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Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

December 11, 2009

Chad Beane Resigns

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

After months of research, a dozen or so interviews, and hours of discussion about the future management of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], one thing appears certain: Chad Beane will not be the new Community Manager.

Last Friday, Beane, who has served the SLLA as Recreation Director and Assistant Community Manager for sixteen years, accepted a position with Moore County Public Works. He will serve as Solid Waste Manager -- a new position within the Public Works Department -- overseeing the county's landfill and

convenience sites.

Community Manager Dalton Fulcher reported Beane's resignation during the Monday, December 7 SLLA Board Work Session. Beane's resignation is effective Monday, December 28 -- four days before Fulcher's scheduled retirement date on December 31.

President Randy Zielsdorf said that the Board has not made a final decision on future management and are still in negotiations; however, they had given one of the management companies under consideration permission to contact Beane to discuss employment prospects.

According to Fulcher, Beane felt

this phone call indicated that he would probably not be selected to fill the SLLA management slot. So he decided to accept the county's job offer.

"We wish Chad good luck," Zielsdorf said. "From my understanding, he has accepted a position that will suit him well."

Beane was not present during the Work Session, but spoke to *The Times* by telephone following the meeting.

"I was never told that I was not going to be offered the position [community manager]," explained Beane. "I just felt that I was presented with a good opportunity that I should take."

(See "SLLA," p. 28)

Munro honored



The late Carl Munro was recognized by the North Carolina League of Municipalities for dedicated and faithful service to his community. Helen Munro accepted the award on his behalf from Foxfire Mayor George Erickson at the Tuesday, December 8 Village Council Meeting.

Five run for Westside Board

Five Westsiders will compete for three open seats on the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors in elections that will be finalized at the Annual Meeting in March.

Secretary Tuton presented and won approval for the nominating committee's slate of candidates during the Tuesday, December 8 Board meeting. Those who have thrown their hats in to the ring are:

- Incumbent Director Mick Herdrich, a former Navy helicopter pilot with substantial career experience in Human Resources management, including stints with Pfizer and Fidelity Investments.

- Tom DiBella, a programmer and software analyst whose career includes business and financial systems design both at a large telecom firm and in his own consulting practice.
- Don Freiart, Jr., a CPA who served as VP - Corporate Real Estate for Nationwide Insurance, and held similar positions with Cardinal Health and Bank One.
- Jane Sessler, a doctor of dentistry who managed her own practice for 26 years, taught at the Columbia School of Dental and Oral Surgery, and currently works with FirstHealth's Children's Dental Centers.
- Joseph Sikes, a former Foreign Service Officer with the US

State Department, who served in Ivory Coast, Rwanda, England, Senegal, and Sudan.

The candidates will be introduced at the Westside Board meeting. (See "Westside," p. 25)

Tim Lea elected Chairman

by Greg Hanks
Times Editor

The third time's a charm — at least for Tim Lea, who was elected Chairman of the Moore County Board of Commissioners Monday afternoon.

Lea's name had been the first placed in nomination for the post in each of the past two years, but Colin McKenzie and

Nick Picerno won those ballots, each in three-to-two votes.

During the Monday, December 7, Commissioners meeting, Lea was elected by a unanimous vote of the Board (though the absence of Commissioner Jimmy Melton, who is recovering from surgery, meant Lea received four votes rather than five.)

Commissioner Cindy Morgan

nominated Lea for the post, as she has done for the past two years. "He is certainly able-bodied and very knowledgeable and has the experience this Board needs to lead us for the next year," Morgan said.

The nomination was seconded by Picerno, who has served as Chairman for the past year.

(See "Commissioners," p. 23)

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Westside home burglarized in broad daylight

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Thousands of dollars in jewelry were taken from a Westside home in a burglary carried out in broad daylight last Friday, according to reports filed by Moore County Sheriff's officers. Detectives are actively seeking any information that might lead to the apprehension of the perpetrators.

The victims were Ken and Karen Milligan of 103 Otter Drive; Mrs. Milligan is a member of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Board of Directors.

According to an incident report prepared by Sheriff's Deputy Walter R. Morgan, Mrs. Milligan left her home shortly after 9:00 am on Friday, December 4. When she returned at around 1:30 pm

that afternoon, she found that her back door had been kicked in. She immediately exited the home and dialed 9-1-1 while standing in her driveway. Morgan and another officer responded and ensured that the intruders were no longer in the home. They were later joined by Detectives Cathy Williams and Eric Galloway.

Mrs. Milligan then discovered that a jewelry box had been taken; Mr. Milligan later found that passports and a small amount of foreign currency were also missing.

In all more than four dozen pieces of jewelry — rings, watches, bracelets, earrings, and necklaces — valued at more than \$50,000 were taken from the home. The Milligans were able to provide officers with a photographic record of some of the stolen items.

The Sheriff's Officers dusted for prints and swabbed for DNA at the scene. Detective Galloway told *The Times* that he is circulating regionally a list of the stolen items to pawn shops and other dealers who might come across the items.

Galloway told *The Times* that he is actively seeking information from anyone who might have seen anything suspicious in the vicinity of 103 Otter or the surrounding area during the morning and early afternoon of Friday, December 4. He may be reached at the Moore County Sheriff's office at 910-947-2931.

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602, West End, NC 27376, faxed to 888-806-2572, or e-mailed to mail@seven-lakestimes.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

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

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

Kiwanis seek great Holiday Decorators

The SevenLakes Kiwanis Club will offer a \$65 prize for the best lawn and/or lakefront Christmas decoration display within the Seven Lakes Community.

Three prizes will be awarded: one for the North, South, and West Sides.

Judges will be surveying all properties on December 18, 19, 20 between 5:00 and 9:00 pm, so make sure your lights are on at the appropriate times.

This Christmas tradition has been sponsored by the Kiwanis Club for many years, and just one of the dozens of ways in which they contribute to the well-being of the Seven Lakes Community.

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Annexation deal sparks plenty of interest

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Foxfire Town Hall filled nearly to capacity for a recent public hearing on the proposed annexation agreement with Pinehurst.

"It is important for us as a village to grow as a village. We are what we are and that is why we moved here, but it is important to maintain viability and an ability to have a say on commercial growth," said Councilman Ed Lauer during his presentation to the Village Council on Tuesday, December 8. "The agreement is a planning tool."

As proposed, the twenty-year annexation agreement defines large swaths of area that would be off-limits to each village for future annexation. Briefly, Foxfire's protected area stretches north from the village center to Hwy 211 along the Stonehill Pines eastern border and then west to Rt 73-E in West End; south past Roseland Road. The area reserved for Pinehurst follows the same border along Stonehill Pines; however, the proposed boundary then crosses Hwy 211 near Ellis Road and stretches west to Rt. 73-W [a full-color map is available online at *The Times* website].

While Pinehurst has similar annexation agreements in place with other neighboring municipalities, including Carthage, Southern Pines, and Aberdeen, the proposed agreement with Foxfire is particularly critical and timely because Pinehurst's forced annexation of the Pinewild community is nearly complete.

"Once Pinewild is annexed, the Pinehurst Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ] will extend along 211 to West End," said Lauer. "We felt our interests on our side of 211 might be different than their interests."

During the public hearing, the majority of interest and questions were directed towards the large, undeveloped rural parcels at the intersection of Hoffman Road and Hwy 211.

To the southwest is land that potentially could be commercially developed; to the southeast is an 800-acre rural farm property owned by the Wilson family. Per their request, the Council has drafted documentation and is in process to include this tract within the Foxfire ETJ.

On the far side of the intersection, and within the proposed area reserved for future Pinehurst annexation, is the proposed Pine Forest resort, a major subdivision and Planned Unit Development-Hamlet [PUD-H] that is currently under review by the Moore County Planning Board. As proposed, the master plan includes a resort hotel, commercial and retail space, two gated communities, and two eighteen-hole and a nine-hole golf course. A second public hearing on the 1,600 acre rezoning request is scheduled for Thursday, December 10 at 6:00 pm at the Historic Courthouse in Carthage.

Lauer said he recently met with representatives of the Pine Forest development to discuss the proposed annexation agreement.

"They have a PUD request with Moore County and stated they want to stay in the county," said Lauer. "The bottom line from the developer is they are not willingly going in with Pinehurst."

Resident Jack Olsen expressed concern about the disparity between the Pinehurst ETJ, which automatically advances two-miles beyond its corporate limit, and the one-mile Foxfire ETJ which is granted only by request and approval from Moore County. Properties within an ETJ can still be annexed by a neighboring municipality but are subject to planning and zoning regulations of the home municipality.

"Why haven't we asked to expand our ETJ to the west and south? If it is important to us to have an ETJ, we should go to the county and say we want a mile around us wherever we can," said Olsen.

Mayor George Erickson responded that the village can submit ETJ requests but the county does not have to approve.

"If other property owners would request to be included in the ETJ, like the Wilson's, we would approach the county," Erickson said.

Concluding the discussion,

Lauer said Foxfire had two options: do nothing and allow the Pinehurst ETJ to stretch along both sides of Hwy 211, or negotiate an annexation agreement.

"The reason for these agreements is for proper planning...It is extremely important that we

have some control over the already commercially zoned property on 211."

The Foxfire Village Council will vote on the proposed annexation agreement at a special meeting on Tuesday, December 15 at 7:30 pm at Town Hall.

(See "Foxfire," p. 18)

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Council aims to foster unity, cooperation

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

With a total assessed property value of over three-quarters of a billion dollars, the greater Seven Lakes area has much to gain — and to lose — by not taking an active role in county planning and politics.

On Monday, November 30, members of the newly formed Greater Seven Lakes Commu-

nity Council [GSLCC] met with *The Times* to discuss current goals and challenges.

"Taxation without representation is not something we want to continue with," said alternate member Bud Sales.

In the spirit and the footsteps of the Seven Lakes Civic Group — but with the clout of elected officials — the GSLCC is committed to providing a unified com-

munity response to 'big picture' issues and concerns that fall outside of the scope of any single association or neighborhood.

"The impact on property values from things going on outside of our gates is enormous. People need to be aware and take it seriously," said Roberts, another alternate who also serves as president of the Seven Lakes Civic Group.

The eight-member Council includes the presidents of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA], the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], the McLendon Hills Property Owners Association, and the Seven Lakes Business Guild, and an alternate member from each entity. Current members are Chairman Randy Zielsdorf of SLLA, Pete Dotto of McLendon Hills, Randy Merritt of the Business Guild, Ron Shepard of SLWLA, and alternates Darrell Marks, Dennis

Roberts, and Bud Sales. The Council also hopes to identify a member and an alternate who can represent West End in the near future.

As set forth in the GSLCC Bylaws, only the four presidents have authority to vote and all decisions must be unanimous. The Council is not empowered to act unilaterally and — as the Greater Seven Lakes area grows — other entities and communities will be encouraged to participate. The Bylaws also include

(See "Community," p. 19)



SLWLA President Ron Shepard, McLendon Hills President Pete Dotto, Business Guild President Randy Merritt, and SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf, along with alternates from each organization, make up the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council.

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Goshin Dojo has its own 'Biggest Losers'

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Put down the cookie! Step away from the candy canes and get ready to lose weight, get healthy, and enjoy a little friendly competition.

On Saturday, January 2,

Goshin Dojo in the Seven Lakes Business Village begins its second 'The Biggest Loser.'

"We've taken the idea behind the TV show and incorporated it into our Kick Fit exercise program" said Dojo owner, Frankie Tapia.

As on TV, contestants are divided between two teams – the red and the blue – and participate in a weekly weigh-in each Saturday morning. Winners are determined by both percent of weight and number of inches lost. The contest runs

for two months and includes an introductory membership in Kick Fit, for a total cost of \$130.

As extra incentives to stay on task, a healthy pot luck dinner is hosted by the losing team at the contest midpoint; and participants also pay a dollar each week at weigh-in, or incur a \$5 penalty. The two winners split the pot.

Kick Fit is a circuit training exercise program for adults aged fifteen years and up. Classes are held mainly in the lower level of the Dojo with stations for kicking and punching using traditional karate apparatus, plus elements of cardio and military-style calisthenics. Regular class-

es are held five times a week on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings from 9:00 am -10:00 am, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Plus contestants are encouraged to participate in an additional Saturday morning workout from 8:00 am – 9:00 that was developed exclusively for the Biggest Loser competition.

Tapia explained that Kick Fit is a perfect compliment to a weight-loss program.

"There are no mirrors downstairs. It's just a fun and supportive group of people with a wide range of fitness and activity levels. Kick Fit is vigorous

(See "Biggest," p. 9)



Seven Lakes "Biggest Losers" are ready to meet the challenge at Goshin Dojo

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Kernan recognized for work on mental illness

by Ellen Airs

NAMI-Moore County

Marianne Kernan, President of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Moore County, received the "Advocate of the Year," award at NAMI's recent statewide conference in Raleigh.

NAMI North Carolina says this award is given, when awarded, to an individual who has had a significant impact on the lives of people living with mental illness and their families in a local community.

Since arriving here six years ago, Kernan has been NAMI Treasurer, Vice-President, and now President. She has energized the area affiliate into producing unique events to make the term NAMI synonymous with advocating for those with a brain disorder and helping their families who suffer too.

In 2005, she bid on and won the right to host NAMI's national Medical Director, Dr. Ken Duckworth, whose talk was a huge success at Sandhills Community College with over 350 attendees.

In 2006, Kernan initiated the

annual Pathway to Awareness Weekend and has been its Co-Chair for the last four years, which has hosted national speakers on brain illnesses. Sunday's events include a 2-hour session of "Ask the Psychiatrist," a book signing, a short walk with posters of famous people who suffer from brain disorders, and the launching of hundreds of helium balloons bought in honor or in memory of a loved one. A number of attached cards are returned yearly as far away as Wilmington to the east or Wadesboro and into South Carolina to the west and south telling their own stories of connections to mental illness.

Kernan has been the biggest fundraiser and through her efforts, the local affiliate has purchased Linden Lodge, an adult care home, which is only the second one in the county of 80,000 for those suffering from a brain disorder. For the last two years, she has co-taught three Family-to-Family classes (a total of 80 students) of 11-weeks each, when no one else volunteered to offer this valuable course to fam-

ilies.

Other initiatives have included hosting twice annual parties for NAMI families and loved ones, which began at her home during the summer gatherings. Kernan researched and with board approval purchased "Field of Hope" garden flags of irises to sell and display honorariums and memorials of our loved ones. She started NAMI Moore County's website, which provides updat-

ed information on the many activities of the local affiliate.

In addition to implementing all these initiatives and tasks of the various offices Kernan has held, she still answers the NAMI-MC Hotline daily for several months a year, hosts the Support meetings more than any other person, and is there for anybody who needs support, education, and advocacy for themselves or their loved one.

Marianne Kernan is the epitome of NAMI's Advocate of the Year. No one can surpass the hours, the initiatives, and dedication she puts in for her favorite cause — eradicating the stigma of mental illness and making lives better for our loved ones with it.

For more information on NAMI Moore County, call 295-1053 or go to its web site, www.nami-moorecounty.org.



NAMI-Moore County's President Marianne Kernan

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In memory of . . .

Helen Benson Cook, 100, died December 5, at Manor Care Nursing Facility, Pinehurst. Mrs. Cook, formerly of Seven Lakes was born in Morenci, MI the daughter of the Edward B. and Bertha Palmer Benson.

She grew up on a farm in Lenawee County, MI; and was a graduate of Morenci High School and of Michigan State University. She taught high school English in Elkton, MI.

She was preceded in death by her husband Richard W. Cook; her brother Howard Palmer Benson; sister Rowena Benson Stevens; and brother, Edward B. Benson.

Graveside services were held Wednesday December 9, at Pinelawn Memorial Park, Southern Pines. Pastor Robert Crouch officiated.

Surviving is a sister Margaret Benson Bancroft of Grand Rapids, MI., several nieces and nephews; and great nieces and nephews.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Eleanor June Harsany, 72, of Foxfire Village, died December 1.

She was born in Manhattan,

NY. Mrs. Harsany was involved in many organizations in Foxfire, ranging from past chair of the Foxfire Garden Club, Foxfire Property Owner's Association newsletter committee, Book Club, chair of the Bridge Club, Foxyniners, committee for Foxfire Days, served as elder and chair of circle D as a member of McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church and Women of the Pines.

Services were held Saturday, December 5, at McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband Joseph R. Harsany.

She is survived by daughter Susan Harsany, son Richard Harsany; sisters Charlotte Robe and Katherine Nagy; and three grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to McDonalds Chapel, 1374 Foxfire Rd, Aberdeen, NC 28315 or the Foxfire Garden Club.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Robert "Bob" Stark, 70, of Seven Lakes, died on Friday, November 27.

Mr. Stark was born in Rochester, NY, the son of the late Michael and Ellen Stark of

Rochester.

Mr. Stark is survived by his wife of 50 years, Frances; sons Darrell Stark of Waxhaw; Thomas Stark of Albion, NY, Lt. Col Karl Stark of Hughesville, MD; and Erik Stark of Rochester, NY; sister Elaine Ericson of West Des Moines, IA and five grandchildren.

Private funeral services were

held on Friday, December 4. Memorial services were held on December 5, at the Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes. The Rev. Donald J. Welch officiated.

Memorial donations may be to: Chapel in the Pines, Future Building Fund, 2125 Seven Lakes South, West End, NC 27376

Boles Funeral Home of Seven

Lakes served the family.

Patrick Kenneth Patterson, 64, of Seven Lakes and Aberdeen, died on Friday, November 27, at the Durham VA Hospital after a battle with lung cancer.

Mr. Patterson was born in

(Continued on page 9)

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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 8)

Cleveland, OH the son of the late Phillip and Eleanore Patterson. He attended Lakewood High School and Max Hayes Technical School before entering the U.S. Navy, where he served for four years.

He returned to the Cleveland area and had a long career in commercial construction, work-

ing on projects ranging from restaurants to submarine simulators. He and his family moved to the Seven Lakes area in 1983. He continued working in the commercial construction field until 1997. He started his own business in previously owned cars and construction remodeling, until his retirement two years ago.

He was involved in many charitable rides and was recognized by the Governor for his volunteer work at Samarkand.

He is survived by his wife Jerri; daughters Colleen Weldy of San Diego, CA; Heidi Chase of the home; brothers Phillip Patterson of Locust, Kenneth Patterson of Charlotte; sister Margaret of Greenville; and his grand-

children.

Memorials may be sent to Father Augustine Kizhakkedam, Lourdes Matha Catholic Church, 1412 Park Place Ave., Morrisville, NC 27560.

Funeral mass was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Wednesday, December 2.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted family.

Order of the Eastern Star; and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, November 28, at the Home Funeral Home Chapel, Christiansburg, VA. Memorial donations may be made in memory of Harvey Reed to the Shriner's Children's Hospital or the Appalachia Service Project.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lorene; his daughter Dreama Lou Reed, his mother and father, Bettie and Molar Reed, his sister, Susie Reed; and his brother Lincoln Reed.

Survivors include his daughters: Ellen Burnett of Roanoke Rapids, NC; Malina Gaynor of Roanoke, VA; sons: Bradley Reed of Peterstown, WV; Brent Reed of Chester, SC; his brother, Harden Chrisley Reed of Christiansburg, VA; and three grandsons.

Biggest losers

(Continued from page 6)

and competitive but everyone is encouraged to work at a pace that is comfortable for them."

Goshin Dojo is the only full-time karate school in Moore County. Opened in 2001 by Tim and Ericka Smith, Tapia and his family were the very first family to enroll in classes. Dedicated to the sport and steadily promoted through the ranks, Tapia, now a third degree Black belt, purchased the Dojo in 2008.

"In teaching kids how to defend themselves with karate, and to build self-confidence and self-discipline, it's important to constantly change the routine and keep it fresh. I get so much enjoyment out of promoting kids. When I get to see that confi-

dence and how proud they are of their accomplishment."

Tapia continued, "It's no different with adults and the Kick Fit program. When someone steps on the scale and you hear 'Woo Hoo.' That is great!"

Last Fall sixteen participants competed in the Dojo's first The Biggest Loser contest, amassing a total group weight loss of 235 pounds and 72 inches lost.

"It got me off the couch and I really enjoyed it," said second place winner, Steve Sawyer of Seven Lakes North. "The competition side of it really made it easy to stay focused on losing the weight and I'm looking forward to coming in first next time, not second: look out, honey!" he joked to his wife, Noreen,

who captured last Fall's first place prize.

For more information about Goshin Dojo or to register for The Biggest Loser contest, please contact Frankie Tapia at 673-5370 or by email at goshindojo@embarqmail.com

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All donations will go directly to Moore Humane Society to help care for the many dogs and cats awaiting adoption.

To learn more about Moore Humane Society, please visit www.moorehumane.org

We at Moore Humane Society, including the furry and four-legged, would like to extend a big "Thank You" to Lowes Foods for allowing us to place this bin inside their store and we encourage everyone to shop at Lowes Foods this holiday season and beyond.

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Vietnam Vets honor first baby of Veterans' Day

Jordan Sullivan was honored as the first baby born on Veterans' Day at Womack Army Medical Center in Fayetteville on Wednesday, November 11, by Moore County Chapter 966, Vietnam Veterans of America. He arrived at 9:45 am weighing in at nine pounds, eleven ounces.

VVA members Bill Carl, Bill McNeill, and Joe Kristek personally greeted the newborn and his parents James (Sgt E-5) and wife, Nicole; and his sis-

ter Payton. The family was presented with an American flag which had flown over the U.S Capitol, provided by Senator Burr's office, a certificate from Chapter 966 signifying the date and occasion, and a check for a U.S. Savings Bond.

This is the third year of the annual program founded by the VVA chapter to recognize the "First Baby" born at the military hospital on Veteran's Day.



James, Nicole, Payton, and newborn Jordan Sullivan; flanked by VVA members Bill Carl, Bill McNeill, and Joe Kristek.

SLVFD welcomes firefighter

Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire Department has added another certified firefighter to the current staff of twenty.

James Gregory Patterson recently completed his required training to become a NC State certified firefighter.

Patterson is the great, great grandson of Joseph Whitlow, who in 1911, was the first volunteer fireman killed in Winston-Salem, and the third in North Carolina. In 2006, Whitlow was honored with many other North Carolina fallen firefighters at the "Fallen Firefighters Memorial" in Raleigh.

Congratulations to Patterson for joining the SLVFD team.



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Dr. Pete McKay, DDS

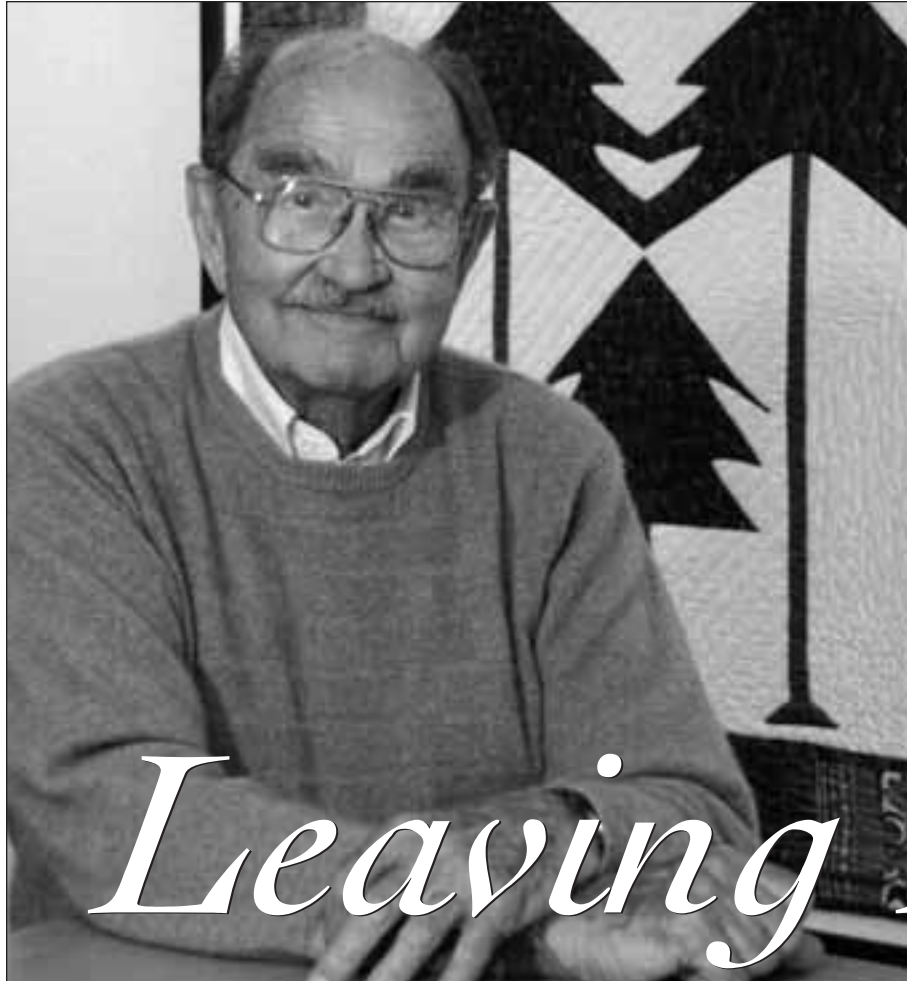
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Family. Community. Country.

Paul Mathers has always answered the call to duty whenever it came. For more than 29 years, he has devoted his time, his expertise, and his generous philanthropic support to FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care and the Foundation of FirstHealth.

"He is one of the last of the original 'movers and shakers' who guided Sandhills Hospice through some very difficult times before we merged with FirstHealth," says Carole White, former executive director of Sandhills Hospice. "That is why he means so very much to us."

William Paul Mathers was born in Carlyle, Ky., almost 90 years ago. He attended Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., where he excelled in the classroom and on the football field as All-American center on Cornell's Red 150 football team. During the summers, he worked at a girls' camp in the Catskills, where in September 1939 he witnessed the memorably sobering effect Hitler's invasion of Poland had on the young Jewish women there.

Immediately after graduating with a business degree in June 1941, Paul entered the Army Air Corps. He and Mary Richards, his childhood sweetheart, married the following year and lived on various bases throughout the U.S. After the war, Paul began working at Pennsylvania Bell Telephone. When his country called him to duty a second time in 1950, he left his job, his wife and their two young daughters for the sub-zero temperatures of Korea. For two years, he rarely saw the inside of a building.

Leaving A Legacy

Paul Mathers has always answered the call to duty whenever it came. For more than 29 years, he has devoted his time, his expertise, and his generous philanthropic support to FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care and the Foundation of FirstHealth.

In 1952, Paul resumed what would become his lifelong career with Pennsylvania Bell. In his job as executive vice president of Human Resources, one of his responsibilities was to negotiate contracts with various labor unions. After 40 years with Pennsylvania Bell, he retired as chief operating officer in 1984, and he and Mary moved to their new home and new life in Pinehurst.

Although I may not be able to prevent the worst from happening, I am responsible for my attitude toward the inevitable misfortunes that darken life.

Less than two years later, in April 1986, while visiting their daughter in Michigan, Mary developed the first headache she had had in years. Within hours after returning home, the 66-year-old Mary was rushed to the hospital with a brain aneurysm. She died a week later.

Alone for the first time in more than 40 years, Paul devoted himself to Sandhills Hospice, serving on the Board of Trustees and as chairman of the Operating Committee. In October 1988, he and board president Robert Hebert led the charge to get the Medicare certification that would provide the regular income Hospice desperately needed.

Six months later, however, the organization's board and administrators were confronted with the devastating financial impact that the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Deficit Reduction Act would have on hospice benefits.

"Overnight, the hospice budget was cut in half," Carole White recalls.

The binder on White's desk said it all: "Strategy for a World Turned Upside Down: Hospice Management in the 1990s."

Members of the Hospice Board agreed they could save thousands of dollars by owning their own building. In 1990,

Joyce Franke, president of the Hospice Foundation, led a campaign to raise \$225,000 to build a permanent home for Sandhills Hospice on Avimore Drive, close to Moore Regional Hospital. Mathers and Paul Newton, another Hospice volunteer, guided the construction of the 3,200-square-foot building that opened in December 1990.

When you're able to confront the realities of death, you are able to live life as long as you can.

In late 1991, Paul's second wife, Anne, 59, an avid golfer and Hospice volunteer, was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. She passed away 4 ½ months later, at home with Paul and their friends from Hospice by her side. "I never thought she would go before me," says Paul. "I never thought I'd bury two wives."

Alone again, Paul realized how important Hospice had been to Anne and to his ability to care for her in their home. He renewed his commitment to Sandhills Hospice, serving on the Finance and Personnel committees and, in 1995, as president of the Board of Trustees. One of his main objectives was for Hospice to be self-sufficient. But, he said, "I felt that financially we were going to have a hard time. It would be advantageous to be involved with FirstHealth."

Paul convinced the Hospice Board members of the benefits of a merger, then took the proposal to Charles Frock, CEO of FirstHealth, and won his support as well.

"This unique opportunity is an important additional step in FirstHealth's ongoing development of a health system that offers and coordinates a complete set of health care services for residents of the Sandhills and surrounding area," Frock said at the time.

"We couldn't have done it without Paul," says Charlotte Patterson, the current director of FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care.

Moore Regional became only the second hospital in the state to become affiliated with a hospice.

Paul worked closely with the local hospice administration to negotiate fair and equitable terms for the transition of the Sandhills Hospice employees to FirstHealth. "Of course, it was difficult," Carole White recalls. "But everyone agrees it was fair. Paul was my godsend. He walked beside me every step of the way."

Paul was keenly aware that the organization he loved so much still had to be self-sustaining. It became imperative to build an endowment: the successful \$10 million Hospice Challenge was the result.

"Paul also started talking with me about other ways to make some money," says Carole, "and the Hospice Pottery Auction was born. Since the first event in September 1996, the Pottery Auction has become our signature fundraising event, bringing in more than \$100,000 each year."

Paul's daughters, Nancy Mathers Breul and Jean Mathers Saillant, donate a stay at their condominium in the Grand Cayman Islands each year. In memory of their mother, Mary, they also made and donated the "Butterflies of Remembrance" quilt that has hung in the entrance of the FirstHealth Hospice building since 1997.

Although Paul no longer sits on the Hospice Board, he continues to be a major advocate for FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care with his time and his generous philanthropic support.

"When people ask about the hospital, one of the first things they say is, 'Do you have a hospice?' I think we have a good reputation, but we have to work to keep it," he says. "I hope I have helped them out."

PGA recognizes Allgeyer's contributions

Dean Allgeyer of Beacon Ridge Golf & Country Club is this year's winner of the PGA's Horton Smith Trophy.

The Horton Smith Trophy is awarded to the PGA professional who continually exhibits a commitment to the development and improvement of golf education for the PGA Golf Professional. This includes contributions to the Section's education program including meetings and seminars held within the Carolinas Section, development of articles and materials which benefit and relate to education, building the image of both the PGA golf professional and the Association.

Honored in 2006 as the Bill Strausbaugh Award recipient and last year as recipient of the President's Plaque, Dean Allgeyer proves that a few awards don't mean you can relax your efforts as a PGA Professional. The early and continuing education of a PGA Professional can provide a lifetime of success, and for Allgeyer, making persistent contributions to learning programs and growth of the game efforts are just a few ways he has found to maintain an active and motivational presence in the Carolinas PGA Section.

Beginning with his service on a voluntary basis with the CPGA Education Committee, he made it a point to look at the changing roles of PGA Professionals when organizing education seminars. In that way he organized 12 separate learning opportunities for Carolinas PGA Professionals that included seminars on OSHA maintenance, memory skills, and instruction.

He was also an instructor for Pre-Business School seminars which taught Level 1 and 2 apprentices the ins and outs of preparing to become a PGA Professional, a task that can be daunting to those just starting out. Finally, his service on the CPGA Employment and Ethics committee provided him the opportunity to examine and elevate the standards of integrity and honor in Carolinas PGA Professionals.

His Growth of the Game efforts are equally as impressive. Allgeyer was part of the first corps of PGA Professionals to insti-

tute Link Up 2 Golf in the Carolinas, a program which later morphed into what we now know as PGA Play Golf America Days.

By providing his insight along with others as to how to best market and grow the program, the PGA of America has experienced its most successful

growth of the game initiative to date. He was also instrumental in creating informational tools for PGA Professionals to use while implementing tournaments and Growth of the Game programs at their own facilities.

Allgeyer has aided Wounded Warrior Project, Back Pack Pals,

Sandhills Community College and Susan G. Komen Foundation in fundraising efforts and

has volunteered at non-profit and educational institutions throughout his career.



Dean Allgeyer of Beacon Ridge Golf & Country Club is flanked by Linda Hubbard of Backpack Pals and David Williams of FirstHealth Dental Clinic Children's Crisis Fund at a Women of Seven Lakes Tournament held at Beacon Ridge this Summer.

Give to the Chapel Fund

The Chapel in the Pines begins their 21st year of holiday fund-raising this month. Slanted towards aiding needy children, adults, and seniors, the Chapel's Community Christmas Fund encompasses much more than Christmas. The Chapel also uses funds for the needy at Thanksgiving, and Easter, as well. The money raised this year will provide

food vouchers and gifts to more than 50 area families in West End and Jackson Springs.

With the troubling current conditions, the local need for aid is becoming urgent. If anyone would like to contribute to the Chapel, send your check to the "Chapel/Community Christmas Fund," c/o Alice Shaughnessy, Box 3081 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC 27376.

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'Deputy Mike' at Kiwanis

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

Mike Kantorowski of the Moore County Sheriff's Department spoke to the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club on Tuesday, December 1.

Deputy Kantorowski spoke primarily of the changes in law enforcement, especially the training that officers receive today. He stated that all officers now receive the same training which helps to increase the efficiency of working between different departments. All departments now go

through the same "active shooter" training, which was prompted by the Columbine High School shootings. The training involves realistic situations with "live" firing with paint balls.

Deputy Kantorowski also showed the various weapons which the department is authorized to use when necessary. Besides the normal sidearm, which is 40 caliber Baretta pistol, he displayed and demonstrated a Taser pistol, which he indicated is one of the best weapons which law enforce-

ment officers have been given.

The Taser has the power of 50,000 volts, and an effective range of 25 feet which will temporarily paralyze a suspect, giving an officer 5 seconds in which to secure the individual. The gun also has a built in record keeping system of each time it is used. The audience was impressed.

Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets each Tuesday at noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club.

Visitors are always welcome.



Moore County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Kantorowski

Picasa at Computer Club

by Laurie Werner

Seven Lakes Computer Club

Program Chairman Bob Woollard presented the most recent version of Picasa at the October meeting.

Picasa 3.5 is a free download



Bob Woollard

for organizing and editing digital photos. It now contains some tools normally found in programs like Adobe Photoshop Elements, such as tagging pictures of people.

Select a picture of a person, add their name and make a tag. Clicking on a tag starts the computer searching for all the pictures of the person and pulls them up.

The program also contains tools to make corrections in photos such as cropping, flash fill, red eye reduction, lightening pictures etc.

Pictures can be viewed as a slide show, set to music, put in e-mail, blogged, printed or made into a collage.

The Computer Club of Seven Lakes meets the second Tuesday of the month and guests are always welcome.

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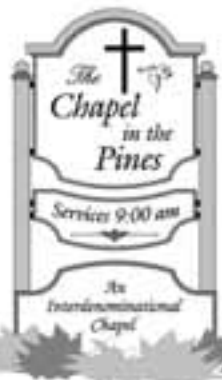
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Dec. 20th – "A Time of Caroling"
A Christmas Cantata by the Chapel Choir

Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve Service
Carols, Candles, & Communion – 5:00 pm

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Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines was founded in 1976
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www.sevenlakeschapelinthepines.com

Volunteer with the AARP tax help program

Last year, the local AARP Tax-Aide program and local volunteers provided Free Federal and NC Tax Return counseling and preparation for Moore County residents by preparing and filing Federal and State Tax Returns. The majority of these were filed electronically to ensure prompt processing and rapid payment of

any refunds.

AARP's Tax-Aide Program is the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service. This year the program expects to significantly increase the number of customers assisted in Moore County.

To do this, volunteers of all

ages and backgrounds are needed to assist with one-on-one counseling and tax return preparation.

Volunteers will be comprehensively trained and required to pass a competency test to become IRS Certified as a Tax Counselor. Volunteer training will be conducted in Pinehurst

during January 2010. Volunteers who become IRS Certified are asked to give a minimum commitment of four hours per week the ten-week filing season from February 1 to April 15, 2010.

To volunteer, or for more information about becoming a local AARP Tax-Aide volunteer, contact the local AARP Tax-Aide Coordinator, Bill Roberson at

(910) 673-1452 or Barry Guthrie at (910) 673-1164.

AARP Tax-Aide is administered through the AARP Foundation in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service.

AARP is an affiliated, 501 (c) (3) nonpartisan charitable organization. Volunteers are not required to be a member of AARP to work in this program.

Smoke alarms working?

by Cal Loy, Chief
Seven Lakes

Volunteer Fire Department

It is imperative that smoke alarms be properly maintained to ensure their effectiveness. Alarms should be tested every month and batteries replaced every six months for maximum security.

If the alarms in your home are approaching the 10 year mark, or if you can't recall when they were installed, be safe and replace them immediately.

The same approach should be taken with your Carbon Monoxide Alarms. If you don't have a Carbon Monoxide Alarm, they are just as important as your Smoke Alarm, and maintenance should follow the same procedure.

Other fire safety prevention measures that you should be aware of are:

1. Clean your alarms by vacuuming them monthly.
2. Make sure there is one alarm on every floor, and one outside each sleeping area, so that it can be heard through a closed door.

If you need help with any of the above suggestions, call the Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire Department at 673-8151.



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7 Lakes Townhouse Association seeks two-year quote for weekly maintenance of 38-unit south side property.

Requirements include mowing, pine straw & leaf removal, street clean-up, annual fertilizing, periodic bush trimming, and gutter cleaning, etc. All routine work is to be completed on the same day each week.

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Members sought for Farm 2 Table Co-op

From December 6 to December 21, Charter Memberships will be accepted for the new Sandhills Farm to Table Cooperative, an innovative local-food project involving local farmers, workers and consumers. As this is a true community project, all parties will be owners in the new business.

Based on membership numbers, local farmers will grow vegetables and fruit for subscription members, ensuring the delivery of the freshest produce, while at the same time preserving farms and open land and keeping local dollars circulating in the Sandhills economy. The concept is similar to another popular food distribution structure, the multi-farm CSA (community-supported agriculture).

The cost of a charter membership is only \$25.

As the first to support the formation of this new Co-Op, charter members will be rewarded in several ways. For example, since local production of certain items — such as local eggs, pastured poultry and more - is still small, charter members will be offered these products first, in order to grow the market overall. Charter members will also steer some of the earliest decisions of the cooperative.

“People really appreciate the taste of ‘fresh,’ and are understanding the economic importance of ‘loca’ and the need to preserve farmland, as well as the health benefits of eating more whole, fresh fruits and vegetables” said Fenton Wilkinson, general manager of the new Co-operative.

“Now, instead of spending an hour in the grocery store, you can pick-up a box of locally grown produce in a few minutes.”

A survey by Sustainable Sandhills showed that a number of Sandhills residents could not attend Moore County’s popular Farmer’s Markets due to work or family schedules. The Co-op intends to deliver weekly boxes of produce to drop-off spots throughout Moore County or, for an extra fee, home delivery in certain areas of concentration.

Now incorporated as a cooperative, the SF2T received a huge boost in October when Maine organic farmers Stephen and Barbara Miller awarded the project a legacy gift of \$10,000 in memory of their Pinehurst parents, Evelyn and Gilbert Miller. This follows on the heels of an upcoming North Carolina marketing campaign to “Eat 10 Percent Local,” a move which would return 3.4 billion to the state’s economy.

For more information, contact Sandhills Farm to Table Co-operative at www.SandhillsFarm2Table.com Or call 910-949-2142.

Bill of rights anniversary

The League of Women Voters of Moore County’s President, Jo Nicholas, has marked the 218th anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights, Tuesday, December 15, with a call for civic vigilance and participation in Moore County.

“For almost 90 years, the League of Women Voters has defended civil liberties and promoted citizen engagement in democracy, and we continue this work today,” Jo Nicholas said.

“It is particularly important for Americans, even in between ‘big’ elections, to recognize the critical importance of protecting and honoring our most cherished constitutional rights.”

“Throughout the year, League members work in our community to protect our liberties and make the most of them by encouraging voting, discussing important issues, and holding elected officials accountable for their actions,” said Nicholas.

The protection of the individual liberties laid out in the Bill of Rights has been central to the League’s work throughout its history.

More recently, the League has promoted a diverse and independent judiciary, advocated against warrantless domestic surveillance and other harmful elements of the Patriot Act, and sponsored numerous education projects aimed at informing citizens of their rights.

“The Bill of Rights is not only an important part of our nation’s history; it is a living document that will guide us into the future,” Jo Nicholas concluded.

Join the League in Making Democracy Work!

Visit the League of Women Voters of Moore County’s website at www.lwvmc.org or the national organization site at www.lww.org for more information.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

- **Chanukah – Begins today**
- **Open House at Historic Shaw House** – 1 - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Annual Open House at the Shaw House in Southern Pines. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Event is free, but donations are always appreciated to maintain the beauty of this historical home. Information or directions, www.moorehistory.com or (910) 692-2051.

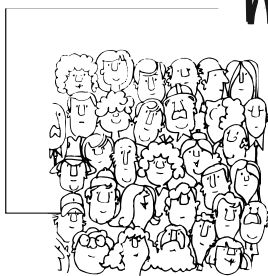
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

- **Open House at Historic Shaw House** – 1 - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Annual Open House at the Shaw House in Southern Pines. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Event is free, but donations are always appreciated to maintain the beauty of this historical home. Information or directions, www.moorehistory.com or (910) 692-2051.
- **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.
- **Open House** – 2 pm to 4 pm, at GG's Touch of Class Massage and Bodywork Therapy. Come enjoy the afternoon with refreshments, and register to win a free massage. Gift cer-

tificate specials available. 150 Grant Street, Seven Lakes Village. 910-220-2956.

- **Seven Lakes Country Club Christmas Party** – Everyone's invited! You do not have to be a member to attend. Cocktail

What's When Calendar



hour at 5:30 pm, dinner served at 6:30 pm. Music and entertainment at 7:00 pm provided by the "American Heritage Band." All inclusive price for members \$27 and \$32 for non-members. Hosts are Carole & Leonard Barnard. Join in for a fun filled evening to welcome in the Holiday season. Call 673-1100 for reservations.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

- **Open House at Historic Shaw House** – 1 - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Annual Open House at the Shaw House in Southern Pines. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Event is free, but

donations are always appreciated to maintain the beauty of this historical home. Information or directions, www.moorehistory.com or (910) 692-2051.

- **"Peanut Butter Christmas"** – 7 pm, a children's Christmas program presented at Southside Baptist Church. The young people will be singing and presenting a play directing attention to the real meaning and proper celebration of

Christmas. Refreshments will be provided after the service in the educational wing of the church. The public is cordially invited to attend this special program at Southside Baptist Church, 125 Cedar Creek Road, Biscoe. For more information or directions please call the church at 428-9243 or Pastor Michael Lynn at 974-4723.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

- **National Active & Retired Federal Employees** – (NARFE) Sandhills Chapter 1895. 11:00 am, "Eating Meeting" at Kenny's Country Restaurant, US Hwy 1, Pine Bluff. Chapter 1895 welcomes all Federal (including US Postal Service) active employees, retirees, spouses and surviving spouses to monthly meet-

ings. Additional information about NARFE contact Vilma Geisert (910) 215-5898 or George Sandoval (910) 246-9881.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5 to 8 pm. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

- **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.



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

- **Moore Philharmonic Orchestra** – Winter concert and Silent auction, 3 pm. Celebrate the holiday season by enjoying an afternoon of free holiday music while helping raise money for the Moore Philharmonic Orchestra. Carolina Hotel Pinehurst Resort, 80 Carolina Vista Drive, Pinehurst. Proceeds from the silent auction will support a scholarship fund benefiting Moore County music students. No tickets are required, but tax-deductible donations are always welcome. Visit the Moore Philharmonic Orchestra website at www.mporchestra.com
- **Lake Auman Holiday Boat Parade** – 5:45 pm, starting behind the island. Light your boats, fix a hot toddie, bring your friends. Everyone is welcome.
- **Belford Baptist Church** – 6 pm, annual Christmas program of Recitations and the play "God Made A Way in a Manger." Belford Baptist Church, 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

- **Christmas Eve**
- **Christmas Eve Service** – 5 pm, Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines. Christmas Eve Service Carols, Candles, & Communion – 5:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.
- **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** – 8 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Dr. Won Namkoong will deliver the Gospel message, and Holy Communion will be served. Everyone is welcome to this service.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

- **Christmas Day**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

- **New Year's Eve**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

- **New Year's Day – Holiday**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

- **Elvis Bingo Night At Our Lady Of The Americas** – 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211 (Exxon Station), just east of Hwy 220 near Candor. Smoke free. 7 pm, Early Bird Bingo, Regular Bingo 7:30 pm. Minimum

purchase \$15. Doors open 6:30 pm. Everyone over the age of 16 welcome. For information, call 910 974-3051.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** – 8:30 am, Conference Room.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Board Meeting** – 9 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **State of the State** – at Pinehurst Members Club, 11:45 am – 1:30 pm. The Honorable Joe Hackney, Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, will highlight how NC is continuing to work towards a business friendly environment and how it is addressing other top issues including education, economic development and military affairs. Cost for Chamber members is \$25 and non-member \$50. Tickets at the door are \$35 and \$75. Reservations after January 5, 2010 will be invoiced in full. Please RSVP by calling (910) 692-3926 or via email at info@moorecounty-chamber.com Sponsored by Moore County Chamber and in partnership with Fidelity Bank.

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

- **Mary Wayne Watson, Phd.** – 2 pm, Dr. Watson is a lecturer, writer, and English professor at Nash Community College. She will present a program on the Scottish culture and customs of the Sandhills. Watson is a native of Scotland County, the niece of a legendary North Carolina poet Charles McNeill. This program is free and open to the public. Held at First Baptist Church, 200 E. New York Ave., Southern Pines. Project is made possible by a grant from the North Carolina Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is sponsored by the nonprofit Moore County Historical Association. For details, call (910) 692-2051, weekdays between 1 and 4 pm.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Board Meeting** – 7:00 pm, West Side Park Community Center.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

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

Get your event in The Times!

Got a great get-together? Serving up some savory stew? Need a volunteer of two? Put it in The Times' What's When Calendar.

We're always happy to help non-profits promote their events. See the box on page 2 for contact info and deadlines.



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Foxfire council

(Continued from page 4)

The Pinehurst Village Council will also vote on the proposed agreement the following day, Wednesday, December 16.

Amendment to Stonehill Pines development agreement

The Council considered and approved several amendments to the agreement between Foxfire and Stonehill Pines, a 1,500 acre major subdivision and resort complex under development.

As originally approved, the agreement stipulates that once hotel construction commences at Stonehill, Foxfire Village must hire an additional police officer to receive a \$50,000 grant from the developer.

The requested change now states that if Foxfire chooses to hire an additional officer prior to construction, the village will not be required to hire another officer to qualify for the grant.

In addition, the Council extended the deadline that work must commence from March 24, 2010 to December 31, 2011 – in compliance with a new North Carolina law that extended all development deadlines across the state.

A third concern was a minor housekeeping issue, revising the agreement that work on the Southern Course must be complete –rather than commence – within twenty-years.

Parks & Recreation five-year Capital Improvement Plan

The Long Range Planning Committee prepared a five-year Capital Improvement Plan [CIP] for parks and recreation placing top priority on the revitalization of the central pool and tennis courts area.

Both Erickson and Lauer praised the committee for their hard work and expediency in completing the work under short notice. The plan will increase the village's total points for the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund [PARTF] grant request that will be resubmitted in January.

"All indications are if we don't get it this time we should give up," said Erickson, noting this will be the third consecutive year the plan has been submitted. "We've moved up on the list each time, so maybe next year will be the charm."

Woodland Circle Extension

Little progress has been made at the Woodland Circle Extension project due to foul weather, reported Tom Collins.

The contractor requested a seventy-nine day extension because of delays caused by the culvert manufacturer; however, Collins said he only approved a sixty-two day extension that mainly accounted for weather delays.

The road sub-grade and main water line are complete, and water and utility crossings are currently being installed.

If the project is not completed by February 1, the contractor will incur a \$1,200 a day penalty.

Finance

The General Fund cash balance was reported at \$294,158; with \$21,790 in reserved funds in the Stonehill Pines account, \$45,803 in Powell Bill funds, and \$241,291 in a money market account for a grand total of \$603,143.

The Woodland Circle project fund stands at \$1,437,006.

The Water Fund was reported at \$15,685; with \$196,779 in a money market account, \$105,236 in a reserved account for Woodland Circle; less a \$18,550 con-

tractor's deposit credit balance, for a grand total of \$299,251

An additional \$135,250 is held in a BB&T escrow account; for a total cash balance of \$2,474,652.

Deputy Finance Clerk Sharon Sanchez presented the Finance report for Councilwoman Leslie Frusco, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Public Safety

Councilwoman Page Coker reported that Foxfire Police had filed 133 written reports for events in November. She reminded residents to be thoughtful about locking their doors and paying attention to what is happening around the community.

"We have been very fortunate and I would like to keep it that way," Coker said.

Coker also read a letter addressed to Sgt. Chad Shue, thanking him for his recent presentation to the Cub Scout Bear Den of West End Boy Scout Pack 98.

Other Business

In other business, the Foxfire Village Council:

- Declined an appeal request from a contractor to waive increased construction fees imposed under the new village fee schedule. According

to Foxfire records, the contractor was properly notified of the changes when they were approved.

- Heard from a resident who recommended that public hearings should be conducted separate from monthly meetings to allow for additional time for public input. He also suggested that a provision should be made to allow for a referendum – a public vote – on major decisions, and that the public comment should be scheduled at the beginning of each meeting, prior to voting.
- Heard from Craig Ramey that the Planning Committee is working with the village attorney to draft several amendments, including clarification of what types of domestic animals will be allowed in the

ETJ, accessory building setback requirements, and an addition to the ordinance that would establish a recreational district designation for properties adjacent to the golf courses, Village Green Park, and the pool area.

- Heard from Lauer that well remediation for radium has been very successful with good water readings. "We're going in the right direction," said Lauer.
- Heard from Councilman Vic Koos that several large potholes have opened along Woodland Circle. He explained that he had hoped to delay any repair work until the extension project is complete; however, the size of the potholes demands at least temporary repairs for safety.

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Community council

(Continued from page 5)

apportionment of any expenses based upon assessed valuation of all properties within the geographical boundaries of each member entity.

Zielsdorf explained that water was the first and biggest issue that the Council tackled; however, he said it was quickly clear that each member supported the

county's ongoing water efforts and the recommendations of the McGill Water Study.

Turning their attention to safety and policing, Zielsdorf said the GSLCC met in August with the Moore County Sheriff's Office to discuss the feasibility of adding another certified police officer or increasing regular patrol hours.

Shepard said there was dis-

cussion of splitting the cost to hire a second officer — estimated at \$100,000 — but ultimately the Council was unwilling to commit resources without a verified current patrol schedule from the county.

Looking ahead, Zielsdorf said the GSLCC is now carefully watching how the proposed annexation agreement between Foxfire and Pinehurst unfolds.

"They're talking about divvying up land that is within a mile of the Seven Lakes West border," explained Sales.

Zielsdorf said that, while incorporation is not a goal of the Council, the annexation agreement raises concern because a newly forming municipality within a mile of the border of an existing municipality must ask permission to incorporate.

Merritt reported that the Seven Lake Business Guild has a committee already in place looking at the pros and cons of incorporation.

"They are on a fact-finding mission to see if this is something we want to actively pursue. But

we know we will not be able to pursue it if the public is not behind it," said Merritt.

Marks explained that one benefit of incorporation is that it provides "a seat at the table" when it comes to planning and zoning issues.

"The GSLCC is the first and best step. Too many times we have been left out of discussion about water and police protection and even [the impact of] future developments," said Marks. "We have no voice and the county leaves us on our own to decide what issues we want to handle or don't want."

Going around the table, each

of the members emphasized the goals of unity and cooperation.

"It is not that we have problems and this group has to fix them. We're trying to create a structure to solve future issues," said Roberts.

Dotto agreed.

"This is an understanding among our communities as opposed to 'us and them.' It is a way to bridge — we have a lot more in common than differences."

Seven Lakes EMS Needs Your Support

Seven Lakes EMS has been helping hundreds of residents in the Greater Seven Lakes area since 1984 and now they need your help to continue the good work they have been providing.

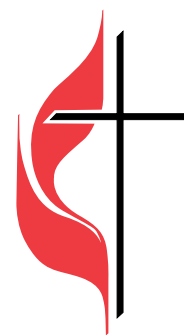
The old antiquated ambulance wasn't serving the Community as well as it should, so the EMS has purchased a new 2009 Ambulance to provide the best service to the com-

munity. The new ambulance cost \$102,000, and now the EMS has to pay for it.

If you would like to make a donation to help pay for the new ambulance, any and all donations would be greatly appreciated.

Please send your financial support to: Mr. Robert Haan, Seven Lakes EMS, 969 Seven Lakes North, West End, NC 27376.

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The true meaning of Christmas

The ornaments are shimmering and the pine needles are shuddering on the Douglass family Christmas tree this year.

Now don't go and blame the new kitten — though I have had to bodily remove Gravy from the branches, several times, in fact.

You see, what I'm talking about are the symbolic tremors in our lives that serve as warning of an approaching seismic shift. And that old fir tree — fake, of course — is about ready to collapse under the sheer weight of my children's great expectations.

Long gone already are the days of a simple, sweet letter to Santa asking for a doll, or

perhaps a bike. But worse is how they've grown older — and smarter — and the questions more insistent.

"How can he possibly fit all those toys on one sled," asks the nine-year old pirate.

"Reindeer can't fly!" the seven-year old princess will demand.

Patience, I'll recite my pat answers, hating the deception but desperately clinging to this poignant childhood rite of passage.

"Santa's only real to those who believe," I'll say, and then try to explain how we each share in his good works through our own gifts of love and charity.

But I can tell I'm losing them: especially Jack.

This is the same kid, after all, who at three years old would ride the carousel not for enjoyment but to figure out how it worked.

Ever so carefully, he would inspect the mechanized wheels, pulleys and cogs: a born engineer.

Burdened now with several years of elementary math and science knowledge, I can see that

powerful little intellect chipping away at Santa — not so unlike those little staged nibbles we leave on his cookie plate.

"Elves can't make all these



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

toys by themselves so Santa uses machines," he'll announce with authority.

And my new personal favorite,

"Santa can't keep track of all the lists so he downloads them on his computer and has a GPS," Jack said recently.

Trying to sort fact from fiction, what is possible from the impossible, I can tell my young son's faith is wavering.

"How does he know if I've been good and does he really put coal in stockings?" he'll ask.

But someone is watching over us each and every day, I tell him, someone who is keeping tabs on who's been bad and who's been good.

Santa does exist and we visit his house every Sunday: it's just that we call him by his real name.

Rhodes says 'Thanks for the support!'

Dear Editor:

Having lived in Seven Lakes for less than five years, I did come to know more people by "sight" rather than by name. In the past couple of months, that has changed due to my involvement as a member of a small committee (three members to be exact) that sought a vote by the property owners to decide who the next community manager would be. I support Chad Beane for that position.

I would like to thank all the people that I contacted by phone and e-mail seeking their sup-

port in this important matter. I contacted a lot of residents in Seven Lakes and found a lot of support for the cause and for Chad Beane.

Even the few, and the exact number was four, that did not support our cause, were polite, civil and courteous, which is not always expected when you are making "cold calls" again, I say thank you.

I did not get to know any of the board members during this time, however, I did exchange correspondence with SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf, and he respond-

ed in a timely, informative and courteous manner. Another thank you.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank all the people that have offered me their support and encouraged me to run for the Board. Bruce Keyser, Jr. was the first board member to extend an invitation for me to run for the Board, and this was followed by a second invitation from another committee member.

I would like to thank all those people, but, unfortunately my work and travel schedule would

not allow me the time, energy or proper effort to devote to the position of a Board Member, even if I received the votes to win a seat on the board.

I thank you all for the support.

Jordan Rhodes
Seven Lakes North

Farewell to Jack

Dear Editor:

As many of you now know, our community lost a great man a few weeks back when Jack Embler passed away.

As a long time customer at Master Kleen I will certainly miss the positive energy and attitude that Jack showed towards his customers and towards life in general. There is a very good reason the customer base for their business stretched across Moore county and beyond. His delivery and customer service was the best. Jack was the product from our greatest generation of Americans who served our country and learned what so many current Americans are lacking. Hard work, respect, integrity, dedication, and loyalty are a few words that defined Jack.

All is not lost however, Ricky and the family will most certainly carry the torch and Mas-

ter Kleen will run like Jack is in the back room. But I will miss Jack as will many of you. Jack's passing is a big loss to the Embler family, but it is also a loss for our community. May he rest in peace!

Ross Laton
Seven Lakes

SEVEN
LAKES TIMES

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William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker

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Grateful for this great melting pot

Facial configuration. Manner of speaking. Shade of skin. Mode of dress. Political history.

Each immigrant who sets foot on our shores has his or her own mix of these characteristics, joining an American society that's a kaleidoscopic mosaic of cultures, beliefs, and even languages.

According to the World Almanac as well as the U.S. Census Bureau, there are more than 80 religions, including branches of denominations, involving 209 million Americans.

Then there's the variety of racial categories which adds to the diversity of our nation: white, black, American Indian, Alaskan native, and Asian or Pacific Islander.

A couple of years ago, immi-

grants came here from 16 European nations, 21 Asian, eight South American, six Caribbean, and five Central American, as well as Mexico and Canada.

You would think that our open

of backgrounds played an important role in the development of our country. People brought their differing skills, and ideas with them, resulting in the formation of safeguards of personal freedom; the U.S. Constitution. Yes, our history has been marred by a few setbacks, but we moved ahead, though belatedly and sometimes erratically.

The point is: there has always been room for discussion of differ-

immigration policy would be like biting off something you can't chew. But somehow we get along, far short of any threat of rebellious cannons in the streets. We tend to forget that diversity

ences. "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" was a bold and honorable objective that became a reality. Too big a lure for potential immigrants to ignore.

What is our reaction to the

steady inflow of immigrants? To some, the prospect of having an immigrant for a neighbor is a source of uncertainty.

But wait. Don't we already share a lot?

Hopes?

Ambitions?

Apprehensions about the future?

The need to love and be loved?

Appreciation of the kindness

of others?

Devotion to our own beliefs, but respect for the right of others to have theirs?

Yes, America is a melting pot. More so now, than ever.

Yes, I'm glad my ancestors chose our shore to head for. As long as human hearts beat, our open arms will welcome those seeking a better life. That's who and what we are.



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

Get online and Help Moore Humane

Supporters of Moore Humane Society are using GoodSearch and GoodShop, raising money with every search of the Internet and every purchase on-line.

GoodSearch donates 50% of its revenue, approximately a penny per search, to the charities designated by its users.

With GoodShop.com, consumers are helping their favorite causes by shopping at hundreds of well known retailers including Amazon, Target, Apple, Macy's, Best Buy, Orbitz, Staples and others. The shopping experience and the prices are exactly the same as going to the retailer directly, but by going through GoodShop, up to 30% of the purchase price is donated the user's favorite cause!

Moore Humane Society recently registered with the sites, giving consumers and its supporters a chance to raise money for the cause every time they search the Internet or shop online.

Log on www.GoodSearch.com or www.GoodShop.com to name the charity and start shopping.



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County Listings



Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

Lea then nominated Morgan for the post of Vice Chair. With a second from Picerno, she was also elected by a unanimous vote of the Board.

"I appreciate the vote of confidence from the Board," Lea said. "I appreciate the opportunity to serve the people of Moore County as the Chairman in this coming year . . . In these difficult economic times, the Board is facing many, many challenges that will require the knowledge the wisdom and experience of each one of the Commissioners . . . We look forward to working for and with the people of Moore County in 2010."

At the end of the public portion of Monday night's meeting, Lea also made a point of thanking the county's staff.

"Too often we take for granted the people who really make the machinery run behind the scenes," he said, thanking the staff for "making us look good meeting after meeting after meeting."

Congratulating Lea and Morgan, Picerno said, "One of the things that I found out in my year as Chair last year is that it is a true privilege to be Chair of this county. This is a great county, and the people that we serve really deserve someone to be representing them in a very positive and upbeat way, and I am sure you and Ms. Morgan will do that for us."

Reflecting on the split vote that elected him Chairman last year, Picerno said he was really encouraged by Monday night's meeting, noting that "it really does feel good to be able to go home and know that this Board will be able to work strong together — unified — and hopefully communicate well. That was the the thing that I missed the most — is that we did not have the communication that I hoped we would have last year. I hope that going forward that we will be a very communicating Board."

"I hope and pray that this year will be a good productive year," Commissioner Caddell said, also congratulating Lea and Morgan. "I wish you and Cindy the best as we try to move this county forward in some difficult economic climates."

During the past year, Morgan and Lea have often found them-

selves on the losing side of three-to-two split votes — particularly during action concerning the placement of a new detention center, public safety building, and county administration building on the Grimm property in downtown Carthage.

Revaluation postponed

The Board of Commisoners reversed two previous decision Monday night: a decision to move forward with a 2011 property tax revaluation and a decision to award the county's banking business to Bank of America.

The Board of Commissioners had previously voted — during its November 16 meeting — to proceed with a scheduled 2011 revaluation of real property for tax purposes, despite testimony from Tax Administrator Wayne Vest that values were likely to change little from those determined by the 2007 revaluation, that the smaller number of real estate transactions would make the process more challenging, and that the county would spend more than \$600,000 to get the

job done.

On Monday night, the Commissioners reversed that decision, putting the revaluation off until 2015. Both Commissioners Caddell and Morgan said they had received a significant amount of negative feedback from the public about November's decision to move forward.

"I was somewhat stunned with the response I got from citizens of Moore County," Morgan said, "and it certainly made me rethink my vote on that, and I appreciate the input that I got."

Morgan told *The Times* on Wednesday that most of those who had contacted her felt the estimated \$600,000 cost of the revaluation would be money ill-spent, since it was not expected to produce a significant change in property values.

"I was surprised at the comments that were made," Commissioner Caddell said, "I really thought they would think the revaluation would be a good thing, and from the comments I heard it was just the opposite."

Morgan, Caddell, and Picerno

all cited another reason for their decision to put off the revaluation: assurances by Vest that property owners can, beginning in January of each year, challenge the value the tax department has placed on their property.

"If the people of Moore County are more comfortable with that . . . as long as they have got a chance once a year, if their property goes down, to come in a change that evaluation or have the Board look at it, I don't think that is a problem," Caddell said.

Vest told *The Times* on Wednesday that, beginning in January, the County's Tax Office

begins to work with property owners who feel their property has been valued incorrectly. If the evidence presented by the owner warrants, the Tax Office may make an adjustment in the assessed valuation.

If the property owner is unhappy with the judgement of the Tax Office, they can bring their case to the Board of Equalization and Review, which meets in April and May.

When the Commissioners made their decision in November to move forward with a 2011 revaluation, the majority of the Board seemed to feel that some

(See "Commissioners," p. 24)



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Commissioners

(Continued from page 23)

property values would decline as a result of the economic downturn and its negative impact on the housing market. If the revaluation reflected that decline, the owners of some properties could see their tax bills reduced.

Commissioner Lea argued at the time that the surest way to lower the tax burden was to simply cut the tax rate, rather than proceed with the revaluation. Once the Board voted unanimously to postpone the process until 2015, Lea thanked his fellow Board members for taking another look at the issue.

"I appreciate the Board taking action on this and looking at it again," Lea said. "Whenever we have the opportunity to save \$600,000 to \$700,000 for the taxpayers, that's always a good day's work for this Board."

First Bank wins County's banking business

Also During Monday night's meeting the Board of Commissioners awarded the county's general banking business to First Bank — reversing an October 19 decision to award the business to Bank of America. BB&T has handled the county's banking business since anyone can remember.

The October decision in favor of Bank of America, it turned out, was based on a mathematical error — for which Finance Director Lisa Hughes apologized. The county's deposits

are substantial, with an average daily balance of more than \$3 million. Banks are willing to pay interest on those funds — interest which can help offset the fees they charge for banking services.

In October, the Board believed that Bank of America would charge \$2100 per month in fees and offset that with \$9000 per month in interest on \$1.8 million in deposits. Even though Bank of America's monthly fees were among the highest of the banks considered, its aggressive interest rate more than made up for that.

On Monday night the Commissioners learned that the \$9000 in interest was an annual, not a monthly, amount. That realization sent Hughes back to her spreadsheet. The recalculation revealed that First Bank's low \$1,000 monthly rate would be offset by an estimated \$3,600 in monthly interest — meaning the county would actually make money on its deposits by selecting First Bank as its vendor.

The Board voted unanimously to award the contracts for general banking and remote deposit to First Bank, while allowing Bank of America to handle merchant services (credit card receipts) and safekeeping of documents.

Vass sewer funding problems

Also on Monday night, the Commissioners heard from Pub-

lic Utilities Director Dennis Brobst that a project that would connect the Town of Vass' sewer system with the county's Addor wastewater treatment plant faces funding challenges.

By action of Governor Beverly Perdue, a NC Clean Water Trust Fund Grant that the county was using to partially fund the project has been delayed until at least October 2010. The county was counting on that grant to match another from the NC Rural Economic Development Center that expires in June 2010. The Rural Center has sent the county a letter indicating that their grant will not be extended.

Brobst said he and County Manager Cary McSwain will be meeting with Rural Center representatives to plead Moore County's case, as well as attempting to accelerate the Clean Water Trust Fund process. Chairman Lea asked Commissioners Picerno and Caddell to meet with the Vass Town Council to update them on the situation.

Delay on Carthage Bypass Supported

At the request of the Town of Carthage, the Commissioners approved a letter to the NC Department of Transportation supporting the department's

decision to defer action on a NC Highway 24/27 bypass of Carthage.

That route currently runs through the middle of town and includes the traffic circle around the Historic Courthouse. NC-DOT has for years had a bypass on its State Transportation Improvement Plan [STIP], but each of the routes it has proposed, whether routed north or south of Carthage town center, have met strong opposition from residents of the areas through which the roadway would pass. Carthage recently asked NC-DOT to put the project on hold, and the department removed

(See "Commissioners," p. 25)

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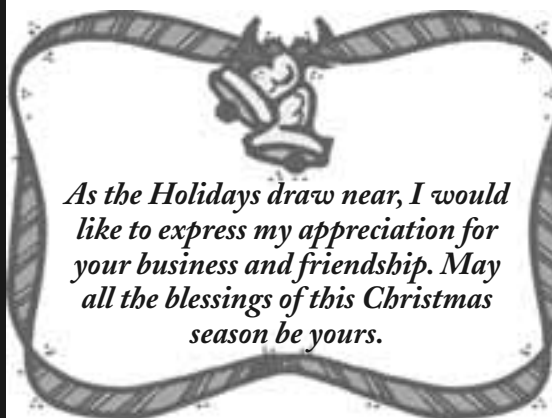
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Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

duced to the membership during the January 26 evening Board meeting.

Small Craft Rack approved

The Board unanimously approved, during its December 8 meeting, an offer by the Seven

Lakes Sailing Club to construct a rack at Johnson Point that could accommodate nine small sailboats, canoes, or kayaks. A small landing beach will be constructed nearby on the lakeshore, as well as a walkway between the rack and the beach.

Slots in the rack will be avail-

able for rent by any Westside property owner with a suitable boat registered with the Association. The club recommended a \$10 per month or \$75 per year rental fee, with fees to be collected by the Association and remitted to the Sailing Club until the estimated \$2,000 cost of

construction has been covered. From that point forward, the Association would retain the fees. The rack and associated improvements would belong to the Association.

"It's a great idea," Infrastructure Director John Goodman said. "It benefits anyone in the community who wants to use it."

New Fourth Tuesday Work Session

The Board discussed on Tuesday the format for the new evening working Board meeting that will take the place of the traditional fourth Tuesday presentational open meeting.

They decided last month to make the fourth-Tuesday meeting a real working session of the Board. It will be open to the public — as is the case with the second Tuesday Morning Work

Session — and there will be an opportunity for public comment.

The fourth-Tuesday meeting will begin at 7:00 pm instead of the traditional 7:30 pm, and will wrap up no later than 10:00 pm.

Directors discussed the need to arrange their table in a U-shape, to facilitate communication among directors, and also to consider some time limit on public comment. The new meeting format will debut on January 26.

Commissioners

(Continued from page 24)

the project from the STIP.

Commissioner Lea inserted, with Board approval, language into the county's letter encouraging further discussions among DOT, Carthage, and the County about finding an alternative route.

Other Business

In other business during its Monday, December 7 meeting, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Approved a contract with CB&I Constructors, formerly known as Chicago Bridge and Iron, for the construction of a 500,000 gallon elevated water tower to serve the county's water system in Pinehurst. Utilities Director Brobst reported that the cost of the project will be \$1,227,000 — which is \$373,000 less than budgeted.
- Accepted two grants providing
- fund for low-income housing rehabilitation, including \$400,000 from the NC Division of Community Assistance and \$83,300 from USDA Rural Development. The Board also awarded housing rehabilitation contracts for three homes in the Addor community.
- Approved a letter of intent that ensures that funds and property contributed to benefit the Senior Enrichment Center will be deposited in a capital funds account for the center.
- Made several appointments: Andree Fifield, Helen Schillaci, and Virginia Whiting to the Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee;
- John Ganley, Safety Director of FirstHealth of the Carolinas, to the Local Emergency Planning Committee;
- Probation Officer Mike Dunn to the Criminal Justice Partner-

ship Program Advisory Board; - Probation Officer Frank Kunder to the Courthouse Facilities Advisory Committee; and - Commissioner Lea as the Board's delegate to the Triangle J Council of Governments, with Commissioner Caddell as his alternate.



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Westside meeting

(Continued from page 25)

tification of those entering the pool and enforce the rules for use of the facility.

Board members appeared to be ready to accept that recommendation, but could not reach consensus on whether to implement the use of electronic proximity cards for pool entry this year, or postpone that measure until a full study could be made of the potential for using the cards elsewhere in the community — e.g., at the community center, the Johnson Point boat slips, the tennis courts, or even at the gates.

If a proximity card system is not put in place this year, then it is likely the Board will turn instead to the use of photo IDs for entry to the pool.

Director Hoffmann, who has considerable professional experience with proximity card systems, warned that installing a single-purpose system and then attempting to expand it can be far more expensive than defining the full scope from the outset.

Director Milligan pointed out that the proximity card system would be more convenient, because it would allow landowners to use the facility after the attendant is off duty.

The Board deferred a decision on whether to move forward with proximity cards this year to a budget retreat sched-

uled for Friday, December 11.

Security

The Board approved an Emergency Egress Plan presented by Security Director Hoffmann and developed by Hoffmann in cooperation with Gerhard Hergenhausen and Ray MacKay.

The plan lays out four exits from the community that can be used in case of a natural disaster or other emergency, based on a Board decision to activate the plan. In addition to the front and back gates, the other emergency exits are at Beacon Ridge Country Club and Behind West Side Park Community Center.

Hoffmann said his team is considering identifying a fifth emergency exit in Morganwood; that could be added in an annual update of the plan.

Fencing. Hoffmann said he would like to have a conversation among Directors and residents about "where we are going with fencing." He noted that SLWLA spent \$51,000 on two sections of perimeter fencing last year and will spend \$9,000 on another section near The Pinnacle this year.

"A section here, here, and here, does have some deterrent action," Hoffmann said. "But it logically makes no sense. We are on a path that should be completed. We enclose our-

selves, over time, or we fence it all in one year and pay for it over time."

Completely fencing the perimeter of Seven Lakes West would require a substantial investment, he noted, and will also require negotiations with private landowners where the Association does not own a buffer strip along the perimeter. Hoffmann said about fifty percent of the perimeter is not owned by the Association.

Hoffmann suggested placing a question about the need for fencing — and the willingness to pay for it — in a survey of the membership. Director Silberhorn expressed skepticism about going to the membership for big decision, and President Shepard said the idea of a community survey had been tabled for now.

Infrastructure

Director Goodman reported that a contract had been signed with LandDesign and the Entries Planning Committee has begun its process of developing a com-

prehensive plan for both the front and back gate areas.

Drainage projects have been completed at Longleaf Court and Timber Ridge, Goodman said, and are working as designed. Additional work was scheduled to commence this week at Otter and Winston.

Goodman said a three pipe drainage structure that carries water under Longleaf Drive near the Zebley home has rusted

through and is in need of speedy replacement. The plan is to line and grout the existing pipe, in order to avoid digging up the roadway in order to make the repair. Goodman said he has had some difficulty, however, finding a contractor experienced with that technique.

The Directors ran into some process issues when the conversation turned to a proposal for

(See "Westside," p. 27)

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Westside meeting

(Continued from page 26)

installing lightning protection at the back gate, a project that resident Jim Johnson has been spearheading for the Board. Recommended solutions were solicited from a number of vendors, who came up with unique approaches to the problem.

Johnson recommended using the approach proposed by a firm that currently handles lightning protection for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association, and Security Director John Hoffmann made a motion to hire the firm for an amount not-to-exceed \$5,000. Legal Director Silberhorn objected that the matter was not on the meeting agenda, and that the Directors had neither the proposal nor the proposed contract before them for consideration.

After discussion about where in the budget funds to pay for the work might be found, Hoffmann withdrew his motion, and the Board seemed to agree that special approval was unnecessary for budgeted maintenance items.

Compliance

Director Herdrich noted that the office staff is spending two hours per day checking the community for rules compliance, often to the consternation of landowners who come to the office to transact business and find the person they need unavailable.

He recommended using funds in his budget allocated for a lake compliance officer to hire a part-timer to conduct the compliance sweeps, gathering the information on infraction that the office staff will then use to move the compliance process forward.

Other Business

In other business during its Tuesday, December 8 Work Session, the SLWLA Board:

- Voted to implement a \$150 transfer fee that will be charged to new landowners becoming members of the Association and will cover the cost of enrollment, issuing stickers and barcodes, etc. The Association will retain \$100 of the fee; \$50 will go to CAS. The fee would be charged as part of the closing costs on the sale of the home or lot.
- Discussed the possibility of charging a setup and cleanup fee to all groups who use the West Side Park Community Center, in order to help prevent damage to tables, chairs, and elsewhere caused by the well-intentioned efforts of volunteers who may not have been trained how to stow the equipment.
- Heard from Community Activities Director Karen Milligan that Linda Roskamp and Valerie Murphy deserved special thanks for taking time away from their fulltime jobs to assemble many of this year's

Christmas Decorations. Milligan thanked all the members of her committee, who "volunteered their time and pulled together something special" for the Holiday celebrations on December 6. In addition to Murphy and Roskamp, the committee includes: Linda Criswell, Tracy Stromberg, Debbie Giovanni, Sandra Giovanni, Theresa Clark, and Patti Patullo.

- Heard from ARC Director Adam Wimberly that a resident of the Pinnacle has asked to build a fishing dock on one of the nearby ponds for use by Pinnacle residents. Fishing is allowed in the ponds, but only by residents of that neighborhood. After some discussion about the range of issues raised by the request, President Ron Shepard asked Wimberly to bring a specific proposal on the matter from ARC.
- Heard from Lake & Dam Director Mick Herdrich that Dam Engineer Dam Marks will be visiting Seven Lakes next week, and may provide an update on the pending state approval of the repairs to Lake

Auman Dam. Marks will also help identify the trees that need to be removed from the dam between the lower Lake-way Drive pond and Lake Auman.

- Received from Treasurer Kathy

Kirst copies of the audit of the Association's 2008-2010 financial reports.

- Scheduled a Budget Retreat for Friday, December 11, at West Side Park Community Center, beginning at 8:30 am.

State of the State

Moore County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a State of the State on January 12, at the Pinehurst Members Club, 11:45 am – 1:30 pm.

The Honorable Joe Hackney, Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representa-

tives, will be the guest speaker.

The cost for Chamber members is \$25 and non-member \$50.

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SLLA work session

(Continued from front page)

"I will miss Seven Lakes," he continued. "This community has been a large part of my life for almost sixteen years. Seven Lakes has been good to me and my family, and I've had wonderful experiences with past boards, with Dalton and the staff, and have many friends here. I'm going to miss them all. But

sometimes you have to start a new chapter in your life -- a door opens with a great opportunity and you have to walk through it."

What Board members expect of management

In a related discussion, Zielsdorf polled the Board for their expectations of new management.

Director Sally Kindsvatter said she would like to see standard operating procedures in place for each department, job descriptions and well-documented annual evaluation and review of employees, and a methodology in place that would assist committee transitions from year to year, director to director. She also hoped new management

could provide a more conclusive financial analysis of decisions facing the Board, such as costs associated with in-house or outsourced maintenance and costs to repair the existing tennis courts versus leasing facilities from Seven Lakes Country Club.

Gary Caulk also addressed the need for a better transition between director's committee

appointments and suggested perhaps the outgoing chair should sit in on at least two or three committee meetings with the incoming chairman. Speaking on behalf of Director Bud Shaver, who was unable to attend, Zielsdorf said Shaver had also raised similar concerns about improved continuity.

(See "SLLA," p. 29)



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SLLA work session

(Continued from page 28)

Treasurer Denny Galford led an effort earlier this year to develop a description of the SLLA's System of Governance. He said the document that resulted from that effort laid out Board and management responsibilities and should be incorporated into the Bylaws.

Director Kent Droppers said he would like to see the community establish a reserve plan, an annual plan, and a long term plan for infrastructure expenditures.

Director Bruce Keyser, Jr. said he expected better organization and more transparency moving forward.

Zielsdorf said future management should provide spending objectives, with the Board setting priorities.

"Most of the time it is the board that steers expenses. You have well-intended people on a board who want their pet project done: this is a cultural thing that needs to get changed."

Zielsdorf said he would compile the recommendations into a bulleted list for further Board discussion in January.

Good report on Sequoia & Longleaf Dams

Inspections conducted in November on Sequoia Dam and Longleaf Dam resulted in good reports, with only the chronic wet spot on Sequoia garnering comment, reported Zielsdorf.

The remaining dams will be inspected in early Spring.

"There have been some rumors to the contrary but I want to assure residents that our lakes and dams are very healthy," Zielsdorf said.

Six candidates will be on the ballot

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Director Keyser presented the final list of approved candidates running for the 2010-2012 SLLA Board of Directors. The candidates are Northsiders Bob Darr, Bob Racine, Belinda Scott, Charlie Hannel, and Southsiders Chuck Mims and former SLLA president Don Truesdell.

The nomination period closes on Wednesday, December 16. After this date, potential nominees have until the end of January to file as a petition candidate.

Amendments to Rules & Regulations

Security Director Caulk presented several proposed revisions — most entailing simplification or clarification of existing language, including:

Addition to Section 6.9 requiring at least twenty-four notice to the Board for short-term rules, as approved by the Community Manager; Section 8.2.1-8.2.3 simplifies and condenses existing rules for fishing regulations, fish size and creel limits; Section 8.3.3 clarifies swimming regulations and permitted locations at Lake Sequoia; Section 8.4.1.2 would require all boats to operate in accordance with North Carolina statutes rather than Federal USCG regulations; Section 8.4.2.1 would limit each lot or long term renter to no more than two registered powerboats; Section 8.4.6 and 8.4.4.9 involves restrictions and defines impaired, reckless, and negligent boat operation; Section 8.4.5.3 sets the minimum age for operators and, if no observer is present on-board, would require rearview mirrors when pulling skiers or for similar recreational uses.

A proposed amendment restricting auto vehicle storage was withdrawn by Community Standards Director Droppers for further discussion at the committee level.

Copies of the proposed changes to the community's rules and regulations may be obtained from the SLLA office. These amendments will be voted on at the next Open Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 16.

Concrete curbing at main Northside parking area

Three bids were considered for curbing replacement at the main Northside parking area, including an in-house maintenance estimate. As discussed, the project includes removal and disposal of the existing wood curbs, and replacement with poured-concrete 6" curbs.

Executive Curb and Drive presented the low bid at an estimated cost of approximately \$10,000. [Editor's Note: *The Times* was not provided with a copy of the bids or an exact figure].

This expenditure is not includ-

ed in this year's budget; however, funds can be pulled from an existing budget surplus or from another capital budget line item, reported Fulcher.

Greater Seven Lakes Community Council update

Zielsdorf reported the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council [GSLCC] met recently with *The Times* [See story on page 5.]

He said of particular interest during the meeting was a discussion on the potential impact the proposed Foxfire-Pinehurst annexation agreement will have on Seven Lakes — and specifically how it could affect any future decisions on incorporation.

"This agreement has long term implications for our area...There is too much value here. My concern is the possibility of our tax dollars getting pulled into their city centers — not to ours."

Other Business

In other business, the SLLA

Board of Directors:

- Discussed adding \$500 in low-growing shrubs at the entrance to Sequoia Point.
- Tabled discussion on repaving the existing tennis courts or leasing SLCC courts until new management is in-place and can make a recommendation.
- Heard from Fulcher that the request to close Cedar Lane, an unimproved dirt road with no existing structures, has been withdrawn at this time.
- Heard from Fulcher that the Deed Restriction on the four main common recreational areas has been finalized and filed with Moore County.
- Following the Work Session, the Board went into a Closed Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues.

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