting

(Continued from front page)

ident of the Civic Group urged caution in moving too fast towards creation of a water district. He reported a recent conversation with Andy Wilkerson, the Town Manager of Pinehurst.

"In the absence of information on the specifics of how it would be organized and how it would be managed, how it would be funded for infrastructure and where consumers monthly rates would be set...it would be foolish to speculate on the wisdom of a Water District," Kinney continued, "I did say [to Wilkerson] it's an opportunity that definitely needs to be investigated, but that I do not believe it would be very popular with our people – with Seven Lakes and our neighbors."

There are two types of special-purpose districts in the United States: school districts and special districts — which are created to manage a specific function

or service, such as water, to people who live within the managed area. Special districts can cross limiting lines of towns and villages, possess fiscal and administrative autonomy, and are empowered to tax residents of the district. A Water District Board is governed by either elected or appointed members. Currently Moore County has three special districts; the Board of Education, and the Eastmoore and Westmoore Water Districts. The latter are both wholly creatures and under the management of the Board of Commissioners.

Kinney said he supports the McGill Water Study recommendation to refurbish the Robbins water treatment plant and run a water line down Rt. 705 to Seven Lakes, at an estimated cost of \$2.7 million. The Robbins option also includes a recommendation to tap into the Deep River — the second, and last, source of

surface water in the county.

"There are still many questions including how many customers do you need to make it viable?" Kinney said. "I suggest we find out more about water districts...the good, the bad, and the ugly."

Several on the Board agreed, with Director Don Welch and President Randy Zielsdorf both speaking in favor of creating a more general community organization — with membership tied to representation from multiple groups including at least two elected directors from each landowner's boards.

"This is an opportunity for all sides to come together to set up an organization that we are willing to give authority to speak for us on issues like water," said Welch.

## Gates

In a split vote, the Board approved two contracts with ESC, for \$5,431 and \$14,418 respectively, to upgrade and repair the gates and camera system.

The proposal, which was shelved last Fall while community survey results were tallied, was presented by Security Director Gary Caulk.

"We've needed this for a long time. We need a system that

can be fixed and I'm trying to get a reputable person on line," he said.

Retired engineer Andy Lowe, who has spent considerable time repairing the old system argued against the proposal during Public Comment.

"If you vote for it you have to take the bad with the good," he said, suggesting the contract cost could be decreased by using a different lens. "And the manual switch is not addressed. We still will have to be interfaced from the switches. What you are doing is taking out good working equipment."

"The gates have been working well lately — if it's not broke don't fix it," he concluded.

Welch agreed the gate system has been functioning well. He questioned whether the proposed repair work would, in fact, protect the system from lightening damage — the most common reason cited for gate failure.

Director Sally Kindsvatter opposed the contract based on Lowe's comments.

"I can't make myself vote for another \$15,000 to \$20,000 expenditure this year unless I feel we absolutely really need it," Kindsvatter said.

Bud Shaver abstained and the motion to approve carried.

## New Bylaw

The new Bylaw 4.10.1., which establishes a restricted account for funds collected by the proposed dues increases for Fiscal Years 2010/2011 for roads and dam remediation, was approved unanimously.

However, after former Treasurer Steve Hudson voiced concern that the new bylaw language was in conflict with Bylaw 11.1, the Board agreed to "tweak it during the March Work Session" and will vote on amended changes during the Annual Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, March 22.

"I want to make clear our intent," said Shaver. "That what people are voting for [dues increase]...that money will be restricted, period. This is something that should have been done a long time ago."

## Survey results

A discussion of the recent survey and whether or not the Association should mow the roadside right-of-way in front of homes provided a lengthy period of give and take with membership during the February meeting.

Survey results show that a two-thirds majority of respondents would be willing to forego roadside mowing, at an esti-

(See "SLLAt," p. 31)

# Westside

(Continued from page 29)

Details on all recreation events are available on the Seven Lakes West website.

During Public Comment, John Hoffmann applauded the Recreation Committee for the recent wine tasting, which he said was the best event he had attended in his eight years in the community. His comments prompted applause from the audience.

## Other Business

In other business:

- President Fewkes noted that the Board will be appointing a Nominating Committee for next year during its March Work Session and encouraged anyone interested in serving to contact Secretary Ed Tuton or any other Board member.

- Fewkes said the Association will be purchasing at least one automated external defibrillator [AED] for the West Side Park Community Center shortly after the budget year begins. Residents will be trained in its use and a second unit may be purchased later in the year.

## Member comments

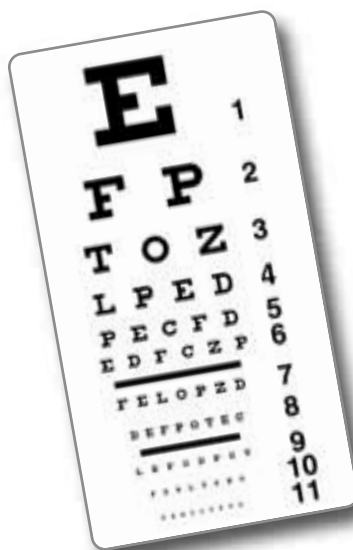
In addition to the discussion surrounding the increase in a

number of Westside fees, reported above, members had a number of other comments during the February 24 SLWLA meeting:

- Jamie Eilert suggested returning to the former practice of alternating Fourth of July fireworks between Lakes Auman and Lake Sequoia as a cost-saving measure.
- Charlie Flinchum expressed concern that the Beacon Ridge Country Club maintenance staff often leaves the maintenance gate unlocked, facilitating unauthorized access into the community. Security Director Blaine Rowland acknowledged that this is a persistent problem but said it has no permanent solution other than regularly checking the gate and nagging Club management.
- Tom Allen of the Carriage Park neighborhood said Morgan Wood residents have been riding their horses through Carriage Park, as well as across the dam, and in other areas of Seven Lakes West. He encouraged the Board to develop policies on where riders and horses were and were not allowed "before Morgan Wood really gets developed."

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# Commissioners

(Continued from page 6)  
ners in Progress Director Ray Ogden told Commissioners.

The company must maintain the extra jobs for at least one year in order to qualify for the county grant.

After the Board of Commissioners approved the grant unanimously, Ogden said, "This demonstrates the willingness and desire of the county to help our existing businesses during this difficult economic time."

## Other Business

In other business, during their March 2 meeting, the Board of Commissioners:

- On the recommendation of the Board of Health, rescinded a section of the Moore County Animal Control Ordinance, which allowed for the sale of stray animals collected in the county. The Board of Health determined that such collection and sale may not be in the best interests of the animals involved or in the best interest of public health.
- Approved a Records Retention and Disposition Schedule for the Sheriff's Office that was developed by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.
- Authorized applications by

Moore County Youth Services for grants to support their work with juvenile offenders.

- Approved setting aside time quarterly during Commissioner Work Session when the Board could meet with representatives of county municipalities, as well as quarterly meetings with state and US senators and representatives.
- Appointed Bryan Phillips to replace Scot Brooks as a member of the Board of Directors of the Moore County Transportation Advisory Board.

# SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 30)  
mated savings of \$30,000.

Shaver disputed that figure but said the decision should not be about money, "It's about appearance. That is what is important."

He said the Maintenance Committee identified 424 empty lots, and recommended selective mowing of pre-identified areas.

Shaver also said he was disappointed that the majority of survey responses were from older members.

"I would have liked to see more responses from the younger residents in the community

the maintenance staff for adding new trees and plants at Sequoia Point and along Dogwood Lane.

"The Beautification Committee will finish Sequoia with new picnic tables, benches, annuals and perennials. Then we will turn our sights to what needs to be done next, probably the gates," she said. "If you have a particular area that you would like us to look at, let us know."

## Maintenance

Shaver thanked his committee for their hard work over the past year. He said, if reappointed to chair the Maintenance Committee, he would not involve himself in day-to-day operations but rather take the opportunity to develop a long-range plan for equipment and infrastructure replacement and road repaving.

He reported upcoming projects proposed for the next month include exterior painting of buildings and playground equipment and preparing the pool to open.

## Security

"This is the quietest month we've ever had. I'd like to thank everyone for behaving," joked Caulk.

## Recreation

The North Carolina Open Water Swim will be held on Lake Echo, Friday & Saturday, May 29-30. The dam will be closed to traffic all day on Saturday. Spectators are encouraged to come out watch. The swim regularly

attracts 350 or more competitors.

The Board approved the creation of a new Seven Lakes Slalom Club. On specified and preapproved afternoons, the Club will install a water ski slalom course on Lake Sequoia.

The Spring/Summer Recreation Bulletin will be published in early March, reported Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane. Scheduled activities include the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 14; Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11; a bus trip to the new IKEA store in Charlotte; and the NC Senior Games – see Beane for additional registration information.

# Snow Make-up Days, Kindergarten

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

A flurry of snow days has played havoc on the Moore County Schools academic calendar. Reporting to the Board of Education on Monday, February 9, Superintendent Dr. Susan Pursuer recommended assigning make-up days of Monday, February 23 and Monday, May 25 [Memorial Day].

With the most recent school cancellation for snow, on Monday, March 2, the Board may be forced to approve another make-up day during Spring Break, which is scheduled around the Easter holiday, April 10-17.

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten pre-testing and registration will be held at West End Elementary School on Tuesday, March 24.

The five year old age cut-off date has been moved to August 31, reported Dr. Brian Phillips. "A provision is in place for parents who feel their child is ready to start early. They are required to complete a secure administered test," Phillips said.

mation.

Beane reported that the Recreation Committee has met with three playground manufacturer representatives and will be reviewing proposals for new playground equipment.

## Public Comment

Ed Sanchez thanked Fulcher, Shaver, Darr, and the Seven Lakes Maintenance Department for taking care of a drainage problem in front of his residence.

"You did a professional and excellent job and I'm happy to have you serving our interests in the community."

# Lions Club Broom Sale

It is Spring and a good time to clean out the closets and garage. Get help with a new broom and help the sight impaired.

The Seven Lakes Lions Club is offering brooms for sale in the Seven Lakes Business Village. Please drop by BB&T and see Cenda, or visit Dr. Barry Kavanaugh's office.

## Lakes & Dams

Director Don Truesdell reported the Echo Dam Emergency Action Plan [EAP] was approved, without comment, by the State.

Following discussion of a recommendation by the Lakes & Dam Committee to require three-inch identification numbers on power boats, the Board gave Fulcher authority to decide what fee level and process would be most appropriate for office record-keeping.

## ARB & Beautification

Kindsvatter reported a fencing project was halted.

"It was a shame because the fence was up, but had she come for a permit [as required], we would have told her it was incorrect."

She also thanked Maintenance Supervisor Bob Darr and

# Dr. Pete McKay — Family Dentistry



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# Kiwanis learn about Communities in Schools

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

The February 24 meeting of the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club featured a wonderful presentation by a very busy lady. Kathy Byron from Communities in Schools [CIS] brought a story, known to almost no one, in very exciting fashion.

CIS was organized to help reduce the dropout rate in Moore County schools. Funded through the United Way and BC/BS, CIS researched the major reasons for dropouts and has developed programs to assist in fighting this important problem.

Surprisingly, obesity was high-

lighted as one of the problems. Obesity has moved North Carolina from fifth in the Nation to fourth, and this problem is especially serious in the schools where chubby kids not only find it difficult to participate in normal and healthy activities, but also have their self esteem challenged through harassment by their classmates.

A major initiative of CIS, a gardening program started at Aberdeen Elementary school, has been very successful and has spread throughout the school system, including Pinecrest High School. Students must apply and be agreeable to bringing

the story to other students. Participants learn about how to grow things efficiently in small spaces, and perhaps more importantly, are exposed to what constitutes a healthy diet.

Every product that is grown is utilized in some way by the students, including the school cafeteria, where the food being supplied to the students is not always the most nourish able. The program has become very popular with the students, and they have become very aware of their diets. The physical activity has also been helpful in reducing the time spent in front of TVs and computers.



Kathy Byron with Frank Hayes, Program Coordinator

## Baptists host brass band

Brass music has always been a very important part of Christian music. You read about it in the Old Testament and today it is still a well-loved avenue in many countries of the world for getting out the message of the Gospel. This has been the experience of Word of Life Germany for the past forty years.

For this reason, Dr. Bob Parschauer, Paul Troxler, and George Sheller will host the Word of Life German Brass Ensemble on their nineteenth tour of North America. On Tuesday, March 17, Word of Life will present their concert program at

Seven Lakes Baptist Church at 7:00 pm.

The international ensemble will be accompanied by a full orchestra. Their music is contemporary, but conservative, a presentation which will lift your heart to praise and glory God.

During the program, the audience will hear a variety of brass sounds from good old Bavaria, to a variation of spirituals, German-style, to contemporary praise songs as well as old hymns of the church. Along with the Brass Ensemble, the Word of Life team from Germany will present their expanding min-

istry to the youth of that country.

The German team is asking God to give them \$30,000 in offerings and pledges during this tour towards a new Bible Institute property and ministry just outside of Berlin.

The German Brass are paying for their own flights in order to help raise these funds. Almost all of the players are from different professional orchestras in Germany, are born-again Christians, and give much of their free time to be involved in the Ministry of Word of Life Germany.

## Sailing season kicks off

by Ron Shepard, Commodore

The 2009 sailing season is quickly approaching. The Seven Lakes Sailing Club Kick-Off BYOB party will be held Saturday, March 28, at the home of Gus & Jan Gustafson on Sunrise Point.

The Club's website has a schedule of events and registration information, visit [www.sail7lakes.com](http://www.sail7lakes.com). Members and all interested newcomers are encouraged to mail annual dues \$20 and signed release form by April 1 to: Nancy Workman, Treasurer Seven Lakes Sailing Club, 3420 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC 27376.

Or, bring your check and registration to the Kick-Off BYOB –

the perfect place to meet people and get involved with the best and "Most Funnest" organization in Seven Lakes.

The Seven Lakes Sailing Club will participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Seven Lakes on March 14. Members will carry a new Club banner and display a couple of our "yachts."

With the goal of making our races more interesting and exciting, some rule changes and handicap updates have been made for the 2009 season. These will be reviewed at the Skipper's Meeting at the West Side Park Community Center on April 25. In the meantime, you can see a recap on the website.

### Dancers wanted!

The 7 Lakes Dance Group meets every Sunday from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Come out to enjoy social dancing for fun and fitness. Singles and couples are welcome -- whether you've never danced, want to practice, or are looking to learn a new step.

For information, visit <http://7lakesdance.org/>

### Looking for gardens . . .

The Seven Lakes Garden Club is starting its search for gardens for this year's garden tour.

Would you like to be on the tour? Do you know someone who has a beautiful garden? Let us know.

If you have been working hard to develop a beautiful garden or year and would like other people to see its beauty, then please volunteer for the Garden Tour this year. The Garden Club is looking for gardens from the North, South, and West sides of Seven Lakes. Please call Vickie Bedder at 673-1975.



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# Krueger, debate team guests at League

The League of Women Voters of Moore County has a very full meeting planned for Tuesday, March 17. The featured program is Juvenile Justice with special guests, District Attorney Maureen Krueger, Janet Currie of Communities in Schools [CIS] and members of the award-winning Pinecrest High School Debate Team.

The luncheon meeting will be held Tuesday, March 17, at 11:30 am, at the Table on The Green located at Midland Country Club in Pinehurst. The public is welcome and reservations are required. The cost is \$12.00. To reserve a seat, please call Char-

lotte at 944-9611, by March 13.

National champs Meredith Potter and Caleb Frye will debate John Wheeler and Doug Tableman, son of Steve and Linda Tableman of Seven Lakes West, on the National Popular Vote. All four are seniors at Pinecrest High school.

The Pinecrest Debate Team is a member of the National Forensics League. The team frequently places first or in the upper categories in individual events, and often wins the overall team award.

Leagues across the US are studying the issue of a Compact of States regarding the National Popular Vote.

After lunch, Krueger, the District Attorney of District 19d and Currie will discuss Juvenile Justice. If time allows, audience questions will be taken.

District Attorney Krueger is the chairperson of the Moore County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, and a member of the Moore County Community Child Protection Team, Moore County Domestic Violence Task Force, Moore County Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board, Moore County Drug Endangered Children Team, and the Moore County Child Fatality Review Team.

Janet Currie is currently

employed by Communities in Schools as an SOS Program Counselor. From 2002 to 2007, she was the community services coordinator of the Southern Pines Police Department.

In this position, she worked

with officers to develop specific programs for delivery to the community on topics of public safety and she planned and coordinated community events promoting crime prevention and partnerships with the community.

## Chapel spreads the love

Chapel in the Pines Outreach ministry volunteers and the shut-ins they help in the community came together to celebrate St. Valentine's Day on February 12, at The Chapel in the Pines during their second annual Outreach Valentine Party.

Sally Kindsvatter led a singing group and a sing-a-long. Donna Olson provided music on the piano. Women of the Chapel provided punch and cookies.

The purpose of the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Outreach Ministry is to serve and love all persons living in the community. If you know of anyone in the community who is in need of transportation to doctor

appointments, care giver assistance, respite care, grocery shopping, an occasional meal, trash pickup, mail pickup, or

handy man services, please contact Rev. Fran Stark, Minister of Visitation and Outreach at 673-5493.



Seven Lakes Chapel Outreach Singers

## Pheresis donors sought

by Jack Lynn

Moore County Red Cross

Pheresis – blood platelets and plasma donation – is valued by the American Red Cross at three times that of a whole blood donation.

Why? Because it is directed to very specific patient needs and the storage life of platelets is only five days. Fortunately, the body reproduces platelets quickly so that donation can be made twenty-four times per year.

In 1994, a group of Seven Lakers started carpooling to the ARC blood center in Durham five times per year to make this

very special "Gift of Life." The harvested platelets go directly to area hospitals for treatment of patients, many being children, with leukemia, lymphoma, organ and stem cell transfers, hemophilia, burns, and severe infections.

The eligibility for Pheresis donation is the same as for whole blood with added proviso of no aspirin for forty-eight hours before profusion. The donor group meets at The Chapel in the Pines for an early morning 1.5 hour trek to Durham. Once there, following the usual check-in and mini physical, donors recline in

a comfortable chair for 1 to 1.5 hours watching a movie while blood is taken from one arm, through a platelet/plasma separator, and returned to the other arm. After a canteen stop, the group heads off to a local deli for a free lunch and then homeward; arriving by early afternoon.

Unfortunately, our original team of twelve members, with many additions, has dwindled to about six. If you would be interested in joining or would like more information, please call Jack Lynn at 673-1589 or at jlynn817 @nc.rr.com

## Garden Club to host Photog Todd Pusser

Internationally known biologist and wildlife photographer Todd Pusser, will be speaking at the Seven Lakes Garden Club Meeting on Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 pm at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

A North Carolina native, Pusser began his career working as a biologist for a variety of environmental agencies in the United States before concentrating on wildlife photography. His projects have taken him to over thirty countries and into every ocean basin on earth.

His photographs have appeared in hundreds of publications around the world and are regularly featured in books, calendars, and popular natural history magazines such as

BBC Wildlife, National Wildlife, Ocean Realm, Geo, and Outdoor Photography.

In 2005, Pusser received an award in the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year, a competition that received more than 17,000 entries from 57 countries and is considered the most prestigious wildlife photo contest in the world. In 2006, he received a first place award in the National Wildlife Photo Competition, another major competition that received over 12,000 entries from around the United States.

Closer to home, he is a regular writer and photographer for Wildlife in North Carolina magazine and is currently working on a book on biodiversity in his home state.

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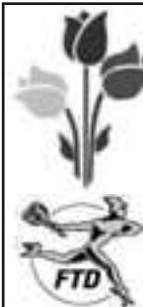
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