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Memories of Vietnam



Foxfire's Wayne Chalker with some young Montagnard friends at an orphanage in Vietnam. A video of Chalker's most recent trip will be featured at the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 966 meeting at the West Side Park Community Center on November 2. See page 12 for more on Chalker, the orphans, and the meeting, which is open to the public.

Elections and nominations

Tuesday, November 3 is Election Day, but the ballot this time is filled with municipal candidates rather than county, state, or federal races.

Foxfire Village will elect three members — a majority — of its Council. Current members Page Coker, Leslie Frusco, and Vic Koos are running unopposed for those seats.

The Landowners Associations in Seven Lakes

won't hold elections until March, but nominating committees on both sides of NC 211 are beating the bushes for candidates. Each side has three seats to fill. None of the three Westside incumbents plans to stand for re-election.

See page 30 for more information on the Westside's need for candidates and page 24 for a column from current Westside Director Adam Wimberly on the subject.

Westside will re-up with CAS

by Greg Hanks
Times Editor

Seven Lakes West will renew its community management contract with Community Services Association, Inc. [CAS] for one year, the Board of Directors decided in a Tuesday, October 20 Work Session.

That's a year less than the Human Resources Committee recommended. Speaking for the Committee, former Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] President Mary Anne Fewkes said a two-year extension was the "most reasonable" for both CAS and the Association, and would also allow the com-

munity to take advantage of a discount in the second year.

But a motion in support of that recommendation, offered by Director Mick Herdrich failed with only Herdrich, President Ron Shepard, and Secretary Ed Tuton in favor.

Legal Director Ed Silberhorn then offered a motion for a one-year renewal that would include yet-to-be-negotiated performance incentives. That motion was approved seven-to-one with only Herdrich opposed (Treasurer Kathy Kirst was unable to attend the latter half of the meeting and so did not vote on either

(See "CAS," p. 30)

No vote planned on SLLA Manager

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

There are no plans to use a vote of the landowners to select the individual or company who will replace retiring Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Community Manager Dalton Fulcher.

Hiring a manager is the Board's responsibility, SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf said, as he opened a question and answer period on the topic during the Association's Wednesday, October 28 Open Meeting.

"We are a private entity — a private business. You vote for the Board, and we then, through covenants and bylaws, have a framework to operate under," he said. "Unless you have sat through the hours of discussion between individuals and management, you would not be able to make an informed decision."

Zielsdorf said four dozen resumes were received from individuals and that two of the top candidates — including Chad Beane — have been interviewed, (See "SLLA," p. 20)

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Westside rules revision almost completed

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Seven Lakes West is almost done with an extensive revision of its rules and regulations, Legal Director Ed Silberhorn reported during the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association's [SLWLA] Tuesday, October 27 General Meeting. A final vote is expected during the Board's Work Session on November 10.

One recent change to the rules, approved by the Board at its October Work Session, ran into some resistance at Tuesday night's meeting. The Board increased the amount of time a resident may have a boat parked at his or her property from 72 to 96 hours in any 30-day period. That effectively gives folks who don't live on the lake or have a boat slip the opportunity to have their boat at home one day each week, Silberhorn explained.

Former Board member Betty Milligan, during the public comment period, asked whether this wasn't another instance of the rules being relaxed, something she cited as a continual problem from one Board to the next. Director Adam Wimberley, who recommended the change, explained that the new rule actu-

ally tightens a much less restrictive policy that has been on the books for years. That rule allows a resident to have a boat parked at his or her property for no more than 72 consecutive hours. Abusers can leave their boat in the drive for three days, move it for a day, and then put it right back where it was. The new rule

pliance, is very much in favor of rules enforcement, but also understand that rules must be crafted in such a way as to meet the needs of all landowners.

Silberhorn added that a new section in the rules — Section 8 — will create an enforcement process that allows the Association to simply issue tickets for obvious, non-contestable violations of certain rules. This should prove to be much more efficient than the series of compliance letters the Association now sends out.

Other revisions to the rules approved during the October work session included making the 10 mph speed limit for boats after dusk consistent across all rules and limiting the number of decibels boats are allowed to produce. Silberhorn said the revised rules are available on the website and at the SLWLA Office for review by members.

President's report

President Ron Shepard announced that the Westside's first Automated External Defibrillator [AED] has been delivered and will ultimately be hung

near the entrance door to the lower level of the Community Center. Residents are encouraged to sign up of the two-to-three hour training session on the device. Sign-up sheets are available in the SLWLA Office.

Shepherd also encouraged residents to make their email addresses known to the office so that they can be put on a list to receive the Association newsletter via email. The newsletter has always been available on the website, Shepard noted, and will continue to be published there. Adding email distribution as an option should mean fewer

paper copies need to be made cutting down on photocopying expense.

Treasurer's report

The Finance Committee, having received input from the Board members and the Long Range Planning committee, will soon meet to begin assembling its first draft of a FY 2010-2011 budget, Treasurer Kathy Kirst reported. Kirst said the group "will kind of work backwards," determining what funding levels are needed for operations and capital projects and then deter-

(See "Westside," p. 29)

West Side Landowners Meeting

10/27

limits boat parking to four days in any month.

Wimberly said the Association must be careful to be attentive to the needs of all its residents, including those who want to enjoy the lake but are unable to secure a boat slip.

"There are a lot of people who live in community who don't live on the water," Wimberly said. "They need access. We live in a community with a lake. I understand that some folks don't like to see a boat parked in their neighbor's driveway. If we lived in an equestrian a community, it would be horses. It is progress — this community has grown. It has to be something that we can be sensitive to. We have to find alternatives for these folks."

Wimberly noted that he, as the Director responsible for com-

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LET THE LANDOWNERS VOTE

As residents of Seven Lakes North and South, we believe the selection of our next Community Manager is far too important a decision to be left solely to the Board of Directors. As residents, we will all live with the decision long after this Board of Directors has retired.

There is a simple solution.

We, the undersigned residents of Seven Lakes North and South, respectfully request that the SLLA Board of Directors allow all 1200 households in our community the opportunity to cast a ballot for the candidate of their choice in the race for our next Community Manager.

This ballot should include both the name of the management company, as chosen by the Board, and the name of our longtime Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane.

This way, all Property Owners who choose to vote will have a voice in electing our next Community Manager.

There is no legitimate reason to deny this vote to the Property Owners.

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County defends its progress on water

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

There's no water crisis in Moore County, Public Utilities is actively pursuing a wide range of improvements to the water and wastewater systems it manages, and many if not most of those improvements will benefit rate-payers in Pinehurst.

That was the takeaway from a presentation given by Public Utilities Director Dennis Brobst during the Monday, October 19 meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

County officials have chafed under recent criticism from the Village of Pinehurst, which is pursuing its own water initiatives while suggesting the county is dragging its feet on public works projects in the village.

Brobst's presentation — and the sometimes rhetorical questions Commissioners asked afterwards — seemed designed to counter Pinehurst's sniping.

Plenty of water

"We do not have a water crisis in Moore County?" Chairman Nick Picerno asked Brobst.

st. "No sir. Not right now," Brobst replied.

In fact, drawing on a variety of water resources, the county system that serves Pinehurst and Seven Lakes can produce up to 5.66 million gallons of water per day, Brobst reported. The customers of that system use an average of 2.25 million gallons per day, though usage goes well above that average during the summer irrigation season.

The all-time record water usage in the Pinehurst-Seven Lakes system was 4.2 million gallons per day [mgpd] — 1.4 million less than the system can currently provide.

Brobst provided a breakdown of water sources the system draws on, which include:

- 2.8 mgpd from wells in Pinehurst
- 0.75 mgpd purchased from Southern Pines
- 1.0 mgpd purchased from Aberdeen
- 1.1 mgpd from the East Moore Water District, purchased from the Harnett County water system.

That last 1.1 mgpd is carried

through a connection with the East Moore Water District completed earlier this year.

Despite a comfortable cushion, the county continues to pursue additional sources of water and regional water alliances, Brobst said, and is currently in discussions or negotiations with Montgomery County, Aberdeen, Southern Pines, Laurinburg, Carthage, Robbins, and Harnett County. Conversations are underway with Cameron concerning a connection to the County system that would provide that town with additional supply in case of emergencies.

New sources of water that the county is actively pursuing include:

- 475,200 gpd from bringing existing wells 5a and 9 back into service.
- 500,000 gpd from a proposed connection with the Montgomery County system that will bring water from Candor to Seven Lakes.
- 122,400 from new well 6a,

drilled to replace an existing well that is out of service.

- 129,600 from new well 23.
- 115,220 from new well 3a, another replacement of an aging well that has been taken out of service.

Those projects combined would add an additional 1.34 million gallons per day to the Moore County supply.

"A lot of irons in the fire"

Brobst laid out for the Board a long list of capital projects — from a new water tank to radio-read water meters — that are in the works or on the drawing board for 2009 and 2010.

Among the big-ticket items are:

- \$3.8 million - Lake Pinehurst Sewer Lift Station Replacement (Brobst noted this was now projected to cost \$3.3 million).
- \$5.5 million - Sewer Rehab in Old Town Pinehurst.
- \$1.8 million - New Pinehurst Elevated Tank

- \$695,000 - Three new wells in Pinehurst
- \$2.75 million - Interconnection with Montgomery County water system
- \$1.04 million - Complete Installation of Radio Read Meters.
- \$4.2 million - Little River Regional Lift Station (connecting the Vass sewer system to the county's treatment plant in Addor).

Altogether, the 2009-2010 capital projects total more than \$22 million.

Problems with Pinehurst Approvals

Brobst said a couple of projects have been held up awaiting approvals from the Village of Pinehurst. The project involving Wells 5a and 9 involved drilling a new Well 5a with the goal of combining its output with water from Well 9 to reach radium concentration levels within safe limits. The project requires a small water treatment facility — essen-

(See "Water," p. 28)

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Pine Forest developer responds to neighbors

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

By offering an alternate traffic plan, developer Bob Hansen of MHK Ventures, LLC responded quickly to a key point of contention with neighbors of the proposed Pine Forest Development, a 1,799-acre major subdivision and resort that will be located along the busy NC Highway 211 corridor.

On Thursday, October 15, Hansen conducted a second Neighborhood Meeting on the project and presented a modified traffic circulation plan that completely eliminated a public access road in his original proposal that would have connected Archie Road to NC Highway 73.

A verbal poll of the crowd showed majority support for the modified plan, which Hansen said he would present to the Moore County Planning Board for review on November 5.

However, despite the developer's best intentions, there is no sign the existing traffic problems on Archie Road will be solved

anytime soon.

Residents of this once-quiet, no-outlet street, located midway between Pinehurst and West End, face complete gridlock twice each school day when West Pine Middle School fills in the morning and empties in the afternoon.

Commuters on NC-211 are also affected, with traffic backing up a quarter a mile or more during these same periods. And the new 500-student West Pine Elementary School under construction immediately behind West Pine Middle will likely increase traffic congestion.

The NC-211 road widening project proposed by the North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Plan has been delayed — twice — and is now expected to commence in 2012.

Hansen's modified Pine Forest Development plan calls for a new traffic light and main entrance on NC-211 approximately one-quarter mile west of Archie Road. This entrance will provide access to a proposed

retail area as well as Pine Forest's resort and gated communities.

With the public access road removed from the plan, a private interior road would now provide access to a proposed tertiary wastewater treatment plant that will serve both Pine Forest and the Dormie Club, another major project currently under development by Hansen.

The Master Plan includes a rezoning request for 1,623 acres to Planned Unit Development-Hamlet [PUD-H] with a combined maximum density of 890 total units, including hotel rooms and private residences. With no more than 300 hotel rooms, the resort will also feature a spa, conference center, and fitness center. Each of the two planned golf courses would have its own clubhouse. In addition to the retail center proposed along NC-211, a small "farmers'-market-style" retail area is proposed at the NC-73 entrance.

Projected by Hansen to cost \$60 to \$80 million "just to get

started," Pine Forest will be broken into two individual gated communities that will share amenities, design characteristics, and infrastructure. One of those gated areas, the "resort" community includes the retail area and hotel, with eighteen and nine-hole golf courses. The second gated community will be located north of Nick's Creek and will also feature an eighteen-hole golf course.

Water for the project is expected to come from Montgomery County, based on a yet-to-be-negotiated agreement between Moore and Montgomery Coun-

ties. Hansen has offered to pay up to \$3 million to bring that water from Candor.

However, Hansen said his first step, will be constructing the on-site wastewater plant. That plant will initially take 350,000 to 500,000 gallons of wastewater from the county's existing system, so that the treated effluent can be used to irrigate the Dormie Club. Once Pine Forest comes on line — a larger development with more acreage — the wastewater treatment plant would be able to remove and treat an estimated 640,000 gallons per day of county wastewater.



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Board approves design for jail, safety building

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The Moore County Board of Commissioners, in a three-to-two vote, approved the design development plans for the new public safety building and jail in downtown Carthage during their Monday, October 19 meeting.

Chief Deputy Neil Godfrey told the Commissioners that the Major Capital Projects Task Force had met earlier in the day and approved the design. He added that Sheriff Lane Carter, who could not attend the Commissioners' meeting, was "very satisfied with these plans and would urge you to move forward with this project."

Commissioners Tim Lea and Cindy Morgan voted against the motion to approve.

Architect Glenn Ware walked the Board through the basic outlines of the plan, which envisions a three-story, 60,000 square foot public safety building with an entrance off McNeill Street. The new jail, at just over 60,000 square feet, will sit back and to the right of the public safety building and adjoin the current jail.

The building's design will echo the historic buildings in Carthage, with a predominance of red brick accented with white cast stone. The public safety building has plenty of windows; the jail instead has depressions in the facade that echo the fell of windows in the other structure.

The two structures are connected by a one-story structure that will house services for the detention center, including cafeteria and laundry. Though the

new jail is designed to house 192 inmates, the service area is being built large enough to serve a jail of up to 500 inmates, allowing for future expansion.

Initially, the entire inmate population will be housed in the new detention center, while the existing jail is renovated. Once that work is complete the existing jail will be used to house up to 68 detainees, likely women.

The public safety building, service building, and jail together will total 140,000 square feet.

Ware said the structures will likely take 20 or 21 months to build.

Godfrey said the existing jail was built to house 100 inmates but had 160 in residence a week earlier, though that number had subsequently shrunk. Commissioner Tim Lea noted that, if the number of inmates housed were combined with those on house arrest, day reporting, and other programs, the total would amount 220 or more — more than the capacity of the new jail.

"In managing the inmate population, you'd still want to get these people out even if you had bed space because of other issues," Godfrey said.

"We are potentially building something that, in a very short period of time . . . we may need to start building that second pod as soon as we complete the first phase," Lea said, referring to the potential to build a second detention center unit that could also house 192 inmates.

"That's possible," Godfrey said.

"It took us 200 years to get to where we are today . . . we've had

no more than 110 beds in the 200 year history of this county, Commissioner Caddell said, countering Lea's point. "And then we're going to project over the next 40 years that it's going to go to 600,700 beds is too much to even fathom."

Bank Account Shift Approved

Taking up the issue for third time, the Board unanimously approved moving its general banking business from BB&T, which has serviced the account for many years, to Bank of America.

A Finance Department committee had recommended a switch to RBC Centura, which has an office in Carthage. Bank of America has offices in Southern Pines and Pinehurst.

But Bank of American offered substantially higher interest rates on funds deposited by the county — one-half of one percent versus less than two-tenths of one percent offered by RBC Centura. That interest rate difference could mean more than \$60,000 in additional interest income each year for the county.

The Commissioners found that prospect hard to resist and

unanimously approved a motion authorizing financial services to negotiate a banking service contract with Bank of America.

Other Business

In other business during their October 19 meeting, the Board of Commissioners:

- Approved RB-Rural Business zoning for the site of the Robbins Friendly Mart, which

had been de-annexed by the Town of Carthage and thus needed to be added to the County's zoning map.

- Approved a number of text amendments to regarding horse farms and RE-Rural Equestrian Zoning District.

- Considered an arrangement with the Cattleman's Association that will allow residents to rent a county-owned aerator.



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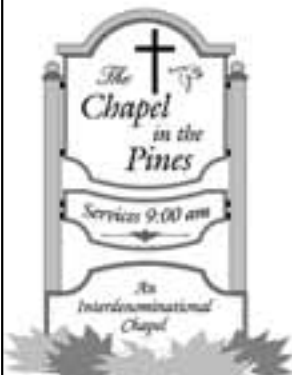
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County may forego property tax revaluation

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The bursting of the housing bubble may have slowed the growth of Moore County home prices so much that it no longer makes sense to proceed with a planned 2011 property tax revaluation. That was the message members of the Moore County Board of Commissioners took away from a presentation by Tax Administrator Wayne Vest during their Thursday, October 15 Work Session.

Vest explained that preliminary work his department has done on a revaluation scheduled for 2011 shows that, if anything, real estate values in the county may have declined slightly over the past year. In addition, the much lower number of real estate transactions could complicate the process of putting a value on each of the nearly 70,000 pieces of real property in the county.

Distributing the burden

Vest told the Board that the ultimate purpose of a revaluation is to equitably distribute the property tax burden. Because property values rise more quickly in some neighborhoods than in others, it is necessary to periodically

adjust the assessed values on which taxes are based, so that they accurately reflect actual market values.

In North Carolina, the normal period of time between revaluations is eight years, but Boards of Commissioners have the discretion to shorten that.

Moore County's last eight-year revaluation took effect in 2003, Vest said, and it produced considerable "sticker shock" among county property owners. The average increase in assessed value was 46.7 percent; but some homeowners saw increase of 100 percent, or even more.

A rise in assessed value doesn't necessarily mean a proportionate tax increase, because Boards of Commissioners often lower the tax rate in a revaluation year in order to produce a "revenue-neutral" result. The Moore County Commissioners in fact cut the general tax rate by seven cents per hundred dollars of valuation in 2003.

Conducting revaluations more frequently can help avoid big jumps in assessed home values. With that in mind, Moore County moved to a four-year cycle and conducted a new revaluation in 2007. But, again, there

were substantial increases in valuations and more "sticker shock." The average property value increased by 37 percent, and, some homeowners saw their assessed values more than double.

In January 2008, the Commissioners decided to stick with the four-year revaluation cycle, which would make the next revaluation effective in 2011.

Slowdown in the real estate market

But, since that decision was made, the US has experienced a recession, a severe credit crunch, rising unemployment, and a near collapse in the housing market.

Looking at the local impact of those economic difficulties, Vest said the number of deeds recorded so far in 2009 is only 47.5 percent of the number recorded during the same period in 2005 — 2,353 vs. 4,943. Only 593 existing homes were sold in the county during the first eight months of 2009, with most of those clustered in the bottom half of the price range.

"It's the higher value properties that aren't selling," Vest said. "The market is precarious right now. There is a possibility that

property values could go down."

Homes are on the market for an average of 155 days, rather than 125 days in 2006, he noted.

Vest said his department had completed a variety of tasks in preparation for the 2011 revaluation, including an analysis of 2008 and 2009 residential real estate sales. They compared the current tax value of the properties that sold to the price they actually sold for, and found that the average property sold for three or four percent less than its assessed value. Looking at the properties currently listed for sale in the county — about 2,000

in all — provided no indication that values would rise between now and 2011.

An analysis of commercial real estate sales showed selling prices running about five percent below assessed value. Vest explained that the value of commercial properties is often assessed based on estimates of the rental income they can produce; and, currently, shopping centers, office parks, and other commercial properties have higher vacancy rates, lower rents, and are producing less income than in the recent past.

(See "Taxes," p. 9)



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DeVoss wins Sports Club's Fall Bite Tourney

The Lake Auman Sports Club 2009 "Fall Bite" Bass Tournament was held on Lake Auman on Saturday, September 26.

Twenty-one anglers competed in a four hour catch and release event with prizes awarded for heaviest total weights for the day and largest bass caught

during the event.

On a day that proved to be very slow fishing, half the anglers did manage to bring fish to the weigh-in.

Top honors went to Dick DeVoss with a three bass limit that weighed a total of 7 pounds 8 ounces. In second place, on the

leader board was Tom Baldwin, who finished with a weight of 3 pounds and 7 ounces. Ed Cockman followed close behind finishing in third place with a weight of 3 pounds 5 ounces. Tom Baldwin's 3 pound 7 ounce bass took the big bass of the day prize with Rich Lovett and Ed Cockman catching the second and third largest bass in the event.

John and Marilyn Oravetz served up a very much appreciated picnic luncheon at Johnson Point for the participants following the event.

Organizers of the event, Ed Cockman, Dick DeVoss and Don Smith announced plans to continue holding Sports Club tournaments twice a year, Spring and Fall, in the future.



Dick DeVoss shows off the Catch of the Day at the Lake Auman Sports Club's Fall Bite Bass Tournament.

Taxes

(Continued from page 8)

Little change in values likely

All that analysis led Vest to conclude that, overall, real estate values have changed very little in the county in the past two years. The smaller number of sales also makes it less likely that values have changed all that much from neighborhood to neighborhood. And there's little reason to believe that situation will change much in the coming year.

Noting that the objective of a revaluation is to produce an accurate assessment of market values and equitable assessments across the county's neighborhoods, Vest said, "We have a good product right now."

Though his analysis showed it is unlikely to change assessments significantly, moving forward with the 2011 revaluation will cost the county \$620,000 to \$630,000, Vest told the Board.

The tax department currently has two vacancies that will have to be filled to provide the necessary manpower for the revaluation. On top of that are the cost of temporary staff, printing, postage, aerial photography, advertising, and so on.

"Ultimately, what I am saying," Vest concluded, "is that if we spend the \$600,000 and we send out 70,000 notices, there is a good chance that a lot of the values may remain where they are. And there's some chance that our high value homes will decline. Our tax base may remain about where it is."

"So instead of spending that money . . ." Commissioner Larry Caddell began.

"Save the money," Vest said, finishing the thought. "Save the taxpayers the money."

"So you're making a good case for us postponing the revaluation for two more years?" Chairman Nick Picerno asked Vest at the end of his presentation. "Yes," Vest replied.

Commissioner Tim Lea then recommended adding the question to the agenda of the November 16 Commissioners meeting.



COUNTY OF MOORE

NEWS RELEASE!!! MOORE COUNTY PROCEEDS WITH PROJECTS

There has been a great deal of discussion and media interest in the relationship between the Moore County Water and Sewer System and the Village of Pinehurst. **These are the facts:**

The Moore County Water and Sewer System is a public enterprise system and is committed to provide a safe, ample and cost effective supply of water and sewer services to our citizens. To accomplish this, we have agreements with regional water providers to insure we have access to additional water to meet our needs.

Moore County will always continue to seek ways to provide better services to our citizens.

Pinehurst Lake Pinehurst Sewer Lift Stations Project

Pinehurst residents are beneficiaries of the Moore County Public Enterprise System for water and sewer services provided and underway by Moore County.

- In the spirit of cooperation, Moore County invited the Village to help select the project design engineers for the Lake Pinehurst Lift Stations
- The Village Engineer helped select the project design engineer.

Here are the events that followed:

- Moore County project design engineers compiled engineering plans for the project
- The Village responded with 110 objections to the design plans, delaying the "shovel ready" status of the project
- Moore County officials and engineers met with Pinehurst leaders to resolve the outstanding issues
- At the end of that meeting the Mayor and Manager of Pinehurst agreed that all issues were resolved, and all conditions were met
- After agreeing that all conditions were met, the Village later informed Moore County by letter that the project could not proceed and added further conditions
- The Village Manager sent the letter stating there would be a two to four month delay due to additional conditions
- The delay from these new conditions would have cost Moore County \$3,000,000 in federal stimulus funding
- The County invited the Village Engineer to the scheduled pre-construction conference. The Village Engineer did not attend the

meeting and responded that the project could not go forward due to the conditions added by the Village

- A copy of the letter was sent by the Village Engineer to the County's stimulus funding agency, jeopardizing the County's funding
- This impasse created by the Village forced the County to determine if the Village could, in fact, delay this and other projects
- The County Attorney was asked to research the law and provided an opinion, based upon the General Statutes and case law, that a public enterprise system in one political jurisdiction may operate in another political jurisdiction with absolute authority and without restrictions of zoning ordinances of the other political jurisdiction where the public enterprise system is owned by the County
- According to this understanding of the law, Moore County proceeded unilaterally to continue the project in order to meet funding requirements
- Despite further objections from the Village, the Moore County project to replace the five lift stations around Lake Pinehurst is now underway to better serve Moore County water and sewer customers and will be completed in about 340 days

Elevated Tank

Moore County has completed design, bids, and is ready to award a construction contract. Bids for the \$1.6 million elevated tank in Pinehurst are \$1,227,000 or \$373,000 under budget.

Wells SA and P

Well SA was drilled in a historic district along Pinehurst Golf Course #2 in June 2007 to supplement the existing Well 9, an adjacent well that was out of service. Combined water flow from the two wells will produce 500,000 gallons of water per day to provide more excess capacity for the Pinehurst area.

- Moore County has twice applied to the Village for a Historical Commission review of the necessary mini-treatment plant housing over the wells
- Moore County has been rejected by the Village Planning Department both times
- These design applications were reviewed, endorsed and supported by the President and the Director of Golf Course and Ground Management of Pinehurst Resorts, owner of the golf course. The Moore County design proposal mirrors the existing treatment plant for Well 5 in the same area of Golf Course #2

- The County continues to wait on Pinehurst to submit application requests to the Pinehurst Historical Preservation Commission, a quasi-judicial body, for approval
- The 500,000 gallons of water per day for the Pinehurst area awaits a Pinehurst agreement to move forward in accordance with statutory and case law

Robbins

About two years ago, Robbins asked Moore County to consider buying or managing the Robbins water treatment plant and water system. Moore County asked Robbins to compile cost estimates regarding the system's operation, and Robbins applied for a grant to fund a study analyzing total costs associated with the system. The County agreed to continue discussions when the data from the study was completed.

This sequence of events followed:

- The grant was approved and an engineering firm was hired to conduct the study
- Prior to the release of the findings from the study to determine cost, the Village of Pinehurst began discussions with Robbins about buying the system or partnering with Robbins to deliver water
- Pinehurst had no customers and no experience in water and sewer operations
- The Village acted without notifying or consulting with Moore County
- The Village asked Robbins to negotiate solely with them, thereby excluding the County
- Moore County continued to negotiate with other regional water providers
- The Village of Pinehurst dropped its discussions with Robbins
- Once the Village ceased discussions with Robbins, Moore County Board of Commissioners and County Manager then met with Robbins officials to restart and continue discussions

The discussions between Moore County and Robbins are on-going. Together we seek to determine costs, rates for our users and alternatives to serve both Robbins and Moore County citizens. Fulfilling its mission, Moore County is well equipped to provide adequate, safe and cost effective water and sewer services, both now and in the future. We will continue to work diligently with our regional partners to insure that all our water and sewer needs are met and exceeded every day.

To meet needs of Moore County customers, our Projects are proceeding!

For additional information contact: Megan M. Owrey, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
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102 Parker Ct.	SL West	\$47,500
Lot 16, 17, 18 Falls Dr.	Cedar Lane (West End Area)	\$50,000 ea.
134 Smathers Dr.	SL West	\$55,000
239 Longleaf Dr.	SL West	\$55,000
423 Longleaf Dr.	SL West	\$55,000
148 Otter Drive	SL West	\$65,000
105 Edwards Ct.	SL West	\$74,000
Carriage Park Drive	Quiet wooded street with 3/4 acre lots	\$75,000
Lot #'s 8003, 8004, 8027, 8028, 8029, 8036, 8037, 8038, 8039		
124 Andrews Dr.	SL West (Water View)	\$84,900
Carriage Park Drive	Quiet wooded street with 1+ acre lots	\$85,000
Lot #'s 8031, 8035		
309 Morgan Trail	.5+ Acres	\$115,000
210 Morgan Trail	6+ Acres	\$124,500
630 McLendon Hills Drive	McLendon Hills (Water Front)	\$335,000
119 Callis Circle	SL West (Water Front)	\$350,000
156 Swaringen Drive	SL West (Water Front)	\$370,000
Meredith Lane	Arbor Creek Lots 8, 9	\$78,750
Meredith Lane	Arbor Creek Lots 12 & 14 (10 Acres Double Lot)	\$235,000



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Glenda Garrison enjoying her new business

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Local gal Glenda Garrison opened GG's Massage & Bodywork Therapy in the Seven Lakes Business Village in the last week of August and said she is delighted to serve the community.

A native of Montgomery County, Garrison is a member of the Parson's Farm family, famous for their peach orchards. A daughter of the late Ray and Betty Parsons, she was born and raised around peaches, and continues to live on a peach farm where she and her husband John raised their four children. For leisure, Garrison said she still enjoys getting on a tractor but that her passion is massage and her new business.

"I have an amazing job because at the end of the day, I have a good feeling knowing I made someone feel better," Garrison said.

Returning to school as an adult, Garrison completed a diploma program through Sandhills Community College in 2006 and then decided to return for additional training to receive an Associate's degree. She received the Most Likely to Succeed award while at SCC, and is licensed and certified through the State of North Carolina in massage and bodywork therapy.

"The Associate's degree coursework covers a more in-depth study of massage and diseases, medical, and orthopedic needs, and how different medicines can affect people," Garrison explained. "In this area of golf resorts and retirees, I felt this level of education was necessary."

In particular Garrison noted that diabetics can benefit from massage through improved circulation and blood flow, citing her husband as an example of someone severely affected yet he has retained the full use and feeling of his limbs due to regular massage. However, she cautioned that diabetic clients should not receive hot stone or deep tissue massages as the disease can mask pain.

In addition to Swedish massage and other standard options, GG's Massage & Bodywork Therapy also offers pregnancy massage, sports massage, and reflexology – which is a spe-

cialized foot soak and then massage technique wherein each part of the foot corresponds to a specific body organ. She noted

the technique is especially helpful for people suffering from plantar fasciitis.

GG's also offers bodyworks

therapies including body wraps and paraffin dips.

While Garrison keeps a busy schedule of regular business hours, she will also accommodate clients as needed and offers house call service, as well as massage for special events including chair massages for wedding or special occasion parties.

"I believe in accommodating clientele. Not everyone can get here by 5:00 pm, and some of my clients cannot even leave their homes," Garrison said.

With a tear and a smile, Garrison shared of one client, bedridden with cancer, who told her she had "hands from God," because her twice-weekly house call massages provides much need-

ed pain relief.

Currently GG's is offering a discount of \$15 off an hour or longer massage, and a gift certificate special will be available starting November 15.

"Massage is a great relaxing gift for a loved one or friend," said Garrison.

GG's Massage & Bodywork Therapy can be reached at [910] 220-2956 and is located in the Seven Lakes Business Village, at 150 E. Grant Street, right next to The Italian Table.

The shop is open six days a week — including evening hours on Tuesday and Thursday.

Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended.



Glenda Garrison

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Chalker will share memories of Vietnam

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

"I wanted to go back. I wanted to see what had happened after forty years," explained Foxfire resident Wayne Chalker of his decision to visit Vietnam – twice in fact.

On Monday, November 2 at 7:30 pm, the Moore County Chapter 966 of Vietnam Veteran's of America will sponsor a special video and photograph presentation from Chalker's 2006 and

2007 trips in the upstairs Great Room of the West Side Community Center. The event is open to the public and immediately follows the monthly VVA meeting at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend and light refreshments will be served.

"Most guys put Vietnam on the back burner for a long time and I was no exception," Chalker said. "But six or seven years ago, I decided I wanted to find a few of my friends and through the

internet I found fifty or so of my former company. After that I started thinking about what it would be like to go back."

Chalker grew up in Long Island, New York, and volunteered for service in the U.S. Army at seventeen. He served from 1966 to 1969, including a year in Vietnam with a transportation unit driving tractor trailers through the central highlands and convoys to the DMZ.

Returning home, Chalker spent many years in law enforcement and also picked up the electrical trade on the side. Retiring as a U.S. Customs agent in 2004, Chalker settled in Foxfire and opened Ridge Electric as an unlimited licensed contractor.

"My main goal in traveling to Vietnam wasn't nostalgia. Well, maybe a little, but mostly I just wanted to see what happened – what we left behind," said Chalker.

"After we landed and I got to my hotel and I couldn't sleep. I found myself walking around for hours. Finally I stood on a street corner and said to myself, 'This is going to be okay.'"

Most of the video footage

dates to his first trip with an organized tour. While most of the photographs are from his second trip – a slower paced more intimate, personal visit.

"Saigon was interesting because I had never been there. Two-thirds of the population has been born since the war. For the most part they have just carried on with life and are embracing capitalism on a huge scale. However, veterans who fought for the South are discriminated against and considered traitors," Chalker said.

He spoke of seeing a severely-disabled man on the street and, upon learning that he was a veteran, stopping to salute him to honor his service and

sacrifice.

From Saigon, Chalker traveled through to Chu Chi, Mekong Delta, Central Highlands, Nha Trang, Hoi An, Da Nang, Hue, the Shau Valley area, Hanoi and the infamous Hanoi Hilton, and Ha Long Bay, a World Heritage Site. A highlight for Chalker was visiting the village, Phu Tai, where he was stationed.

"They have sanitized the country and you really don't see much of anything left of the war," though Chalker was shocked and delighted to happen upon a still-in-use American tractor trailer from an area near the DMZ.

"It was forty years old but still working. I was able to climb in

(See "Chalker," p. 13)



Wayne Chalker takes some ancient military surplus for a spin in Vietnam.



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In memory of . . .

Evelyn Bostic McRae, 74, of West End, died Friday, October 23. Funeral services will be held Saturday, October 31, at 12 noon at Belford Baptist Church in Jackson Springs, where she was a member. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Visitation will be Friday, October 30, 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Simon Funeral

Home.

She is survived by her husband, Ernest; sons, Bernard and Willie McRae; daughters, Diane Potter, Althea, and Lorraine McRae; a sister, Virginia Mace; eleven grandchildren and twenty-two great grandchildren.

Gwen Allen, 55, of West End,

and formerly of Hampstead, died Friday, October 23.

Mrs. Allen was born in Wilmington, the daughter of Lourine Shoaf and the late Raymond Lewis. She was preceded in death by her husband, Sidney Allen.

A memorial service was held Monday, October 26, at Andrews Mortuary Hampstead Chapel.

Survivors include three children, Doris Allen of Conroe, TX, Billy Allen of Rogers, AR, and Daniel Lee Allen, of Wilmington; seven grandchildren; and her companion, John Warner.

Kenneth Lee McInnis, 58, of Jackson Springs, died Sunday, October 18, after a lengthy illness. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mr. McInnis was the son of

Edna Bowers McInnis and the late Raymond Cooledge McInnis of Jackson Springs. He was a lifetime resident of Jackson Springs and a former security guard for Pinewild and supervisor for Stanley Furniture Company.

He was preceded in death by his brother Alan McInnis.

He is survived by his wife,

Dorothy McInnis, of the home; two sisters Lorraine Bruinsma of West End, Karen Wilkerson of Rockingham; and a brother Paul McInnis of Jackson Springs.

Memorial donations may be made towards medical/memorial costs may be made to Simon and Lorraine Bruinsma, 483 Lucas Road, West End, NC 27376.

Chalker

(Continued from page 12)

and just couldn't believe it," Chalker exclaimed.

Back home he said he has taken time to speak with many vets about their experiences and has been surprised by how many have also expressed interest in going back to Vietnam.

"It's not for everybody. You have to go back with an open mind," Chalker said. "I wanted to go back just to see...we took so much from that country and then we left."

In particular, Chalker said he was interested in visiting with the Montagnards, an ethnic minority group in the central highlands region.

"I knew them because I drove through their villages on a daily basis. I was familiar with their culture and they were very loyal to us during the war."

In 2006, he traveled to Vinh Son 1, a Catholic orphanage located in Kon Tum that serves the Montagnards.

"I fell in love with the kids and

what the sisters are doing there," Chalker said. "After my first trip, I decided to do a grassroots effort to help the orphanage and with my wife and through our church, we asked for help."

During his second trip in 2007, Chalker hand-carried much needed school supplies, toothbrushes and combs, and over one hundred pounds of baby clothes to the orphanage and has continued to support their efforts through the Friends of Vinh Son, a California-based organization. For more information, visit www.friendsofv-so.org/

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Southsiders' daughter wins Emmy Award

Diane Larson Fillis, daughter of Ben and Betty Larson of Seven Lakes South, received an Emmy award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for the Lower Great Lakes Chapter.

This chapter includes Erie, PA, Indianapolis and Fort Wayne, IN, and Akron, Canton, Cleveland, and Toledo, OH.

The Emmy was awarded in the category Arts/Entertainment special for "The Lion King: Back-

stage Pass." The half-hour television program gave viewers a behind the scenes look at the traveling production of the Broadway hit "The Lion King," which had a month long run in Toledo.

In addition, Fillis has been

inducted into the Ohio Associated Press Broadcasters Hall of Fame. She is only the second female broadcast journalist to be honored. The first woman to receive the award was Cleveland broadcasting pioneer Dorothy Fuld-

heim.

The Toledo chapter of the YWCA also recognized Fillis for her significant contribution to her community with a prestigious Milestones Award in the area of Business.



Diane Larson Fillis

WSL Fall Fundraiser

The Women of Seven Lakes will hold their Fall Fundraiser on November 5, 11:30 am to 4 pm, at the West Side Park Community Center. PIK-N-PIG will cater the luncheon.

The Fashion Show will feature clothes from The Clothes Horse in Pinehurst.

A Craft Fair will precede the luncheon with fantastic local Crafters participating. Each Crafter will donate a prize to be raffled at the luncheon. After all the festivities you may stay to play any game of your choice. The price for the Luncheon-Fashion Show-Craft Fair-Card Party is \$20 per person.

Call Tinkie Petterson at 673-1742 or email dtpett@nc.rr.com to make your reservation. Takeout food will also be available with advance reservations. (Price for takeout is \$8 per plate.)

Please have your complete table reservation and make checks payable to Women of Seven Lakes. Reservations close for the event on November 2.



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3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home
with Carolina rm & water view!
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95 GLEN COVE LANE
SEVEN LAKES WEST
3 bedrooms 2.5 baths with full lower level!
New construction, granite, hardwoods,
many upgrades!
\$325,000



REDUCED!

108 FAWNWOOD DRIVE
SEVEN LAKES WEST
3 Bed, 2.5 Bath, 3200+ sq ft, lower level
guest suite with kitchenette & family rm.
30x17 bonus rm! Mint condition,
better than new! **\$325,000**



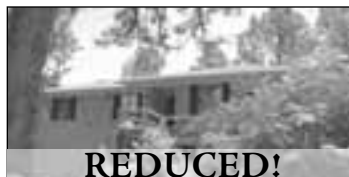
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104 RUNNING BROOK
SEVEN LAKES NORTH
Waterfront on Sequoia
Breathtaking Views!
2 Bed + Bonus, 3 bath
PRICED TO SELL AT \$250,000!



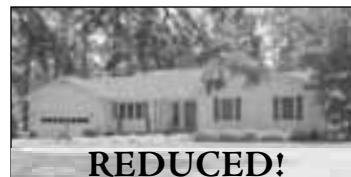
SOLD!

255 LONGLEAF DRIVE
SEVEN LAKES WEST
3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, with bonus!
\$275,000



REDUCED!

117 BERKSHIRE COURT
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH
3 Bed, 2 Bath with Fantastic Golf Views!!
All brick home with many recent updates,
screened porch, bargain priced!
\$175,000



REDUCED!

117 W DEVONSHIRE
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH
3 Bed, 2 Bath plus lower level family room.
Wonderful golf views from almost every
room! Many great updates!
\$250,000



UNDER CONTRACT!

115 SANDHAM CT.
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH
3/2 townhome. Carolina room, open
floorplan, 1-car garage, lots of storage!
\$148,000



UNDER CONTRACT!

265 LONGLEAF DRIVE
SEVEN LAKES WEST
3/2 with vaulted ceilings. Oversized, private lot. Hdwd, Corian, large master. Offered for trade—call for details.
GREAT VALUE AT \$200,000!



101 SIMMONS DRIVE
SEVEN LAKES WEST
3BR, 3.5BA, plus huge bonus suite
spanning entire upper level! Must see all
the rooms and features in this home!
\$399,000



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111 SWAN RUN
SEVEN LAKES NORTH
Waterfront Lake Echo! 300+ ft. of lake
frontage, blkhd & dock, 4 BR, 3.5 BA,
workshop, garden rm, Carolina rm, 2 fpl
\$415,000



105 COBBLESTONE COURT
SEVEN LAKES NORTH
2000+ sq ft with seasonal water view
& many updates!
Bargain priced at \$175,000



NEW LISTING!

SHORT SALE - BRING OFFERS!
109 SMATHERS DR.
SEVEN LAKES WEST
3BR, 2BA, screened porch, large rooms,
split bedrooms, great condition!
\$200,000



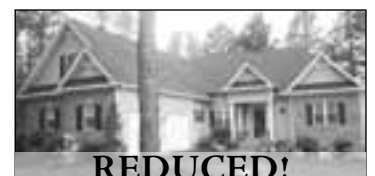
REDUCED!

111 W. DEVONSHIRE
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH
3BR, 2BA, open living, kitchen, dining.
Split bedrooms, lower level storage or
bonus space. Golf front!
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121 CALLIS CIRCLE
SEVEN LAKES WEST
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rms, screened porch, spacious, lots of stor-
age, many wonderful features! **\$625,000**



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122 SMATHERS DRIVE
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Lakers support Shoeboxes for Troops effort

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

The St. Andrew's Presbyterian College Equestrian Team is ready to fill another horse trailer with gifts and goodies for deployed U.S. service men and women.

Now in its fourth year, the Shoeboxes for Troops program is the brainchild of St. Andrew's Western Coach Carla Wennberg and her mother, Nancy Wennberg of Seven Lakes West, with the assistance of Bill and Sandi Carl, also of Seven Lakes West.

"The first step is to scour the town for empty shoeboxes that we can beg, borrow, or steal," joked Wennberg.

Financial donations provide the funding needed for the St. Andrews students to visit area stores gathering supplies and then fill the shoeboxes, assembly-style, with personal care items such as toothpaste and brushes, deodorant, bar soap, non-perishable foods including Slim Jims, hard candy, breakfast bars, gum, and even playing cards or other treats. By popular request, the students also frequently add lollipops which are handed out to children in the countries where our servicemen are stationed.

Most importantly, each box includes a handwritten letter.

"Regardless of what we put it, it's something from home and it shows we care," said Sandi Carl. "We get thank you letters back that are so meaningful...some of the boys say this was Christmas to them."

In addition to the enthusiasm and hard work of the St. Andrew's students, Carl credits the Southern Pines VFW with making the program a reality.

"Without their help, it would cost \$15 per shoebox to send these gifts overseas," Carl said, explaining that the VFW coordinates the shipment to undisclosed combat locations.

Local organizations and churches are welcome and encouraged to participate, and Shoeboxes for Troops has already partnered with The Chapel in the Pines and the Republican Women of Moore County.

A related ministry, organized by Westsider Dita McGaughey with support from Pinehurst United Methodist Church, provides hand-knitted pockets with a poem and a silver Cross which are distributed directly to soldiers by chaplains of the various serv-

ices.

"We welcome prayers and handwritten notes and letters, filled shoeboxes and supplies that can be included," said Wennberg. "This is a program where everyone can participate."

A local drop box for Shoeboxes for Troops is being sponsored again this year by Darrell and Susan Marks of Phoenix Fashions in the Seven Lakes Business Village. In downtown

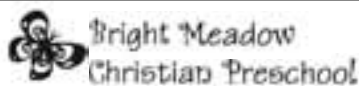
Southern Pines, a second drop box location is sponsored by Sandhills Feed Supply.

Financial donations are also welcome and tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to St. Andrews Equestrian Team, and send c/o Bill and Sandi Carl, 5059 Seven Lakes West, Seven Lakes, NC 27376.

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



Nancy Wennberg & Sandi Carl



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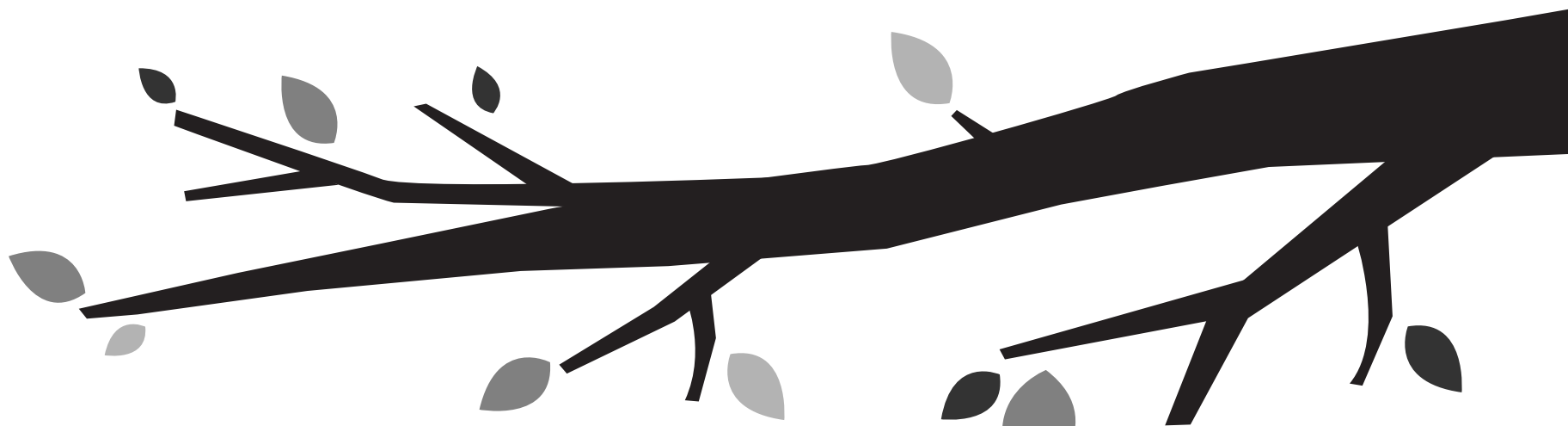
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Fall's a good time to take stock of the garden

The weather has been variable during the month of October with occasional showers, although not enough to bring the yearly rainfall average to normal. Here in the Sandhills we are still under near-drought conditions.

With shorter days and cooler nights, we are experiencing an early Fall but historically we often have warm days until Thanksgiving. October usually is a busy month for landscaping gardening in the Sandhills and it is considered to be cleanup month.

Here are a few suggestions for October and early November:

Moles and ants continue to be active. Apply a recommended pesticide.

Come November everyone is concerned that Fall is the time for planting trees, shrubs, many flowering plants, perennials, annual bulbs, and other plants. My opinion is to wait until plants are fully dormant. The optimum time for Fall planting is between Thanksgiving and Christmas, also in the Winter months, January and even through February.

It's a good time to obtain free soil testing kits, information, and instructions from the Moore County Extension Service office in Carthage. Collect your samples and return to the same office and they will send them for analysis to the soil testing laboratory in Raleigh. Later you will receive information for specific plantings you desire to make.

It's time to destroy old growth and cleanup your vegetable garden. Turn up all vegetable roots, grasses, and other debris and plant rubbish. Do the same for flower beds.

It's time to fertilize, seed, and reseed your fescue lawn if you have failed to do it. Several hybrid fescue varieties are available from your seed dealer. Remember to locate a shady or partly-shady area for this type of lawn. It requires a lot of water and adequate plant food to establish a fescue lawn.

If you desire to overseed your Bermuda or zoysia lawn with rye grass for Winter greenery, wait until sufficient moisture is received. When overseeding, use no more than five pounds of rye grass seed per 1,000 square feet of lawn because seeding

too heavily damages the existing stand of warm, seasonal grass and delays next season's growth. Do not overseed centipede grass as it thins out and often wipes out and reduces the stand.

Be on the lookout for shrubs and trees to purchase and replace worn out, overgrown, dead, and unhealthy ones.

Check your plants for insects. If present in heavy populations, use a recommended chemical insecticide for control.

Winterize your Summer lawn if you haven't done it. Mow it to one inch in height and

get rid of those undesirable broadleaf weeds. Use an herbicide that is labeled for control on Bermuda, zoysia, and centipede grasses.

When moisture occurs, you might consider seeding vegetable cole crops, such as radishes, lettuce, mustard, turnip seeds, and onion sets. Weather permitting, you will have greens. Asparagus beds may be established anytime until March 15.

Mary's houseplant suggestions:

If you haven't brought in your

houseplants for the Winter, do it now. Wash them thoroughly and repot them if they are pot-bound.

If the containers are getting too large to handle, take them out of the pot, root prune and put in fresh soil.

Spray them with insecticidal soap plus a few drops of horticultural oil in the solution. Do it twice if possible to remove insects and eggs. If you don't have insecticidal soap or oil, you can use Sevin.

Feed your houseplants once a month during Winter.



Gardening in the Sandhills

Jim Caudill

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108 Shagbark Ct. – 2BR, 2BA, Immaculate townhouse overlooking Ramapo Lake. Bay window nook in kitchen, Master BR has sliding door to deck overlooking lake, another deck off Carolina room. Large private nicely landscaped grounds.

\$166,000



104 Pineneedle Dr. – 3BR, 2BA, \$208,900 buys you a spacious, charming ranch. Flows well & allows for easy entertaining. Formal living room includes gas log fireplace. Large family room boasts wall-to-wall built-ins. Sunroom overlooks private fenced in back yard & gorgeous 2-tiered deck with gazebo.

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105 Primrose – 4BR, 3BA, formal LR, and 24x15 family room, in home office space, screened porch and 10x24 deck. Private setting with a convenient & attractive concrete circular driveway. Close to Sequoia Beach.

\$215,000

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

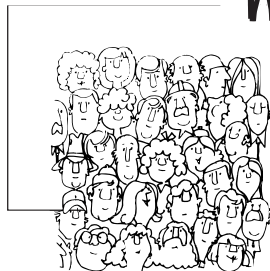
- **Craved Pumpkins display at Pusser Home** – Todd Pusser's pumpkins will be on display – dark to 10:30 pm, continues Saturday, October 31. A donation of canned goods or money to benefit the Cameron Boys Home will be appreciated. Pusser home located off Highway 211 between Eagle Springs and Jackson Springs. Turn on Flowers Rd. go past Blues Mulch Business, travel approx. 2 miles. Pumpkin display at 1100 Flowers Road.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

- **Cooking with Carmela and Leslie** – 1:00 pm, Festive Holiday Food and Wine Pairing. Carmela Chase and Leslie Rose of Sandhills Winery, Inc. come together to present an afternoon of fun, food, and wine. Menu includes wines, savory dishes, and dessert. Program held at West Side Park Community Center. Sponsored by West Side Communities Activities Committee. Cost \$15/person. To register for the program, call 673-5314.
- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 - 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At least five types or varieties to educate your palate. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza, next to Peking Wok.
- **Jackson Springs Community Club** – 5 - 8 pm, Annual Chicken and Dumpling Supper at the Club House on Mill Road, Jackson Springs. Numerous items for sale and

an Auction. All proceeds will help provide scholarships for deserving students in the Jackson Springs Area and other community needs. Cost: Adults \$6, children 12 & under \$3. Take Out plates available.

- **Southside Baptist Church** – 5:00 pm, annual Fall Fest, public



What's When Calendar

Carnival games, an 18 foot inflatable slide, cake walk, hay rides, and refreshments. Information or directions call 428-9243 or Pastor Michael Lynn at 974-4723. Located at 125 Cedar Creek Road, Biscoe.

- **CAC Companion Animal Foundation Halloween Gala** – 7:00 - 10:00 pm. Cost \$35/person. Dress up for the Costume Contest, participate in the 50 - 50 Raffle and more. At the Pinehurst Fair Barn, Highway 5, Pinehurst. All proceeds benefit the Spay Neuter Veterinary Clinic, 5071 US Highway #1, Vass. For Reservations & Tickets contact Cynthia Williams (910) 245 - 1230 or Deborah Wilson (692) 692 - 8156.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- **Eddie Barrett and the Goodman Legacy Orchestra** –

3:30 pm to 6 pm. At Mr. Ps, 155 Hall Avenue, Southern Pines.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- **Diabetes & Heart Disease Seminar** – 6:30 pm, at Prescription Shoppe of Seven Lakes – Introducing Our Healthy Aging & Wellness Program Seminars! Call ahead to reserve your seat at 673-7467. Seminar is absolutely

free. Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe - When you want to feel better!

- **National Alliance on Mental Illness Moore County (NAMI-MC)** – 7 pm, monthly Educational & Support Meeting. "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" Come learn about the new Service Provider for the new public mental health system for the Sandhills Center Organization. A representative from Daymark Recovery Services, Inc. will explain what the public mental health system does and does not currently provide, how to access the system, and how the system now operates. At the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Conference Center, Room A, on the N/W corner of Route 211 and Page Road, Pinehurst. Call (910) 295-1053.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- **College Club Luncheon** – 12 noon, at Pinewild Country Club. Guest speaker will be Michele R. Horn, Assistant Director/Curator of the Fayetteville Museum of Art. Topic of her speech – "Demystifying the Curatorial Process." Info: Katharine Bozarth, vice president and membership chairman, at (910) 255-6286.
- **Moore County Literacy Council** – offering an opportunity to individuals to become literacy tutors for adults who would like to learn to read. Volunteer Orientation will be held, 1 - 2 pm, Emmanuel Youth House, 385 E Indiana in Southern Pines. Tutor Training continues November 10 and 11, 9 am to 4 pm at same location. Please bring a lunch. Registrations may be made by phone, (910)692-5954 or e-mail pammclc@nc.rr.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- **Sandhills Horticultural Society and the Council of Garden Clubs** – 10 am, Noted television host of "In the Garden with Bryce Lane" will present a free lecture on "The Right Plants for the Right Location." at the Ball Visitors Center, Sandhills Community College. Contact Trisha Mabe at 910-695-3882 to register.
- **Infant/Child CPR/AED** – 6:00-9:30 pm, Introductory Certification Course. Certification Fee \$40. American Red Cross Moore County Chapter, 115 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. 910-692-8571

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- **Women of SL Fall Fundraiser** – 11:30 am until 4 pm. Annual Fashion Show featuring clothes from The Clothes Horse in Pinehurst. At West Side Park Community Cen-

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ter. Pik-N-Pig will cater the luncheon. Craft Fair will precede the luncheon. Cost for the Luncheon/Fashion Show/ Craft Fair/ Card Party \$20 per person. Call Tinkie Petterson at 673-1742 or email dtpett@nc.rr.com to make your reservation. Takeout available with advance reservations. (Price for take-out \$8/plate.) Reservations close for the event on November 2.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5 to 8 pm. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok. Music standards, voice and guitar, by Bruce Macdonald. The Tip Jar benefits Friend to Friend, the Moore County Battered Women's shelter.
- **Adult/Infant/Child CPR/AED Review** – 6:00-8:30 pm, Review/Recertification Courses. Prerequisite: Participant should hold current or recently expired certification in the review subject. Certification fee \$25. American Red Cross Moore County Chapter, 115 E. Penn. Ave., Southern Pines. 910-692-8571

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- **Linda Dalton Pottery** – Fall Studio Sale, continues Saturday Nov. 7, 9 am - 5 pm, at studio in West End. A beautiful piece of saggar fired pottery with a value of \$300, will be given to one attendee. Located in the Eastwood community just North of Pinehurst. 910-947-5325, www.lindadaltonpottery.com for directions

- **Antiques Sale & Show** at the Fair Barn, Hwy 5, Pinehurst. (show continues thru Sunday Nov. 8) Hours: Fri & Sat 10 am - 5 pm, Sun 11 am - 4 pm. 1,000s of items for sale in all price ranges. Crystal repair. Doll repair. Local historical memorabilia. Admission \$5. Portion of proceeds benefit the Moore County Historical Association. Info (910) 692-2051. \$1 off admission coupon at www.moorehistory.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- **Standard First Aid + Adult CPR/AED** – 8:00 am-2:00 pm, Introductory Certification Course. Certification fee \$60. American Red Cross Moore County Chapter, 115 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. 910-692-8571
- **Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc.** – 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Mixed Paper Recycling Drive at the Kangaroo Station, Fresh Market Shopping Center, Southern Pines. Acceptable items include anything that is paper: Contact Joan Neal, Executive Director, Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. at 947-3478
- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 - 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At least five types or varietals to educate your palate. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza, next to Peking Wok.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- **Weight Loss Seminar** – 6:30 pm, at Prescription Shoppe

of Seven Lakes – Introducing Our Healthy Aging & Wellness Program Seminars! Please call ahead to reserve your seat at 673-7467. All seminars are absolutely free. Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe - When you want to feel better!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Work Session** – 9 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes** - 3 pm, Game Room, Seven Lakes North. Computer club member Chuck Kersey, who is a photo enthusiast, will be presenting a slide show of Yellowstone National Park. He will also discuss the program and procedure used in making it. Visitors are welcome.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- **Sandhills Children's Center 13th Annual Festival of Trees** – Wednesday November 11 thru Sunday November 15. Held at The Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst. Daily Admission by donation and ticketed events are \$75. For additional information, contact Teresa Copper or Kathy Desmond by calling (910) 692-3323 or www.FestivalofTrees.org.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 10 am-2:30 pm, Sandhills Community College, SCC Blue Hall, 3395 Airport Rd., Pinehurst. Sponsored by Embarq Public Affairs Group. Call 692-8571 for appt.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 1-5 pm, Southern Pines Fire Dept., 500 West Pennsylvania, Southern Pines. Sponsored by Moore County Chamber of Commerce. Call 692-3926 for appt.
- **Standard First Aid** – 6:00-9:00pm, Introductory Certification Course. Certification Fee \$35. American Red Cross Moore County Chapter, 115 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. 910-692-8571

- **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – 7:30 pm Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Tracy Rush, Chapter Chair of the newly formed North Carolina Native Plant Society-NW Sandhills Chapter will update members of the garden club on the society's activities during this past year.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- **Weymouth Lecture Series** – 3 pm, by Kevin Duffus. Last of three free lectures. His lecture will be on "War Zone" the German submarine attacks on American shipping off the Outer Banks in a little-known series of tragedies in 1942. Held at the Weymouth Center for the Arts and Humanities, 555 E. Connecticut Ave.,



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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from front page)

with a third interview expected shortly. In addition, three management companies presented initial proposals and two have been invited back for in-depth interviews and a second proposal process.

Director Kent Droppers, who is leading the management search, explained that the Board's request for a second proposal was designed to force the management companies into a more structured format to allow for better comparison.

"We want to weigh quality versus cost. Who is the best value is not necessarily the lowest cost," Droppers said.

Droppers reported that he has been pleased with his fellow directors' input. "We don't all agree, and all of our opinions have grown," he said. Both Treasurer Denny Galford and Director Bud Shaver echoed those remarks, stating at various times in the discussion that no decisions had yet been made.

Chorus of support for Chad Beane

When the public got its chance to speak, it was clear that a number of landowners see the Board's carefully-crafted selection process as almost beside the point — the Board just needs to hire Assistant Manager Chad Beane to do the job.

Northsider Ed Chapman, a former SLLA President, praised the Board for their thorough management search but recommended they hire Beane on a trial basis.

"There is no hurry to bring in a management company, from my perspective. Give Chad a chance, specify what you expect; and, if he doesn't do the job, then you can bring them in," he suggested.

Northsider Jordan Rhodes spoke on behalf of a group that is coordinating an effort in support of Beane. He said an advertisement the group purchased this week in *The Times* included seventy signatures but in fact represented a much larger number of property owners. "We could have had 275 names total," Rhodes said, "And they all support Chad Beane"

"Each of you feel you are representing the landowners. My group represents 280 and I think

we only had 300 or so vote in the last election," he said.

In addition to his support for Beane, Rhodes expressed concern for the rest of the SLLA staff. "We're coming into the end of the year. If you bring in a management company, that basically means all those people lose their jobs," he said. "Will this also affect our maintenance people?"

Northsider Bill Yarish also expressed concern about the existing SLLA staff. He recommended hiring a professional management company, but urged the Board, where possible, "to utilize the people currently working for us already."

Zielsdorf and Shaver both argued against jumping to the conclusion that existing staff would lose their jobs if a man-

agement company is hired. One option under consideration, they said, would be for a management company to hire some or all of the existing in-house staff.

Building on that point, Droppers said the decision about new management and the decision about whether to outsource maintenance operations were two distinct decisions. "An evaluation of maintenance will take place, but it will be separate from the management decision. The two are not linked together," Droppers said.

Concluding the discussion, Zielsdorf said there was no rush to judgement.

"Even if we hire a management company, we've been told they wouldn't want to come in and make immediate changes, but rather evaluate for a few months

and see how the Association currently runs," he said.

Nominating Committee

Bill Longnecker of Seven South and Bill Yarish were unanimously approved to serve on the Nominating Committee. The committee also includes Southsider Brenda Massimo and Chair Bruce Keyser, Jr.

Keyser reported that Melinda Scott, Bob Darr, and Bob Racine, all of Seven Lakes North, are planning to run for the Board in the March elections. Their candidacies are tentative, because the Board will not be asked to

accept the report of the Nominating Committee for several weeks.

During Wednesday night's meeting, Keyser invited Jordan Rhodes to join the list of candidates, and Sally Kindsvatter asked Yarish to consider running as well.

Any interested property owner in good standing is eligible. For more information or to submit a nomination, contact Bruce Keyser, Jr. at 673-5060 or the SLLA office at 673-4931.

Sequoia Dam

(See "SLLA," p. 21)

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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 20)

Community Manager Dalton Fulcher presented a cost comparison and recommended approval of a proposed \$22,000 contract extension that will allow dam engineer S&ME to test a wet area identified on Sequoia Dam.

Using the cost of similar testing and boring work previously completed at Echo Dam by Engineer John Eddy and also Hobbs,

Upchurch, & Associates, Fulcher said that S&ME's proposed costs were lower for both tests and the filing of paperwork with the State of North Carolina.

There is adequate funding in the current budget to cover the expenditure, but Fulcher reminded the Board that, if ordered, any state-mandated dam repairs

could be funded — at their discretion — from either regular funds or the restricted reserve set aside specifically for road repaving and state-mandated dam remediation.

The S&ME contract was approved in a split vote, with Droppers and Keyser opposed.

Bylaw 6.6 Approved

In a split vote, with Droppers and Kindsvatter opposed, the Board approved new Bylaw 6.6, which requires a super majority vote of 75% — or six of seven directors — to sell any of the four Association common areas protected by deed restrictions.

"These deed restrictions don't

make it impossible, but more difficult, for these lands to be sold off in the future," explained Zielsdorf. "These areas help define us, and that is why the majority [of the Board] thought this was a good thing."

The four common areas described in the warranty deed (See "SLLA," p. 22)

Caulk won't vote on SLLA management

Director Gary Caulk announced that he will recuse himself from voting on new management for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA].

"I have an interest and want to see the best decision for Seven Lakes, and this is a process which has move on -- must move forward," Caulk said.

Deep now into interviews of both management companies and individual candidates, Caulk told *The Times* that he has and will continue to participate and offer input, but he will not vote. In addition, Caulk said he routinely excuses himself whenever Board discussion turns toward front office staffing decisions or personnel issues that involve his wife, Debbie Caulk -- a longtime SLLA employee.

"It wouldn't be fair for me to vote and, to be honest, I don't want to be in a position to potentially select Debbie's immediate boss. It just wouldn't be good," said Caulk.

According to both Caulk and President Randy Zielsdorf, this is not a recent decision.

"We [the Board] value Gary Caulk's opinions and insight and he has therefore been involved in the interview process. But, per an understanding reached at the beginning of the management search, Director Caulk will abstain from management and staffing votes that could be perceived as conflicts of interest due to family employment within the SLLA," Zielsdorf said in a prepared statement.



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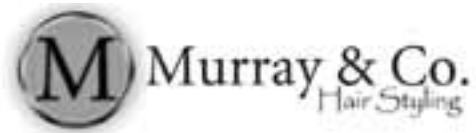
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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 21)

are the soccer field, North Clubhouse area, Sequoia Point, and the stables.

Member comments

Bill Yarish posed a lengthy but well-articulated series of questions to the Board during the general public comment portion of the meeting.

"Liability — how much coverage do we have? Is it enough? Can we get more and can we get it cheaper?" he asked, noting that his personal insurance carrier had recently raised his coverage because he resided in a community governed by an association.

"Do we need to review issues such as drowning and death?

Diving in shallow water and children harming themselves on playground equipment? A lawsuit can be a traumatic and expensive experience," Yarish said.

He also wanted to know why there were extra gates along perimeter fencing and who had access. Shaver responded that staff kept keys and used the gates especially for heavy equip-

ment, and that local fire and emergency medical services also had keys to the perimeter gates.

Yarish recommended more stringent enforcement of community standards and questioned the dues rates required of renters. Galford responded that rental units actually contribute more dues than a resident prop-

erty owner: rental property owners pay \$695 in dues with the renters themselves responsible for an additional \$410 in annual dues.

Road Repaving Project

Director Galford reported that crack sealing work on community roads would commence in January and February 2010 with a five-person team led by Maintenance Supervisor Bob Darr.

Another high priority is replacing curbing in the main common area and office parking lot. Three bids for 6 x 6 concrete curbing should be in hand next month, Fulcher reported, with costs ranging from \$9,000-\$12,000. The curbing will be installed by the contractor, and the cost includes removal and disposal of the existing curbs.

How to address pine tree roots
(See "SLLA," p. 23)

Board seeks more input on management

by Laura Douglass,
Times Reporter

"There is no rush to judgment. The Board really wants to do this right," said Randy Zielsdorf, president of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors, in response to an editorial in the October 16 edition of *The Times* that recommended landowners should be provided with additional information and opportunities for input as the Board moves toward a final decision on new management for the community.

The Board offered an update as well as a public comment and question and answer period on the search during the October 28 Open Meeting.

A third individual candidate has been invited to interview for the Community Manager position, Zielsdorf told *The Times*. Two of the three management companies invited to bid on the management contract during

the first round of the process have been asked back for a more in-depth interview.

"Basically, we heard the sales pitch the first go 'round -- now, we will be grilling them," Zielsdorf said. "The Board wants to get to much more pointed questions. If we feel it's necessary to interview the third company, that is always an option."

Whether the Board elects to go with a company or an individual, a contract negotiation will be part of the process, Zielsdorf said, adding that he anticipates there will be some back and forth negotiations, including a review of the agreement by the Association's attorney.

"The contract will be what the Board determines is in the best interest of the Association," he said, explaining that the decision and contract negotiations must come before a vote. "I don't want to have a vote; and, then, if the contract falls apart, we'll be back

to square one or two."

Zielsdorf said the interview process will continue through mid-November. But that once a decision is made and contract finalized, he added, the final Board vote will be conducted at an Open Meeting.

"Regarding the final selection of a management company versus an individual, a full expla-

nation will be given once the Board has made a final decision -- we will justify our action," Zielsdorf said in a prepared statement. "Regarding staffing proposals, once the Board has made its final decision, the 'bottom line' numbers starting in January 2010 will be made available as compared to our current expenses."

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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 22)

underneath Dogwood Lane is also still under discussion, Galford said. "It appears there is a feasible way to thin out the existing pines and do root control that would be acceptable and prevent the need for complete removal of the trees," he reported.

"No decision has been made on Dogwood. I want to keep the trees, but we have to look at the problem," said Director Shaver.

However, a small and heavily damaged section of Dogwood Lane needs immediate attention. A twelve-inch backhoe bucket is necessary for the project and would have to be purchased, Shaver reported.

Finance

The Finance Committee will review the proposed Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget in November, Galford reported, noting that most of the work on the proposed budget is being completed by Assistant Manager Beane. In addition, a transition inventory with an updated listing of all assets will be completed upon Fulcher's departure.

Dues income is running three percent under budget, Fulcher reported, adding that this was to be expected in the current economy. He reported expenditures as very good overall, with admin-

istration on budget, security at one percent over, and recreation at fifty-four percent of budget.

Architectural Review Board

The Board unanimously approved several minor amendments to ARB rules during Wednesday's meeting. Projects approved by ARB in October included two decks, two siding projects, and an addition.

Community Standards

Beane reported twenty-six violations in October including several complaints for failure to maintain a driveway with appropriate material and parking vehicles on grass or pine straw covered areas of the yard.

Twenty violations were resolved, and two complaints were sent to the Judicial Committee.

Droppers invited any interested residents to join the Community Standards Committee. He also encouraged residents to purchase reflective address signs from Seven Lakes EMS. Order forms are available at the office; the cost is \$15.

Recreation

The Halloween Carnival with refreshments and games will be held Saturday, October 31, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the North Clubhouse. Adult volunteers are

needed; please call the office.

Beane offered thanks to Seven Lakes EMS for providing safety glow sticks for community children. The glow sticks will be handed to trick-or-treaters at the party and by security and Roving Patrol. All Halloween guests should be called in early to the gatehouse.

Reservations are underway for a Smithfield Outlet shopping trip on Tuesday, November 17. Cost is \$20 and includes transportation.

Maintenance

"We mow grass, we pick dead trees out of lakes, we dig ditches, we replace posts and paint fences – there's a bunch of little things maintenance does," Director Shaver reported.

Subcommittees have been created to address future boat dock needs, a three-to-five year equipment replacement plan, and a three-to-five year major project plan.

Zielsdorf offered compliments

to the maintenance staff for the "spruced up entryway and new lighting in front of the North Clubhouse."

Other Business

In other business, the Board:

- Heard from Fulcher that video of dam overflows showed some minor cracks and infiltration with mineral deposits but that, overall, the thirty-five year old pipes looked very good.
- Deferred discussion and voting on closing Cedar Lane. The Board will not conduct a

Work Session in November. The next Open Meeting is scheduled a week early to accommodate Thanksgiving, and will be held on Wednesday, November 18.

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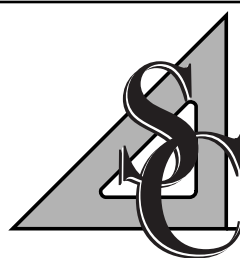
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Let there be light!

The flooring guy took pity on me and fixed the light.

Seriously . . . but let's just call that the short version of my week. The rest of the story includes a mountain of old carpet, a mad dash for transition strips, furniture shoved this way and that, and the alarming discovery that a section of my living room had sunk almost an inch.

One inch!

You'd think I would have noticed that a major load-bearing chunk of my valuable real estate was dipping towards the abyss — and you'd be wrong.

Luckily my flooring guy is slight-

ly more observant. In fact, he immediately dialed up our original building contractor and cordially invited him to investigate this sunken surprise.

Now between you and me, I have no idea what the statute of limitations is for construction punch-out lists but I'm fairly certain that after twenty years or more, you're probably going to be on your own. So in honor of Harry's heroic effort to lift and re-secure my ancient foundation, I'd like to offer public kudos to Lakeview Construction.

And about that light?

First, I'll let you in on a little family secret: Darling Hubby is not

exactly Mr. Fix-it. And despite my own impressive tool collection, I strictly avoid messing with anything electrified — visions of that crazed-character Fire Marshal Bill always seem to



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

dance in my head. Hence, I've been sitting in the dark for the last few months while we alternate

between concern and procrastination over the broken fixture above my desk. Desk is a term I'm using loosely since this space also serves as a dining room table, a homework station, general dust collector, and favored cat-sunning salon.

After a few long days of sharing my less than ideal condi-

tions, the flooring guy looked upon my plight with great pity.

At least I think that's how it hap-

pened.

Either way I returned one day and, behold, there was light. And since I've ignored my own rule against mentioning names at least once today, let me offer a round of applause also to Bruce and Keyser Tile.

Perhaps I'm a victim of too many years spent living in a cold, Northern city but it's still a thrill when I get some of that old-fashioned Southern charm and service.

Life in Seven Lakes is not only good, it's well-lit and a whole inch higher too.

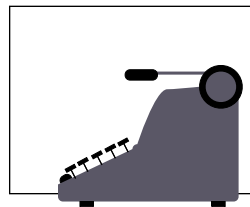
Pick up your brush . . .

Several years ago, I got up on a Saturday morning, headed to the basement and got all of my painting supplies, and decided it was time to paint the kitchen. Certainly not the way I had hoped to spend my Saturday, but none the less, a very fulfilling way to make some progress on my "honey do" list.

After several hours of cutting in, rolling, cleaning and a first coat, my wife walks through the kitchen and offers a very helpful, "Honey, you missed a spot."

Now, I ask you . . . Are you the one holding the paint brush, or are you the one offering the "Honey, you missed a spot."

The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Nominating Committee is making its annual push to try to



Your Turn

Adam Wimberly
Seven Lakes West

find at least three people to run for the Board.

I have been on the Board for most of this past year and can remember spending a great deal of time trying to figure out

whether I should run.

I remember all of the excuses that I came up with:

I am too busy.

What if I don't get elected? Can't someone else do it?

Do I really want to listen to people complain all the

volunteers in this community that are more than eager to help.

You will definitely deal with a lot of the "Honey, you missed a spot" comments. In fact, there will be times that you'll wonder why in the world you signed yourself up for all the work and hassle. But at the end of the day, I can tell you that working on the board is a rewarding experience.

If you are the person sitting out there that would like to serve but just need to be asked, please consider this your invitation.

Now for the rest of the story . . . After the exchange of "Honey,

you missed a spot," my wife picked up a brush and started to help. Please consider picking up your brush and helping.

Even if your brush has never painted a drop, or is old and tired, even if you swore you would never pick it up again. Young painters are definitely welcome.

If you are interested in running for the Board please contact Ed Tuton, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee at etuton2007@nc.rr.com or feel free to contact me, at adamw@7lakeswest.com

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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A healthy mix

Friendships, roses and the illumination of the human spirit.

Somehow, when we mix those factors plus a few others like compassion, or a ticking poten-



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

tial such as a consistent, genial urge to help others keep happy, we have arrived at a status that can indeed lead us constantly to a form of living that can serve faithfully for the rest of our time on Earth.

Why refer to roses? Well, we all need forms of beauty to observe to help us to always heed the fact that we are all indeed blessed to have been able to ingest the creations that grace our world, imparting a soothing presence to help offset some of the seemingly unsolvable challenges we face.

Persistence. Insatiability. Determination. All traits that have made American respected.

With this state of mind, we'll do all right.

'Pine Forest' land is a unique pine forest

They say that towns and subdivisions are often named after that which will no longer exist once they are built: "Hidden Valley" or "Rural Retreat" or even "Southern Pines."

Or "Pine Forest."

Botanist Bruce Sorrie, a Whispering Pines-based botanist work works for the state's Natural Heritage Program, identifying plant and animal communities worth preserving, is concerned that the Pine Forest PUD, which will cover nearly 1,700 acres between NC Highways 73 and 211, may bring an end to the very forest it's named after.

Once MHK Ventures is done installing a resort hotel, three golf courses, two gated communities and assorted retail shops, there may not be much pine forest left in Pine Forest.

And that will be tragic in this case, Sorrie told *The Times*, because the 1,700 acre Pine Forest tract is a particularly fine example of the sort of longleaf pine forest that once dominated not just Moore County, but stretched across the Coastal Plain from Virginia to Texas, covering tens of million of acres when Europeans first explored what they called "The New World."

Longleaf pine forest is a unique ecosystem with many variations, home to hundreds if not thousands of species adapted to live there and nowhere else, but there are two big players in the species list: the longleaf pine tree itself and wiregrass. If you are reading this in Moore County, you probably know what a longleaf pine looks like — you probably have one or more in your yard. So no explanation needed there. Wiregrass may be less familiar to you, since its absence is what makes so many of our urbanized pine forests ghosts of their former selves, instead of healthy forests.

Wiregrass is a bunch grass that has adapted to living in the dry sandy soil of the Sandhills by forming clumps that seem as much dead as alive. The typical clump of wiregrass has more dead leaves than live ones and even the live parts of the plant are woody and fibrous. It looks like it would burn like crazy, and it does, which is what makes it so important.

In its natural state, the longleaf pine forest ecosystem is adapted to the regular fires, sparked by lightning from the frequent Spring and Summer thunderstorms in the coastal plain.

grass community intact. It is "a functioning natural longleaf pine forest," he said. The wiregrass is there, and so are longleaf pine trees of varying ages — a sign that there is natural regeneration of the population.

It was preserved that way because the folks who owned it for decades let it be. They didn't log off all the pine trees.

And though pine straw was harvested from some areas, it was hand-raked. Bringing in tractors to rake straw tends to kill off the wiregrass, which can't stand the pressure of the tractor tires.

It's not an "old growth" forest, Sorrie explained, because almost all the longleaf pines in the Sandhills were cut down in the early years of the last century. The pine forest on Pine Forest is an old and well-preserved regrowth from that time.

Sorrie, whose job it is to know such things, says it's the largest

functioning natural longleaf pine forest in the Moore County, and maybe in all of the North Carolina Sandhills, outside of Fort Bragg and the Sandhills Gamelands preserve.

So why hasn't the state or the Nature Conservancy or some other preservation group bought it to preserve it. Sorrie told *The Times* that he and other folks who, like him, look for the unique natural environments that are worthy of preservation, only found out about the tract three or four years ago — about the same time that it began to interest developers. It was in private hands and no one had looked at it, Sorrie said.

The NC Department of Agriculture's Plant Conservation Pro-

gram [PCP] has expressed some interest in acquiring the property for preservation, he told *The Times*, but they are limited to paying market rates for the forest land, and the property is worth far more than that to a developer. So the PCP couldn't come up with the money.

The Nature Conservancy folks and their allies in this part of the state are very focused on acquiring land that will connect the natural areas around Ft. Bragg with the Sandhills Game-lands. That will create a corridor for wildlife to move over a larger area, something that ecologists have more recently understood is crucial to a long-term preservation strategy. Pine Forest lies

(See "Pine Forest," p. 26)

Digging Deeper

Greg Hankins



The fires kill off the seedlings of competing species — like the jack oaks that Lakers are forever culling from their properties — and open up the forest floor so that the new longleafs can find room to grow.

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What makes the Pine Forest tract unique, Sorrie told *The Times* in a recent interview, is that it preserves this longleaf-wire-

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Pinehurst's Wagram purchase is bad idea

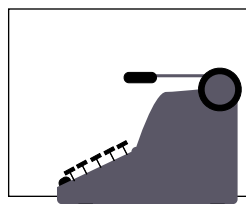
Pinehurst has offered to buy a water/sewer facility (WestPoint Stevens plant) located 30 miles to the south in Wagram, Scotland County. Pinehurst officially advised Scotland County that Pinehurst's water requirements are "critical at this time because the current water supply is not sufficient compared to growth," a gross exaggeration.

Jeff Dawson, an appointed Pinehurst Village Council member, warns that in a "worst case scenario," \$100 million in plant improvements, piping and pumping needs may be required. County executives think his estimate is on the low side. Dawson claims a Pinehurst-led consortium could, if need be, then construct a totally new and parallel water distribution system within

Pinehurst, bypassing Moore County's utility network. Curiously, Pinehurst possesses no written legal opinion assuring such a move is legal. (The only North Carolina case law cited by municipal officials is that of Pine Knolls Shores, a taking over of a private water company's franchise, not a county water system).

Were a parallel system to be set up, conservative estimates are Moore County Utility would suffer significant revenue losses, running into millions of dollars. This would force the county to raise water and sewer rates on all non-Pinehurst users and on those Pinehurst users refusing to sign up for the Pinehurst-run parallel system. With county operations then running in the red, the county would be forced to discontinue capital spending, which guarantees a period of reduced service maintenance. The plan espoused by Dawson could cause the Moore County

system, deprived of most of its customers, to go broke. Water/sewer rates would necessarily skyrocket, modernization by the county of all Pinehurst water/sewer assets



would cease, and service would deteriorate.

Moore County officials have remained aloof of these doings even though Pinehurst's entire water/sewer infrastructure is county-owned. A county executive estimates debt reduction costs for Pinehurst (principal and interest) of \$8,315,432 per year for two decades.

County executives are fully convinced Wagram can't possibly produce water as cheaply as Moore County can now pur-

chase or produce it. They're united in the belief that only they are legally responsible for Pinehurst's water provision. They aver there's no legitimate "critical water need,"

and are totally committed to meet Pinehurst, West End and Seven Lakes' future water needs. The new Harnett

County connector alone will add over a million gallons daily to the system servicing that area. Drought risk is being further

eliminated by Southern Pines' construction of a 140,000,000 gallon reservoir by 2011.

Is there any good news in all of this? Yes. But only for those politicians in Pinehurst who loudly acclaim, "We should have our own water system." They'll have achieved their parochial dream. But getting their wish can only hurt everyone else in the county and destroy the countywide water system now in place.

Paul R. Dunn is a former candidate for Pinehurst Village Council and County Commissioner. He's reached at: paulandbj@nc.rr.com

Your Turn

Paul Dunn
Pinehurst

Pine Forest

(Continued from page 25)

isolated outside that corridor.

On the other hand, there is some PCP-owned property near Pine Forest, as well as some private land in conservation easements. Acquiring Pine Forest would "give them many more options for doing landscape management," Sorrie said.

Noting the projected growth in the western part of the county around West End and Seven Lakes and toward Carthage, Sorrie said, "The towns of Seven Lakes and West End are going to need some open space, ultimately. Big chunks of land like this would be a big open area with a lot of possibilities.

He mentioned grass parking areas and perhaps a network of trails as options — and maybe even a connection with Weymouth Woods State Park — as public access options.

"We'd like to try to convince the developer that building homes in there wouldn't be the best use for the property," he told *The Times*.

Pine Forest's proposed PUD rezoning is expected to come before the Moore County Planning Board in a public meeting on November 5.

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Thanks for supporting West End Scouts

Dear Editor:

On October 3, The Friends of the West End Scout Lodge held a car wash and bake sale at Carolina Car Care. The people of West End and the surrounding communities came out to support the rebuilding of the Lodge that was destroyed by fire.

Volunteers washed approximately 40 cars and raised \$790 for the ongoing rebuilding effort.

Sue Harsany and I would like to thank the volunteers who offered their help in washing cars and selling baked goods, the many people who took the time to bake goodies and donate them, and for the supporters who waited patiently in line to

have their cars washed.

A special thank you goes out to Phil and Kathy Cook, owners of Carolina Car Care, who so graciously offered the use of their facility to hold this event and to Harris Printing for the use of their moveable sign.

It is heartwarming to see the community come together for the boys and girls who will be using the Lodge and at the same time giving the opportunity to those who wanted to help in some way, but didn't really know how.

*Thanks to the community,
Heidi Rabstejnek &
Sue Harsany*

Thanks from the Chapel sale

Dear Editor

The Chapel in the Pines Rummage Sale Committee would like to thank all of the Seven Lakers who volunteered their time, energy, skill and donations to this year's rummage sale. Because of your efforts we were able to gross \$11,276.50.

The Rummage Sale for next

year is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 16, 2010. Please mark your calendars. If you have donations that require a pickup please call Butch Allen 673-3312 or Don Truesdell 673-1509.

Thanks again for all of your help.

*Don Truesdell
Seven Lakes South*

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Water

(Continued from page 4)

tially, a well house — to be built on the site, which is on the Pinehurst #2 golf course.

"We have submitted drawings to the Village for approval," Brobst said. "Several times."

"The village has sent a letter back, that, because we didn't have a special use permit, they would not allow us to go before the Historic [Preservation Commission] Board."

Brobst said the structure in question was identical to the existing well house and had been approved by Pinehurst Resort President Don Padgett.

The Village has held up other Public Utilities projects, Brobst explained, including a rehab of the sewer system in Old Town Pinehurst.

"The Village has decided they want that project to go at the same time as the Old Town Water System," he told the Commissioners, a project with a \$7 million price tag. "That is \$7 million we don't have," Brobst said. "Pinehurst wants them both done at once."

The County and Village have also had trouble seeing eye-to-eye on a rehab of the sewer system that serves Lake Pinehurst, a \$3 million project that won a \$1.5 million grant and \$1.5 million interest free loan drawn from federal stimulus funds. When the Village refused to approve the county's design for the project, the county, after some work by its legal staff, decided to move forward with the project without the Village's permission.

Investment in Pinehurst

Once Brobst had completed the formal part of his presentation, the Commissioners asked a number of questions that seemed to be aimed at answering some criticisms emanating from Pinehurst — in particular, the criticism that the county is not investing in water and sewer infrastructure in Pinehurst.

Chairman Nick Picerno asked how much revenue Public Utilities takes in from the water and sewer system. Brobst said it was approximately \$7 million. Picerno then asked about the cost to operate the system. Brobst said the maintenance of the sewer system was \$2.145 million, water quality operations cost \$870,000,

Administration and customer service adds another \$800,000.

Picerno noted that totaled \$3.7 million, more than fifty percent of the revenue coming in. Public Utilities also pays \$1.7 million per year to the Addor Wastewater Treatment plant to handle wastewater from Pinehurst.

That drops the profit or "excess" down to less than \$2 million per year, Picerno noted. "So we've got \$2 million total to play with in a year for our capital cost and our debt service?" he asked Brobst.

"That is correct," Brobst replied.

Picerno then read a newspaper report that quoted Pinehurst Councilman Jeff Dawson telling Village residents that "none of the money you have spent [on county water and sewer bills] over the past ten years have come back in the form of capital improvements in the system."

"Is that an accurate statement?" Picerno asked Brobst.

"No sir, I would not say that it is," Brobst replied, listing among the Pinehurst projects completed in the past few years a new lift station, two water mains across NC Highway 211, the drilling and construction of Wells 21 and 22, the completion of a line on NC Highway 15/501 line to bring in 1.1 million gallons

per day from the East Moore Water District, the completion of the Cannon Park water tank, and the installation of three generators.

"We have been busy," Brobst said.

Paying for Wagram

Picerno then asked whether the revenue generated by the county's utility operations could fund the \$105 million projected cost of rehabbing water and sewer plants in Wagram that the Village of Pinehurst is seeking to buy, bringing that water to Pinehurst, and replacing the county's existing Pinehurst infrastructure with new water and sewer lines owned by the Village.

Brobst said the cost of borrowing \$105 million over 20 years at five percent interest is \$8.3 million per year.

"That doesn't pay the first electric bill, doesn't hire a technician, doesn't hire a meter reader, doesn't have a telephone . . . no operating cost whatsoever, and it's \$8.3 million per year," he continued. "The Wooten report describing those plants was very precise about the estimated cost to operate and maintain just the plants . . . By my calculations . . . the revenue necessary to run that system that was explained

in the paper would be about \$17 million per year . . . If they can do it for half of what we would do it for, the revenue would still have to triple in order to pay for that facility."

Montgomery County Water

Commissioners Picerno and Lea both asked Brobst to elaborate on the possibility of an interconnection with Montgomery County to bring more water to Seven Lakes — and thereby reduce the amount of water that must be pumped from Pinehurst to Seven Lakes.

Brobst confirmed that the developer of the proposed Pine Forest PUD, MHK Ventures, LLC, had offered to pay the estimated \$3 million for the cost of the new line and required upgrades to the Montgomery County system.

Brobst said he had told the developer's engineer that "our requirement for developments like this is that they replace the capacity that they consume."

"I don't want to stand in front of this Board and say that I am borrowing money so that a developer can have some water," he added.

If the new development ultimately requires 500,000 gallons of water per day, Commissioner Lea noted, then the new line from Montgomery County would produce no net gain in the amount of water to Seven Lakes.

Brobst agreed, but pointed out that the development is expected to take twenty years to be built out — and to need all that water. "There will no additional capacity in the long term," Brobst said, "but for the first 20 years, there will be tremendous addi-



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Westside meeting

(Continued from page 2)

mining the dues level that will be necessary to support those expenditures.

Reviewing the financial reports distributed at the meeting, Kirst noted that the Income Report includes both dues and boat fees that were received in April, prior to the beginning of the 2009-2010 Fiscal year. Because the Association operates on a modified cash accounting system, those payments actually have to be booked as FY 2008-2009, even though the are payments for FY 2009-2010. Kirst said using the accrual accounting method would avoid this reporting problem, but switching from one system to the other will have to be cleared with the Internal Revenue Service.

Year-to-date expenses, only four months into the year are already \$1 million, against a budget of \$1.2 million, as result of budgeting the Lake Auman Dam Remediation in last years budget but actually paying for it this year, Kirst said. The Association has about \$1.4 million on hand, with half of that in reserves and the other half ready to be used to fund operations.

Community Activities

Director Karen Milligan said she had spotted an ad for a Westside home in a newspaper real estate section that listed among the selling features "a community center that hosts monthly activities and events. "I think that's a really great thing," she said, thanking landowners for the support they give the Community Activities Committee.

Milligan reminded residents of the Halloween Party and Movie on October 29 and a full day of Christmas festivities on December 6, including a visit

from Santa and children's party in the afternoon and at BYOB Christmas social for the more mature set in the evening.

The November edition of the Seven Lakes Forum, which meets November 19 at 4:00 pm, will feature Andy Huneycutt of Progress Energy on "The State of the Electric Industry: Nuclear and Renewable Energy Sources."

Safety and Security

Director John Hoffmann said a landowners question prompted him to investigate how EMS, Firefighters, and other first responders deal with gaining entry to the West Side when a train is blocking the tracks. Through conversations with emergency personnel, he learned that, finding the front entrance blocked, they will immediately proceed to the back gate, which is faster than attempting to have the train moved.

Neighborhood Watch is up and running, Hoffmann reported, and includes a variety of elements. Among them is a household inventory available on the website and at the Community Center, that residents can use to ensure their home is well secured.

Also underway are Neighborhood Watch patrols conducted by twenty-six volunteers.

Public comment

Noting problems resulting from a contractor pulling into the community Halloween Night with a flatbed trailer full of kids from outside the neighborhood, Dick Williams asked whether plans had been made to attempt to prevent a repeat occurrence. Director Hoffmann said the gate would be manned on Halloween evening, Neighborhood Watch patrols would be roaming the

community, and an off-duty deputy sheriff will be hired to provide additional security.

Betty Milligan asked whether the Parkwood subdivision had been annexed into the Association and whether anything could be done about a tethered dog and a very visible dog house and satellite dish. President Shepard replied that the annexation is still being negotiated and that, consequently, nothing could be done about conditions that would be violations under SLWLA rules, other than to address them with Parkwood's developer, which he promised to do.

Learned that the Moore county Sheriff's Department has apparently closed its investigation of the theft of a pontoon boat and associated vandalism perpetrated one night this past summer without making an arrest. Office Manager Katie Patnode said a call to the Sheriff's Office indicated that detective had a firm suspect but lacked the evidence necessary to prosecute the case.

Charlie Merical, noting an article in *The Times* concerning the cost of operating the Foxfire Vil-

lage pool, asked whether similar information was available on last season's operation of the Westside. Treasurer Kirst explained that, because Foxfire, a municipality, operates its pool as an independent enterprise, the cost and revenue accounting is somewhat simplified. However, she promised that an analysis of pool expenses and usage would be forthcoming.

Other items

Also during Tuesday night's General Meeting:

- Administrative Assistant Katie Patnode, reporting for the vacationing community Manager Joan Frost, said 43 compliance

letters have been sent out since the September General Meeting. Twenty of those rules violations were resolved; five involved repeat offenders. Frost provided a printed Manager's report that was distributed at the meeting.

- Infrastructure Director John Goodman reported that several drainage projects are in the works or on the drawing board, including work on Longleaf Court, Timber Ridge, Otter Drive, and Butterfly Court.

- Director Wimberly reported that the Board has approved a deputy chair for the Architectural Review Committee who will handle day-to-day operations. Ray Sibiga will fill that post.



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CAS

(Continued from front page)
motion.)

The discussion of contract renewal was held in a closed executive session, so details of what the performance incentives might entail are not available, but the Board did assign the Human Resources committee the task of negotiating a final contract with CAS.

Speaking prior to the vote on Silberhorn's motion for a one-year

renewal, Infrastructure Director John Goodman said, "I want to emphasize that it is our mutual goal that we have a long-term relationship and, at the end of this year, that we have an improvement over what we see today. I am very optimistic we will see improvement as time goes by."

Rules revision nearly done

The Board of Directors approved two additional adjust-

ments to the revised rules and regulations that has been a work session agenda item for several months. On the suggestion of Director Wimberly they raised the number of hours that a boat maybe parked in a resident's driveway from 72 to 96 hours within a 30-day period. Wimberly explained that this would allow residents who trailer their boats to the lake to have them in the driveway one day of each weekend in the month.

On the suggestion of former Lake Director Mary Anne Fewkes, the Board added a rule, passed by a previous Board, that limits the decibel level of boats using Lake Auman.

With the approval of those adjustments, the Board is ready to move to a final public hearing on and possible approval of the revised rules and regulations during its November work session. The nearly final draft of the rules is available on the SLWLA website.

Pool management

The Board heard a presentation on pool policies during its work session from CAS Community Manager Jack Wiles, who is the on-site manager for Grove Park, a non-gated community of roughly 1,000 homes in East Durham.

Wiles explained that Grove

Park had implemented a system for the most recent pool season that relied on electronic access cards used to open the gate to the community's pool. The cards were issued to residents and included a photograph of the resident, to make it easy for pool attendants to make sure the person using the card was authorized to do so.

Two adult members of each member household are issued cards that provide them with access and the right to bring with them two other people, whether their minor children, other family members, or guests. Other members of the household

(See "CAS," p. 31)

Westside incumbents won't run for re-election

The three members of the Westside Board whose terms expire in March — Lake & Dam Director Mick Herdrich, Treasurer Kathy Kirst, and Secretary Ed Tuton — have all told *The Times* that they will not stand for re-election to another term.

That leaves the Westside Nominating Committee, headed by Tuton, with an especially tough job this year.

So far, only one potential candidate has thrown a hat into the ring.

Westsidiers interested in exploring running for the board

are encouraged to contact a member of the Nominating Committee. In addition to Tuton, they include: Mike Shapiro, Ray MacKay, Mary Price, Betty Milligan, and Ed Cockman.

The committee plans to begin interviewing candidates shortly, so time is of the essence.

"We're looking for a diverse set of talent, expertise, and backgrounds," Tuton told *The Times* — for a willingness to serve and to devote the time it takes to serve.

On the fence? See page 25 for some inspiration from current Director Adam Wimberly.



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CAS

(Continued from page 30)

over the age of sixteen are issued cards that provide them with access to the pool, but do not allow them to bring in guests. Guest cards are available for purchase by adult residents who want to bring in up to five guests, at a cost of five dollars per guest per week.

SLWLA Directors responded positively to Wiles presentation, noting that it offered not only the possibility of simplifying the enforcement of pool access rules, but could also be used to control access to other amenities, for example, the tennis courts.

Grove Park's pool has no diving board and the Association employs attendants, provided by a pool management company, but no lifeguards.

Refunds coming to new landowners

Community Manager Joan Frost reported that CAS would be refunding approximately \$1,350 in transfer fees incorrectly charged to new members of the Association.

CAS customarily charges a \$45 transfer fee, paid by the property buyer at closing, to cover the administrative costs of enrolling a new member of the associations it manages. The funds are paid to and retained by CAS, not the association. But Seven Lakes West negotiated this fee out of its contract with CAS.

CAS's corporate office charged the fee to approximately thirty new Westside landowners. Frost said the refunds would be paid

by CAS, not SLWLA.

Despite the need for refunds given the current contract, several Board members suggested that such a processing fee is not unreasonable, whether charged by the Association or the management company, to help cover the administrative costs of bringing in a new member, as well as providing copy of the rules and regulations and other legal documents.

The budget and long range planning

Treasurer Kathy Kirst explained that the Board's budgeting process for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 would be altered somewhat by focusing attention on operational expenses rather than special capital projects. The budget will set aside certain amounts in the reserve funds which can be used to fund capital projects, but those projects will be discussed by the Board and approved or denied throughout the budget year rather than during the budgeting process. That will allow the Board to devote more time to debating individual projects as they come up, she explained, rather than compressing the discussion of important projects into the brief budgeting window.

Secretary Tuton asked whether the approach would handicap the Board from allocating funds in case of an emergency — for example, a washout of a portion of Longleaf Drive due to flooding. Kirst explained that the Board has the discretion to move funds from one reserve fund to another

as needed.

Director John Hoffmann expressed his concern that the process of developing special capital projects, largely overseen by the Long Range Planning committee, is not firmly connected to the setting of Board priorities. He said the Association has not so much a Long Range Plan as a list of desirable projects and expressed skepticism that that list had ever been prioritized by the Board.

As an example, Hoffmann mentioned his desire to see a manned gatehouse at the back gate. "We've never decided that we want a back gate house, which is a pretty important thing, and I would like to not see that slip away from us in the budgeting process."

"This is all part of the reserve budget," Kirst said. "At the time that money is required, we will vote on it."

"I believe that Long Range Planning is working in a vacuum," Hoffmann said. "They don't know what I am thinking about. They may not know what [Infrastructure Director] John Goodman is thinking about. We should have an early-on session in which we trot out our lists of capital projects for other Board members and Long Range Planning to to

see."

"The Long Range Planning group, with the President sitting on there," Silberhorn said, "is coming up with ways to assist us in understanding the future. We need, quarterly or semi-annually, to sit down with what they have produced, perhaps with them present, and go over it, so that we understand it. As far as integrating the two, it's up to us to make the final decisions."

"The work done by the Long Range Planning committee is utterly incredible," Hoffmann said. "The service that they are providing is tremendous . . . Out of their project list, those items that the Board endorses, approves, selects for implementation, must be integrated into our individual capital requirements that are also approved by the Board. At some point in time, their input and our input

must be integrated to produce the cost picture both annually and into the future."

Kirst and Shepard both assured Hoffmann that the existing process would in fact accomplish that.

Architectural Review

Architectural Review [ARC] Director Adam Wimberly sought and received Board approval of documents that lay out the responsibilities of the ARC Committee Chairman and a new Deputy Chairman post. He explained that, whenever a new Board member is appointed ARC chairman, continuity can be lost as the Director gets up to speed. It is expected that the Deputy Chairman will serve for a longer period of time and maintain continuity in the leadership of the committee.

(See "CAS," p. 32)



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CAS

(Continued from page 31)

Wimberley said he planned to implement a similar structure for the compliance committee and would be seeking approval for that in a future meeting. He noted that the compliance committee is beginning to identify homes that are in bad need of maintenance or repair with the goal of bringing them into compliance.

Wimberley also asked for and received Board approval for a new set of procedures that will provide additional security for ARC files, in order to prevent documents from being lost or misplaced.

Butterfly Court

Director John Goodman reported that he had received a plan for addressing persistent drainage problems on Butterfly Court developed by Steve Harris, a contractor and resident of the neighborhood. Harris' plan offers the potential for better drainage and would cost approximately \$10,000 to implement — \$34,000 less than a plan developed by Southern Pines engineering firm Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates. He indicated that he would be presenting the plan to residents on the street to see whether they would be willing to split the cost of the project with the Association.

Director Silberhorn asked whether Hobbs-Upchurch had reviewed the plan, explaining that he was concerned about the threat of litigation over the drainage problems, which were the basis of an earlier suit against the Association.

Goodman explained that the language surrounding the Hobbs-Upchurch design was so full of

caveats as to offer little protection from liability. Silberhorn asked that Goodman let him know about the level of acceptance of the Harris design he found among Butterfly Court landowners.

Goodman reported that several other projects are underway to attempt to solve drainage issues on Timber Ridge, Longleaf Court, and elsewhere.

Drainage Pipe Problems

Goodman reported that three corrugated steel pipes that carry water from the lower Lakeway Drive Pond to Lake Auman have rusted through, allowing the water to erode the soil under the pipes. Ultimately, this could threaten the integrity of the Longleaf Drive roadway in that area, he said. He plans to address the problem with an injection of grout, once tree-clearing on the pond dam has been completed.

A similar problem exists in an area along Longleaf where a stream passes under the roadway. That, too, will need to be addressed, Goodman said.

Security Update

Director Hoffmann reported that that he now has twenty-six residents who have signed up for Neighborhood Watch patrols. Training and the patrols themselves are both underway.

The Association continues to use off-duty Sheriff's deputies for traffic enforcement and has spent \$3,960 to date on that effort. While he feels the presence of the deputies has helped calm traffic, Hoffmann noted that he is convinced the presence of the paid off-duty patrols has reduced the amount of time that on-duty sheriff's officers spend patrolling inside the gates. About a dozen speeding tickets have been issued in the community since July, Hoffmann said, and com-

plaints about speeding are down.

Hoffmann said the installation of motion sensor lights at Johnson Point is almost completed.

Other business

In other business during its Tuesday, October 20 work session, the SLWLA Board:

- Heard from Shepard that a committee examining rental fees for the boat and trailer storage lot has developed a recommendation that will be rolled into the budgeting process for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

- Heard from Director Milligan that the Communications Committee has produced a DVD that includes striking photography of Seven Lakes West that will be included in the welcome packet for new members. She said the committee will explore making the video available on the Association website.

- Heard from Milligan that the Christmas season will kick off on

December 6 with an afternoon party for children and an evening tree lighting and party. West Side Park decorations have been approved.

- Heard from Director Herdrich that he had asked Lake Patrol to do one last sweep this season to check for unregistered boats on Lake Auman. The effort turned up fifteen. "We'll be going after them," Herdrich said.

- Heard from Director Tuton, who chairs the Nominating Committee, that so far only one landowner has stepped forward to run for a seat on the Board. Three seats are available to be filled during next March's elections. Director Karen Milligan suggested that the Board may need to consider cutting back the number of seats from nine to seven or the term of office from three years to two years.

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4Bd/3Ba MLS#135060

7 LAKES WEST



104 RECTOR DRIVE \$400,000
4Bd/3Ba MLS#132094

7 LAKES NORTH DOUBLE LOT



113 PINECONE COURT \$210,000
3Bd/2.5Ba MLS#134992



LINDA CRISWELL
910.783.7374
Your 7 Lakes Neighbor!



DAVID BALL
910.975.1487
Your 7 Lakes Neighbor!



EDDIE THOMPSON
910.690.3145
Your 7 Lakes Neighbor!

OUTSTANDING HOMESITES

113 Baker Circle, 7 Lakes West - \$375,000
.51 acre Lake Auman Waterfront

TBD Big Oak Church Rd, Eagle Sp. - \$101,500
Desirable 36 acre building lot.

113 Cambridge Dr., 7 Lakes South - \$29,000
Golf Front with past perk.

123 James Dr., 7 Lakes West - \$60,000
One Acre buildable lot.

TBD Andrews Dr., 7 Lakes West - \$125,000
Double lot with water view. Great buy!

46 South Shamrock, Foxfire - \$55,000
.7 ac level lot with golf view.

138 Andrews Drive, 7 Lakes West - \$59,500
Water-View building lot Great Value!

123 Harwich, 7 Lakes South - \$59,900
1.25 acre golf front lot

2420 Hoffman Road, Foxfire - \$39,900
.74 ac golf front lot.

171 Longleaf Drive 7 Lakes West - \$34,500
.71 ac corner lot.

TBD N. Shamrock, Foxfire, 1.30ac, \$72,000
130 Andrews Dr, 7 Lakes West, \$75,000

Call Our 7 Lakes Team Today!

910-673-1063

1100 Seven Lakes Dr, Ste D

40%
UP TO FORTY
PERCENT

**DRIVE
DOWN
PREMIUMS**

Let's Talk
Home & Auto
Insurance

- New Lower Home Owner Rates
- New Lower Auto Rates



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24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®



Jim Leach/Agent

Call 215-8150 For Appointment And Quote. Many Discounts Available.
Located 1/4 Mile West of Olmsted Village. On Hwy. 211 West