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Volume 25 Number 13

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

April 30, 2010

Foxfire ponders police expansion

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Does Foxfire need more police coverage?

The Village Council wrestled with this question during a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 22, to discuss the budget.

Councilwoman Page Coker has proposed hiring a twenty-hour per week part-time certified law enforcement officer to assist the existing two-man police department.

"We allowed for two ten-hour days so that we could have some police coverage everyday of the week," she explained, noting that those hours would be staggered to allow for more frequent night patrols.

Coker said the position was advertised and that a strong candidate had expressed interest.

However, not everyone at the table is convinced more police hours are needed.

"Philosophically, I'm against it. I don't think our community justifies another officer at this stage," said Councilman Ed Lauer. "We're a small rural community, I just don't see it."

Expressing support for hiring an additional officer for special occasional needs – such as covering vacation leave for Chief Mike Campbell and Sgt. Chad Shue – Lauer said he was opposed to hiring a permanent part-time officer. While funding is available for the position in the current budget through savings in other areas, he questioned future budgeting and whether related costs, like workman's compensation insurance, had been factored in.

(See "Foxfire," p. 35)

Hillbilly Chili's a hit!



Quality Care Pharmacy was the People's Choice Award Winner at the Seven Lakes Business Guild Chili Cook Off. See page 12 for more photos and contest results.

Anita Mashburn is Teacher of Year

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Anita Mashburn always knew she would be a teacher.

"When I was little, I would line up all my stuffed toys and dolls and read to them and teach them using old school books," she said.

Recently honored as the 'Teacher of the Year' at West End Elementary [WEE], Mash-

burn said that early enthusiasm for teaching has never dimmed.

"God has really blessed me and I enjoy all the children. With First graders, it doesn't matter what it is they're just excited to learn," she said. "And the growth! There is such a change from the start to the end of first grade. It's so exciting to watch."

Mashburn said developing writing and reading skills at this

age are critical and that First grade has certainly changed since she attended school.

"The curriculum is rigorous but they usually rise right up to the challenge," she said.

She also teaches her students in mathematics and science, including units on Great Horned owls, insects, pumpkins, parts of an apple, rocks and soil, and snowflakes.

"They were fascinated with the snowflakes and we got lucky: we had a big snow at school and were able to go out and catch snowflakes to observe under a microscope," she explained.

A teacher at WEE for the past five years, Mashburn is a Moore County native and began her career at West End before tak-

(See "Teacher," p. 35)



Anita Mashburn

The Times, PO Box 468, West End, NC 27376
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Haggard joins incorporation advisory group

The committee that heads incorporatesevenlakes.com is pleased to add former Westside Landowners Association President Jim Haggard to its' advisory group that will supervise the Town of Seven Lakes for the approximate six months period between any referendum and the actual election of the first town council and mayor. Haggard's history in local governance and his activities with the Seven Lakes EMS make him an ideal partner for the other committee members as they continue to widen the scope of their efforts.

Although the group has met the requirements of the state to name temporary officials of the proposed new town, at least two

other additions are being considered.

With the strong turnout of support at the annual Chili Cook-off and at the annual EMS chicken dinner fundraiser, the group has now passed the 400 mark of the necessary 600 names it is required to pre-

on the project thus far appreciates the initiative shown by Marilyn and does; indeed, and welcome others who might want to follow in her footsteps. Blank forms, and a thorough explanation of all materials, can be obtained at Phoenix Fashions.

In an attempt to further highlight aspects of the incorporation

or a national franchise siphoning money from the local economy and not returning their fair share to community efforts, privilege licenses are the one way a town has of making sure all businesses contribute to the maintenance of the business district from which they draw their income.

to the town in excess of \$12,000 per year.

The campaign is nearing the phase where volunteers will soon start being asked to form committees to make recommendations concerning services to be furnished by the town after incorporation.

This unique, primarily gated town that we are building will need to draw heavily from volunteers in order to allow the town to succeed while costing the residents as little as possible.

Volunteers can contact the committee through the web site or by visiting one of the petition sites.



IncorporateSevenLakes.Com

by Darrell Marks

sent to the state to require a referendum on the issue of incorporation.

Marilyn Dumbleton, of the West Side, surprised the group Tuesday when she presented them with a full sheet of names that she had gathered by going from neighbor to neighbor seeking support for the cause. After imparting the advice that the process would not take long at all if others in the community would follow her lead, she asked for another empty sheet and headed back to work.

Everyone who has worked

effort that might otherwise go unnoticed, a discussion follows about privilege licenses. One item of income for the new town that can be used for any purpose is income to be received from privilege licenses, fees that will be charged all businesses for the "privilege" of doing business in Seven Lakes. Such fees are common in larger cities and go a long way to help offset some of the costs a town incurs when a business chooses to locate inside its limits.

Whether it is service trucks wearing out the town's roads,

The fee will be nominal, from a base of \$50 to a maximum of \$200, but will result in a benefit

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@sevenlaketimestimes.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
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.

Public meeting on incorporation features UNC-SOG professor

IncorporateSevenLakes.com will host a public forum on incorporation on Thursday, May 6, at 7 pm at the West End Elementary School Gym.

The special guest speaker will be Kara Millonzi, Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government, UNC School of Government. Ms. Millonzi is co-author of the book "The Incorporation of a North Carolina Town."



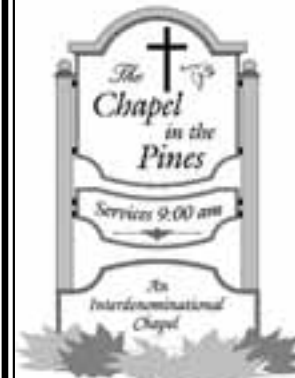
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Board apologizes for confusing double mailing

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Calling the recent double invoice mailing from Talis Management a "misunderstanding and miscommunication," Randy Zielsdorf, President of Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], offered an apology to landowners during his opening remarks at the Wednesday, April 28, Open Meeting.

"There has been a lot of confusion. The \$900 invoice you received is your dues statement. The \$10 invoice is your mailbox fee," explained Zielsdorf, noting

that the mailbox fee increased from \$5 to \$10 several years ago.

The Association will not be billed for the second mailing, and Zielsdorf said he hoped the process would be much smoother by next year.

Landowners may pay both invoices with a single check, either by mailing payment with the enclosed envelope or delivering a check in person to the SLLA office. If the mailed payment option is selected, there will be a short delay before you may claim your new vehicle stickers

while the payment is received and posted to your account. Zielsdorf said he anticipates a check scanning device will be in place at the SLLA office next year, which will facilitate the process.

Current guest passes and vehicle stickers will be honored until the end of May.

Pool opening could be delayed

North Carolina pools must be in compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Act prior to opening in 2010. A federal law passed in 2008, it requires anti-entrap-

ment drains or suction-limiting devices in pools, wading pools, and hot tubs.

Last Summer, the SLLA baby pool drain was improved to comply; however, the main pool is cur-

rently not in compliance. Zielsdorf said the Board authorized up to \$15,000 for necessary repairs, but Community Manager Alina Cochran may have a far less costly option. Her recommendation is under review by the state.

Staff announcements

Longtime SLLA employee Debbie Caulk successfully obtained the Certified Manager of Community Associations

[CMCA] professional certification.

Brenda Massimo, who assists at the front office three days a week, submitted her resignation, effective the end of May.

Committee Appointments

At the onset of the new Board term, Zielsdorf met with Cochran to determine which committee areas of focus would be most beneficial. Following a reorganization of responsibilities, new committees were named with

(See "SLLA," p. 33)

SLLA turns attention to range

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

With a stalled economy and a glut of houses on the market, not surprisingly, little progress has been made towards developing the Seven Lakes Country Club's old driving range.

Last in the news over a year ago when the Club declined an offer by The Chapel in the Pines to purchase the five-acre property, the sale of the range has been a point of controversy for both the Club and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA]. An agreement between the two entities permitting the property to be developed, spawned a lawsuit and appeal, eventually resulting in a favorable Superior Court ruling.

The agreement sets forth several requirements, namely that the Club will establish covenants limiting the use of all other Country Club property to the operation of a golf course, that a ten-

foot 'green space' easement would be granted along Seven Lakes Drive, that sufficient land for five additional parking spaces at the Southside mail house would be granted, and that future residential uses of the driving range would be subject to existing South Side Covenants.

According to SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf, he requested and received a copy of the golf course covenants in January, which were forwarded to attorney Hunter Stovall for review.

"Over the last two years, my focus has been on new management. Once Talis was in place, then I was able to bring this matter back to a more prominent concern of the Board," Zielsdorf said. "We are currently under legal advice to see how the Association should best proceed to accomplish the other bulleted items. I have told the Club we are ready to proceed with the easement; however,

several other items won't be resolved until a developer buys the property."

SLCC General Manager Mike Spayd told *The Times* that the covenants were written and delivered to former SLLA Community Manager Dalton Fulcher shortly after the agreement was signed. The documents delivered in January to Zielsdorf were in fact, a duplicate second set, he explained.

"The Club's position is the [remaining items] agreement is activated with the sale of the property. With no sale, there is no action required," said Spayd. "We feel we have fulfilled our obligations pertaining to the agreement."

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Seven Lakes Village

Fishing platform raises thorny issues

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

A Pinnacle resident's proposal to build a fishing platform adjacent to one Seven Lakes West's small ponds has "morphed into something very complex," Director Adam Wimberly told fellow Board members during the Tuesday, April 27 Work Session of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors.

The idea is to provide a spot from which both adults and children could fish in the pond without the risk of sliding down a steep and slippery bank into the water — something that has happened in the past to children.

But who would own the platform and who could use it, who would pay for any extra insurance required to offset the liability, and who would pay for the legal work necessary to make clear both ownership and liability — all those questions need answers.

Facing that legal briar patch, the Architectural Review Committee voted to approve the aes-

thetics of the project, while letting the Board sort out the legal and insurance issues. After considerable back and forth Tuesday night, the Board voted to table the issue to allow Legal Director Ed Silberhorn to work with Wimberly to sort through those questions.

Architectural Review

Director Wimberly said the ARC committee had sent its fourth case this year to the Judicial Panel, but the offending party remedied the violation before the case was actually heard. He encour-

aged landowners to seek ARC approval before remodeling, erecting fences, removing large trees, or undertaking other projects that come under the committee's approval process. Many projects can be approved in 24 to 48 hours, Wimberly said.

The committee approved a new home and six new projects during the past month.

Wimberly said there are currently six homes under construction on the West Side, as

well as twenty-six other projects ranging from remodeling to fences.

Incorporation

Secretary Karen Milligan said her communications committee had been trying to set up some education forums on incorpo-

ration, but the two groups pursuing turning Seven Lakes into a town seem to prefer to set up their own public forums.

[IncorporateSevenLakes.Com has scheduled a forum on the issue at West End Elementary School on Thursday evening, May 6; a second group is

expected to put its proposals before the public in the next several weeks.]

Vice President John Hoffmann, who presided over the meeting in the absence of President Ron Shepard, said "It is my belief that we [i.e., the SLWLA Board] (See "Westside," p. 26)

West Side Landowners Meeting

4/27

He encour-

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Beginning May 7th, Seven Lakes Country Club will be open from 5-9 pm for members and non-members alike to enjoy an evening of socializing and/or game playing. If you have a favorite game that you like to play, feel free to bring it and join up with others that would enjoy playing the same game. Or, you can just come and join in on some games that will be provided. If you like, or would like to learn, Chickenfoot, Mexican Train, Pigs, Pay Me, Michigan Runny, Sequence, or Milbourne, then SLCC is the place you need to be on Friday nights. The Wii game system will also be available if you'd like to bring your favorite Wii game. If you're not a game player and just want to eat and socialize with friends and neighbors, then this is where you want to be on Friday nights.

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Moore County unemployment sets record

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

At 11.1%, the Moore County unemployment rate is at its highest level since the Bureau of Labor Statistics began recording figures in the mid-1970's.

"We need to make economic development a priority," Gene Norton of the NC Employment Security Commission told the Board of County Commissioners during their Monday, April 19 meeting.

"The unemployment rate does not tell the whole story — it does not include agricultural workers, self-employed, and discounts those who have been unemployed for so long a time they are no longer looking for jobs. If all those were included, the rate would probably be 20% or higher."

As of March 2010, 643 Moore County residents received \$1.3 million in assistance — a drop from last year's high of \$1.8 million paid to 1,058 applicants, reported Norton, director of the local branch of the Employment Security Commission; however, he explained the decrease reflects many who have simply exhausted their unemployment benefits.

Despite the sluggish economy, medical and retail areas in Moore County have seen some employment potential throughout the recession, Norton said, but other industries were hit hard, particularly hospitality, construction,

manufacturing, and agricultural.

Parkwood rezoning request

The County Commissioners unanimously approved a rezoning request for two lots located on Parkwood Court, a cul-de-sac road located in Seven Lakes

750-acre Wilson farm property cleared another hurdle on Monday, April 19, receiving unanimous support from the Moore County Board of Commissioners. The request now returns to Foxfire for a public hearing prior to final approval.

"The unemployment rate does not tell the whole story — it does not include agricultural workers, self-employed, and discounts those who have been unemployed for so long a time they are no longer looking for jobs."

— Gene Norton, NC Employment Security Commission

West, following the recommendation of the Planning Board.

The vacant .88 and .77 acre tracts owned by John Garner, were originally zoned into the Village Business district with portions of each identified for commercial use; one as a reserve drain field for a restaurant, the other as a future repair area for Seven Lakes Hardware. However, with accessibility limited to private residential roads within Seven Lakes West, the Planning Board recommended rezoning the property to Gated Community-Seven Lakes.

Foxfire ETJ Extension

A request to extend the Foxfire Village Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ] to encompass the

Located at the corner of Hwy 211 and Hoffman Road, the rezoning request was initiated by the Wilson family following the voluntary annexation of the Stonehill Pines Planned Unit Development [PUD], and Pinehurst's involuntary annexation of Pinewild.

"Our family petitioned Foxfire to be included in the ETJ because we are cornered with Pinewild and Stonehill and we would rather be with Foxfire than Pinehurst," said Mike Wilson.

Offering his support, Foxfire Mayor George Erickson told the County Commissioners that expanding the Village's ETJ at the Wilson property would help to protect the integrity of the Stonehill Pines project.

Public golf course proposed

Moore County should establish a reserve fund with the goal to own and operate a public golf course within the next decade, recommended Pinehurst resident Paul Dunn.

A public course could provide inexpensive recreation for residents and also encourage new players to take up the sport, provide jobs for the county, provide a 'home field' for high school golf teams, and offer a 'greens and fairways' laboratory environment for Sandhills Community College programming, he argued.

Dunn proposed developing a reserve fund now, to anticipate the opportunity to purchase an existing course in the future that could then be run on a break-even basis.

No action was taken on the proposal; however, Commissioner Nick Picerno responded that while some public courses do break-even, other locations are less successful and are heavily-subsidized by taxpayers.

Wagram water plant

During a September 2009
(See "Commissioners," p. 29)



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Turnout light for NCDOT crossing hearing

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Turnout was relatively light for a Monday, April 19, North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] meeting on a Seven Lakes-West End railroad crossing project — light, that is, when compared to the 200-plus citizens who turned out for a session on the same topic in December 2008.

Last Monday's meeting attracted about seventy people, including a mix of Seven Lakers and West Enders, folks for and folks against the closing of two railroad crossings at Mode Road and Edgewood Terrace.

Drawing on federal railway safety funds to upgrade the crossing at the front entrance to Seven Lakes West means NCDOT must close other near-by crossings.

NCDOT's Division 8 Engineer Tim Johnson told The Moore County Board of Commissioners in January of last year that the project was 99.99 percent assured of moving forward.

So many wondered why an additional public meeting was

necessary.

The answer is that the federal program that will fund the project requires the filing of a document establishing compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA], NCDOT environmental engineer Marc Hamel told *The Times*.

"Environmental" in this context is not limited to "bugs and slugs" explained Julie Timms of Moffat-Nichol, the engineering firm working with the department on the NEPA document.

"Environmental" in this context includes impacts on the natural, historical, cultural, and human environment.

In the case of the West End crossing closings, Timms told *The Times*, "the human environment is paramount."

Timms said she had heard from both public safety agencies and commercial interests concerned about the impact of the crossing closings on traffic patterns in West End.

Hamel, on the other hand, said the comment he had heard most frequently was, "Why are you back here? You've wasted a

year already!"

NCDOT Project Engineer Nancy Horne, who has overall responsibility for the crossing project, told *The Times* that the NEPA document was the last major hurdle the project faced. She said the environmental document could be ready in three months, clearing the way for NCDOT to finalize a contract with the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railroad for the crossing closings and upgrade.

Once that contract is signed, work can proceed.

Horne said the closure of the Edgewood Terrace and Mode Road crossings were relatively simple projects that will be handled by NCDOT crews.

The widening of a turn where NC Hwy 73 intersects NC Hwy 211 at the West End stoplight will be a bit more complicated, because it will require right-of-way acquisition.

Most complicated is the installation of new signals — tied to

traffic lights — at the Lakeway Drive crossing.

Horne said it may be possible to have all the paperwork complete by the end of 2010. But it may take until the end of 2011 to actually get all phases of the project completed.

Both Timms and Hamel told *The Times* that it is essential that interested parties commu-

nicate their concerns and information in writing by May 24.

Comments may be emailed to Hamel at mhamel@ncdot.gov or sent via USPS to Marc Hamel, Project Engineer, 1553 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1553.

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County EMS leaves 7 Lakes for West End

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Moore County EMS Medic 3, an advanced life support ambulance, will move its base of operations, as of May 1, from the Seven Lakes EMS facility to the West End Fire & Rescue building. While this decision has generated many questions, Seven Lakes EMS Chief Bob Haan said there is no need for concern.

"Seven Lakes EMS is not changing in any way. The community will still get the same level of care," said Haan. "We will continue to offer equal or better service – we're looking for a way to do it better all the time."

Background

Seven Lakes EMS has served the community for twenty-seven years, first from Seven Lakes Fire Department and the last twenty-four from the stand-alone building at the North/South gates. The squad purchased a new, state-of-the-art ambulance last year and also operate a medical response truck — a versatile vehicle that carries additional supplies in case of multiple casualties and can also be used to relieve firefighters on-scene, and to tow the EMS dive boat.

Nineteen years ago, Moore County EMS began sharing that space under a gentlemen's agreement to pay utilities. Moore County Medic 3 is one of eight paramedic level ambulances that are strategically located on bases throughout Moore County that can serve in lieu of or to supplement community ambulance squads. Their home district includes points west of Pinehurst, Foxfire, West End, Seven Lakes, to Eagle Springs and points of Eastwood.

Both Medic 3 and Seven Lakes EMS are part of a countywide public safety system providing 24/7 coverage, and operate using a single radio frequency. 911 calls are routed to both teams, while GPS tracking helps to determine which ambulance will respond and provide medical transport.

Seven Lakes EMS has one paid staff member, Tim Bouchelle, and fourteen volunteers - eight are certified EMTs. Most calls have a response time of five minutes or less, and under three

(See "EMS," p. 27)



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Dr. Michele Keel joins Optical Solutions

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Living each and every day to the fullest is what drives Dr. Michele Keel.

A licensed optometrist, Keel recently began accepting patients at her new position with Optical Solutions, a full vision care office located on Seven Lakes Drive.

"We have today and it is up to us to make it a good one. Whatever you do – do the best you can," said Keel.

Following her father's footsteps into optometry, Keel said

the profession has changed over the years, leaning more and more in the medical direction.

"It's more than just optics and spectacles. We have to consider overall health and conditions like diabetes and vascular conditions," said Keel. "Helping to maintain my patients' eyesight for a lifetime is an awesome responsibility."

She said the most important steps people can take to preserve their vision is to eat a balanced diet and get regular exercise.

"It's true. You really are what you eat," said Keel.

In addition to her work at Optical Solutions, Keel also sees patients at clinics in Pinehurst and also at her father's practice in Fayetteville. She joked that her fourth and fifth jobs are assisting her husband, Coley, with his business, Villager Deli in Pinehurst.

Optical Solutions is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Appointments are also

available evenings and Saturdays. To schedule an appointment or to contact Dr. Keel, please call 673-4733.

ment or to contact Dr. Keel, please call 673-4733.



Dr. Michele Keel

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WEE Spring Fling

West End Elementary School PTA invites the community to join them for their annual Spring Fling on Friday, April 30, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

Come enjoy the food, games, and prizes to support the PTA in this fundraiser.

Pizza, hot-dogs, popcorn, nachos, ice cream, and more will be on sale in the food court. The evening will include lots of games where everyone wins a prize. Look for the giant inflatable slide and jumping house out front on the school lawn. There will be a dunking booth

for the students to get the chance to see their friends or favorite teacher/Assistant Principal make a splash! There will also be a plant sale.

Raffle tickets will be on sale during the fundraiser that include restaurants, gas stations, and grocery gift certificates.

For more information about the Spring Fling or to volunteer to help, call Sharon Bailer, Chairperson for Ways and Means at 673-1109 or Kay Miller PTA President at 673-2932.

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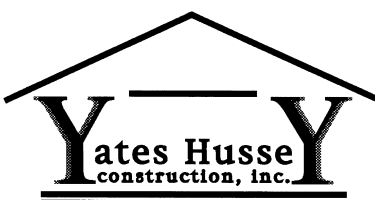
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Brick Oven pizza, and much, much more

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Light sandwiches and salads and nightly dinner specials served with house-made fresh bread are just a few of the delicious menu items you'll find at the Brick Oven Bistro . . . but pizza is their specialty.

"We have the best pizza in Moore County — probably in the state," said owner and chef, Michael Hockersmith. "The kids love it and we all know: if kids don't like the pizza, then you're not doing it right."

Baked in a traditional European brick oven that radiates a dry, even heat, moisture is pulled from the dough creating a crisp crust with perfectly melted cheeses.

A large 16" pizza starts at \$11.95 plus \$1.50 for toppings, such as caramelized onions, roasted vegetables, pepperoni, Italian sausage, and many others; the small 10" pizza starts at \$6.95.

Lunch menu items all under \$10 include many choices of sandwiches and salads, and nightly dinner specials such as almond and citrus seasoned pan-seared Tilapia or grilled chicken breast over cheese tortellini are also under \$10, or you may add soup or salad for \$12.

A fine selection of desserts, wine and beer, and a kids menu featuring plenty of traditional favorites are also available.

Located in the Seven Lakes

Business Village near Phoenix Fashions, the Bistro opened in April 2008 following a total renovation of the restaurant. The cozy French-American-inspired interior features two dining rooms that can seat forty and may be reserved for private events.

The Brick Oven Bistro is open Wednesday through Saturday for lunch from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm, and dinner from 5:00 to 9:00 pm.

On Wednesday evenings between 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm, come enjoy dinner and swing dancing with live DJ music.

A copy of the full menu is available on their website, www.brickovenbistro.net or you may call 673-1519 for more information.



Michael Hockersmith of Brick Oven Bistro

Find out why your new neighbors talk funny

"The English Language in Virginia and the Carolina's: An English Project Presentation."

Dr. Christopher Mulvey will be focusing on the development of English from the time it was first used in the Carolina's and carrying forward to a survey of the English language usage in the Carolina's in the 21st Century. He

will also explain "the English Project" which is collecting the linguistic DNA of the planet's two billion English speakers to raise awareness of the 7000 varieties of English in 100 countries.

He is Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Winchester. Dr. Mulvey took his under graduate studies at Mag-

dalen College, Oxford and received his Ph.D. at Columbia University. He taught in the United States from 1963 to 1978, when he returned to England.

Presently Dr. Mulvey is Managing Editor of the Winchester University Press and is a Trustee of the English Project, a registered charity that aims to open

a permanent English Language Project in Winchester in 2012. He has published several books, among them *Anglo-American Landscapes and Transatlantic Manners*.

The event will be held on Tuesday, May 4 at the Country Club of North Carolina.

Cocktails served at 6 pm., fol-

lowed by dinner at 7 pm. The program follows.

The English Speaking Union welcomes new members. For information please call Mrs. Martha O'Connor at 910-235-0635 or email Dr. Phillip Hinsley at phinsley@gmail.com.

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In memory

Elaine Joyce Mueller, 75, of Seven Lakes, died Thursday, April 22, after living courageously with Parkinson's disease.

Born in Michigan, Mrs. Mueller and her husband, Dennis, lived in South Bend, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Atlanta before moving to Seven Lakes. She was a licensed insurance agent, book-keeper, and office manager for various organizations.

Survivors include her husband, Dennis Mueller; her children, Bill Bentley, Beth Bentley, and Mark Crutchfield; and her grandsons.

Memorial donations may be made in Joyce's name to the American Parkinson Disease Association Inc., Parkinson Plaza, 135 Parkinson Ave., Staten Island, NY, 10305-1425.

Polly Anne Atkins, 77, of West End, died Tuesday, April 13, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 16, at West End Baptist Church. Burial followed at West End Cemetery.

She was the daughter of the late Herman Lee Pusser and Ruby Corrinne Pusser.

She was preceded in death by her husband, J.C. Atkins; children, Arthur Lee Atkins and Malcolm Ray Atkins; two sisters; and one brother.

She is survived by her daughter, Cynthia Dianne Atkins of Cary; her son, Larry Wayne Atkins of Vass; her brothers, Joe Pusser of West End, Lamar Pusser West End, Larry Pusser of Eagle Springs, Bobby Pusser of West End; sisters, Pat Saunders of West End, Peggy Smith of West End, Jean Brewer of Biscoe, Sarah Britt of Fairmont, and Frances Lewis of Atlantic Beach; her grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374 or to West End Baptist Church, PO Box 501, West End, NC 27376.

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McDonald joins CommunityOne - 7 Lakes

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

CommunityOne Bank is exactly just that — a community bank, Belinda McDonald explained.

"I love CommunityOne because it's friendly. When you walk in the door, you are a customer with a name. It's personal," she said.

After leaving a career in banking to stay home with her children, McDonald said was drawn back to the field and began work-

ing for CommunityOne in Ellerbe six years ago. In particular, she enjoyed the frenetic pace at the drive-thru window. Following several promotions at various area branches, McDonald was transferred to Seven Lakes.

"We're so delighted to have Belinda. She is an asset to our office," said the Seven Lakes branch manager, Sherri Adams. "She brings a very good attitude and knowledge and has a good heart. She treats every-

body like they're gold."

Located in the business village on Grant Street, CommunityOne has a three-member staff; Adams, bank teller Ann Hine, and McDonald, who serves as their retail-service officer.

"Everybody has different jobs, but we all work together as a team. The small bank environment allows us to be more personal and we look at customers

as our neighbors. We focus on quality of service rather than quantity," said McDonald.

CommunityOne Bank offers standard checking, savings, and money market account services, as well as mortgages, home equity loans, and an excellent wealth management program to assist with retirement and trust planning. The Seven Lakes branch has a drive-thru window and a stand-alone ATM conve-

niently located nearby on Hwy 211. Regular business hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. For information, call 400-5182.



Community One Branch Manager Sherri Adams welcomes Belinda McDonald to the Seven Lakes branch.



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Got Grads? We want 'em!

It's graduation season at high schools and colleges all across the U.S. If you have a daughter, son, grandchild, etc. that gives you graduation bragging rights, we'd like to help you spread the word.

We'll be publishing photos and vital stats on graduates in the May 14 issue of *The Seven Lakes Times*. To make sure your grad is included, get us the following by Friday, May 7: a photo of the grad, full name, name and location of school, degree, names of parents, grandparents, or other Seven Lakes/West End/McLendon Hills/Foxfire connection, something about the grad's next big step in life (college, job, etc.) and anything else you think brag-worthy.

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Tu-Th 6-7pm



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**114 Edgewater Drive
Seven Lakes North**

**Feeling Good is
the Fun of It!**

Seven Lakes Country Club takes first place

by Kim Tew

Seven Lakes Business Guild

The tents are down, the pots are washed, and all the leftovers are gone. If you missed it, you will have to wait until next year to taste the best chili around. Three intrepid judges sampled their

way through 28 different recipes.

At the end of the day the verdict was in, County Commissioners Nick Picerno, Jimmy Melton along with Pinehurst Police Officer Ray Crumpler awarded first place to Seven Lakes Country Club and their

chef, Jacki Scotti.

Second place went to returning champion, Mrs. Virginia Horner and third place was presented to two students of the Sandhills Community College Culinary program.

First Bank of Seven Lakes sponsored both the Best Decorated Booth and the People's Choice awards. Representatives of First Bank, Chris Brady and Kim Bailey chose National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) - Linden Lodge for Best Decorated Booth. The People's Choice award was a real nail biter. Two teams, Seven Lakes Country Club and Quality Care Pharmacy were tied with forty-three votes a piece. They were given five extra minutes to acquire more votes. When the dust settled, Quality Care Pharmacy edged out SLCC for the victory.


The Seven Lakes Business Guild and the Chili Cook Off Committee would like to thank all of the participants and attendees for another successful event.



Commissioner Nick Picerno & Darrell Marks of Phoenix Fashions



Ticket takers sold chili mugs to a hungry crowd.

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in 7 Lakes Business Guild’s Chili Cook Off

We also appreciate the help of these local business for all their hard work and sponsorship: Short’s Electric, Master Kleen, Arnold Burns, K.R. Mace Electric, Carolina Waste, First Bank, Seven Lakes Times, Harris Printing, Sandhills Winery, Whelan Realty, CommunityOne Bank, Seven Lakes Country Club, Carolina Car Care, Seven Lakes Friendly Mart, Phoenix Fashions, Grace Church and JuBilee Screen Print. Please support the businesses that support our community.



The guys from IncorporateSevenLakes.Com combed the crowd for petition signers.



Val & Ann from Hearing Solutions ham it up over chicken chili



Face Painting



The judges proclaimed Seven Lakes Country Club’s the best chili at the Cook Off.



Seven Lakes Lion’s Club Chili — Good to the last drop!



Hillbilly Chili



Seven Lakes Massage

Sunday May 9th is Mother’s Day!

Mother’s Day is coming sooner than you think . . . and if you are not cooking for Mom, you’d better be thinking about making reservations.

Ellerbe Springs is offering an \$18.99 per person special menu of **Prime Rib, Jumbo Shrimp, Fried Chicken, Parmesan Encrusted Tilapia, Pasta Dishes, Southern Vegetables, Homemade Breads and Desserts.** Guests can enjoy a glass of wine for \$3.00 from our exclusive house selections. Just to remind you that **fresh strawberries** are in from our local growers and we will be doing several desserts with them.

Please call for reservations, we are serving 11am - 3 pm. 910-652-5600

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Call Ann Benton \$320,000

393 Longleaf Drive, SL West
Flat building lot, close to back entrance, membership to Beacon Ridge included with buyer paying prevailing transfer fee.
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124 Vanore Road, SL West • 130 Vanore Road, SL West
Two buildable waterview lots across the street from Lake Auman. Both lots sit high with clear views of the lake. Perk tests are current.
Call Ann Benton \$69,000.00 each

104 Donnell Point • Seven Lakes West • \$80,000 SOLD!
102 Donnell Point • Seven Lakes West • \$120,000
Two buildable waterview lots side by side **Call Ann Benton!**

— We Sell All of Moore County —

League hosts Candidates' Forum in 7 Lakes

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Gearing up for the Primary Elections next Tuesday, candidates for several local races squared off at Westside Park Community Center on Thursday, April 22, at a forum sponsored by the League of Women's Voters of Moore County.

Participants included State Sen. Harris Blake and his Republican challenger, the former co-speaker of the NC House Richard Morgan, who are vying for the District 22 seat, and County Commissioner Cindy Morgan and her challenger, Craig Kennedy, who are both also Republican candidates. In addition, six of the seven candidates running for the at-large seat on the Board of Education were present, including incumbents Sue Black, Pamela Thompson, and Dale Frye, and challengers Enola Lineberger, Ed Dennison, and Karen Wicker. Two candidates for the District 3 seat, incumbent Charles Lambert and challenger Johnnie McNeill

also participated in the forum.

Moderated by Greg Hankins, editor of *The Seven Lakes Times*, the forum provided each candidate a two-minute introduction period followed by a question and answer period.

Board of Education

Sue Black is a Moore County native and has served on the School Board for seventeen years, including three terms as chair. She lives in Eastwood and is the mother of six children, has fostered over forty

more children, and as a child advocate, volunteered in the Guardian Ad Litem program. Black said funding concerns are the most critical issue facing Moore Schools and spoke of teachers forced to do more and more with less and less resources. She said she supported additional pre-K programming that would allow all children to enter school on more equal footing and also spoke in favor of helping all young students to read on grade level, establishing partnerships between the school and parents and the community, and flexible scheduling that would allow high school students an option to graduate in three years.

"Education is most important. It is the very root of democracy and it is imperative that it remain available to all children," Black said.

Ed Dennison, a resident of Pinehurst, is the founding member of an education foundation, president of the Pinehurst Civic Group, and has experience serv-

ing on several county and organization boards. He said the number one priority for schools should be safety and security, that is programs and policies to make children feel safe and to eliminate bullying. Dennison also prioritized student achievement, accountability of the Board and school administration through measurable goal-setting, and fiscal responsibility. He said that problems must be resolved with established action plans and targeted completion dates.

"We must determine what programs work and what don't," said Dennison.

Dale Frye graduated from and also taught in Moore County Schools. He is serving his eighth year on the Board of Education and is the current chair. He expressed concern over the lack of funding especially today, with the need to stay globally competitive. Frye said he is running for reelection because he wants to build on positive progress made in the last few years under

(See "Candidates," p. 24)



Carolyn Mealing, President Jo Nicholas, Barbara Farr, Ginny Roth, and Mary Lou Burnett of the League of Women's Voters of Moore County

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Family & Summer Fun Expo draws big crowd

Nearly 2000 people had a great day the First Annual Sandhills Family and Summer Fun Expo this past Saturday. The Elks Lodge in Southern Pines was over flowing with cars, kids, parents, smiles and laughter.

The Expo kicked off early with 100 runners participating in the 5K Hoyt Kennedy Memorial Race/Walk, followed by the opening of the Expo activities.

"The Expo really exceeded our expectations. We had great weather, a terrific turnout and lots of fun," said Rollie Sampson, Expo Coordinator and Communities In Schools Board member, "The turnout really highlights the huge interest in child-focused activities in the Sandhills. We could not have asked for a better kick-off for this new family event."

"There was something for everyone at the Expo. Parents were able to find information on the summer camps and activities for their children. The kids were able to play at a free mini-carnival including a bounce house, giant slide, face-painting, clowns, hoola hoops, music, golf contests and

ice cream." Sampson added, "And, we had lots of drawings for free items like kid's golf clubs, savings bonds and golf lessons."

The African drummers from West Pine Middle School were one of the great highlights of the Expo. Directed by Marci Houseman, the student drummers entertained the crowd throughout the day.

Another unique activity at the Expo was the chance to meet young Junior Drag Racer, Kelli Blake. She started drag racing when she was only 8 years old.

"Kelli's race car, named The Heart Breaker, was a real treat for the kids to see," said Andi Korte, Communities In Schools Executive Director, "Kelli brings new meaning to the words 'girl power'."

"We look forward to bringing the Sandhills Family and Summer Fun Expo back to the community next year and making it even bigger," added Korte.

The Expo was hosted by Communities In Schools (CIS) and the US Kids Golf Foundation. All proceeds from the event will support CIS programs targeted at Moore

County Schools, including mentoring programs, afterschool programs, CIS FirstSchool Garden programs and the Community Career Academy.

Communities In Schools (CIS) is the nation's leading community based organization helping kids stay in school, succeed in school and be better prepared for life. For more information contact CIS at 910-295-1072 or visit our website at www.cismoore.org.



The Kenner Clowns worked magic and mayhem at the Family & Summer Fun Expo

Play golf with the Seven Lakes Lions!

The Seven Lakes Lions Club will hold their 13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Sunday, June 6 at Seven Lakes Country Club.

Shotgun start 1:30 pm, with Caption's Choice with 4 Person Teams (teams may be men, women or couples)

Hole-In-One prizes, \$10,000 cash, Taylor made Golf clubs, 5 day/4 night vacation package.

Raffle Prizes will include Golf equipment, free rounds of golf at area Golf Courses, meals at local restaurants, and many other prizes from local merchants.

Closest to the pin prize on a Par 3 Hole.

Cost for the tournament is \$70 per golfer, and that includes a buffet dinner served at the conclusion of the tournament.

Proceeds from this tourna-

ment will support the Lions continuing programs for the Blind, Sight Impaired and Hearing Impaired.

Make checks payable to Seven Lakes Lions Club, PO Box 841, West End, NC 27376

Deadline for registration is June 1.

Want to play and don't have a foursome? Call Gene Pro Roberts at 673-1092. Questions call Lion Bill Seldomridge 910-673-3083 or cell 910-690-9500.

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132 Lancashire. Beautiful golf and waterfront home in SLS. This all brick home is on the 14th fairway and also overlooks picturesque Lake Windermere. Three bedrooms, Carolina room, office/workout room with separate entrance. **\$307,000**



230 Finch Gate. This golf front beauty sits on the 13th hole of the Beacon Ridge Country Club. Four bedrooms, three baths, landscaped, paved circular drive and double car garage are only some of the attributes of this wonderful home. Built with attention to every detail! **Only \$374,900**

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101 Round Oak Ct. Great investment house! 3/2 all brick home in Seven Lakes North. Back deck, screened porch and located on a corner lot close to gate and amenities! Renter in place (but will move if needed). **Great price! \$149,000**



130 Knoll Rd. Southern Pines. What a location for this beauty! Nestled between Southern Pines and Pinehurst with the high school just down the street! Three bedrooms (split plan), three baths, living room, Carolina room and large kitchen. An oversized detached garage ready for many uses adds to the whole picture. **\$249,000**

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101 Wolverton Only \$29,000

Seven Lakes South lot that has previously perked.

410 Sawgrass Road \$20,000

1.6 Acres in Eagle Springs with well & Septic in place.

VVA President Kristek passes the gavel

by Barbara Bane
VVA Chapter 966

Chapter 966, Vietnam Veterans of America held elections at their April 5 meeting in West End.

Joe Kristek, outgoing president and founder of the chapter, passed the gavel to his successor Don Sass. Mike Pusillo was elected the new vice-president.

Returning officers are secretary Bill McNeill, treasurer Mike Shapiro, and directors Larry McCallum and Jim Schrum. Laud Pitt will continue to serve as the chapter chaplain.

Under Kristek's leadership and with the teamwork of the officers and members, the four year old chapter has recently

topped a hundred members. Through multiple programs the chapter actively works to meet needs of veterans and active military and raise awareness and honor the contributions of the military.

Joe Kristek is the current president of the NC State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America and stated that he did not seek reelection as president of the local chapter in order to focus his efforts in representing Vietnam Veterans at the state level.

Upon being sworn in as the new president of the chapter, Don Sass presented a plaque of recognition and appreciation to Joe Kristek, citing it as his "first

official act."

Kristek thanked all the members for their support and that he hoped to serve them well at the state level. He noted that the chapter is in good hands with the leadership of Sass.

In other business, the fundraiser Summer raffle ticket sales are underway. Prizes include pottery, stained glass, original art, bowling and golf packages. Proceeds fund year long programs which address the needs of veterans and active military personnel from Moore County and the surrounding area.

Tickets may be purchased at VVA information booths at local festivals, at Aberdeen locations, Harris Teeter on June 4-5 and the

Golden Corral on June 12, with other locations and dates to be announced.

Dr. David Casey, currently an orthopaedic surgeon with Pinehurst Surgical Clinic, will present a program titled Extremity War Surgery at the Monday, May 3 meeting.

Casey served two tours in Afghanistan, one in Iraq and as a general orthopedic surgeon

with Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, NC during 2001-2005. The public is invited to attend.

The chapter meets at 7:00 pm, the first Monday night of each month in the Westside Community Center in Seven Lakes West.

For more information, contact Don Sass, dsass@nc.rr.com.

Public health at League

The Tuesday, May 18 luncheon and meeting of the League of Women Voters of Moore County will feature a report from Robert R. Wittmann, the Director of the Moore County Health Department.

He will speak on Moore County public health issues, also addressing the changes brought about by the new Health care bill that was recently passed. The public is welcome to attend, with a prior reservation.

Robert Wittmann has served as the Moore County Health Director since 1985. His Public

Health career has spanned more than forty years.

The luncheon, will be held at the Table on the Green Restaurant, in Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Drive (off of Route 2, between Southern Pines and Pinehurst.) Check in time is

11:30 am and the meeting will start at 11:45 am.

Lunch must be reserved ahead of time, call Charlotte Gallagher at 910-244-9611, by May 14.

Cost of the lunch is \$12.



VVA Chapter 966's new President, Don Sass, receives the gavel from Founding President Joe Kristek.



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Lay eucharistic ministers serve the homebound

by Skip Ragland
St. Mary Magdalene
Episcopal Church

For Seven Lakers Jan Standing, Bette Hanham, Jeanne Helmstetter and Dona Rouse, the Lay Eucharistic Ministry (LEM) is one of the most touching and meaningful roles they play at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church.

Their purpose is to bring Communion (the Lord's Supper) to members of the church who are unable to be present due to illness or infirmity. Once a month these dedicated women leave the church service with a communion kit containing consecrated bread and wine and conduct abbreviated services in homes, hospitals, nursing homes — wherever they are needed.

The Rev. Carol Burgess, the Deacon at St. Mary Magdalene, often accompanies the Lay Eucharistic Ministers. The ministry of the Deacon in the Episcopal Church is to bring the cares and concerns of the world to the church, particularly serv-

ing the poor, weak, sick and lonely.

According to the Rev. Burgess, "Eucharistic ministers are persons called to serve their fellow parish members in a deeply spiritual way. They receive 6 weeks of study and training, and are licensed with the Episcopal Diocese for 3 years of service."

Jeanne Helmstetter became interested in LEM after her late husband's surgery and rehabilitation. "LEM ministers from the church regularly brought communion to him and I know what joy and hope it gave to him — and to me. I wanted to be part of that service to others," she said.

Dona Rouse finds the experience very emotional. "It is very hard to describe the feeling of being part of this ministry. It is joyful and very spiritual, and you feel that what you are doing is extremely important to those to whom we take the bread and wine," she said. Bette Hanham feels much the same way. "I can't think of many things that touch me quite the same way.

When you leave the church with the consecrated host and wine, you truly feel that you are on a sacred mission. I feel honored to be a part of it."

The Lay Eucharistic Ministry is one way to assure people that they are one body sharing one bread and one cup. There is a pastoral role of offering their presence in a way that can bring hope and even healing to those who may feel isolated or lonely.

Jan Standing, one of the LEM, has found being part of the ministry very rewarding. "After taking the Sacrament to our parishioners, their joy is so apparent and their sense of still being a member of our congregation so strong that I leave with a feeling of joy and happiness also. I feel that I have been able to make a contribution to their well-being however small. I also leave with a feeling of deep calm and peacefulness after our visits," she said.

St. Mary Magdalene in Seven Lakes is an Episcopal mission church, which is celebrating its

30th year in 2010. According to Carol Burgess, "We are a mission church which means that we have less than 100 members. One of the goals of the church is to grow to over 100 members by 2013 which would make us an official Parish."

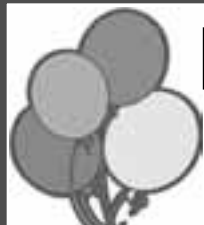
"We are a growing mission

that celebrates the happy events of our members' lives and also shares in their sorrows.

"Our Lay Eucharistic Ministry is one way we can show our family members how much they mean to us and that our church family is there in difficult times as well as good."



Father Fred Thompson of St. Mary Magdalene presents Lay Eucharistic Ministers Dona Rouse and Jan Standing with consecrated bread and wine to take to members of the Church who are unable to attend church due to illness or other reasons.



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SLLC puts the fun in summer Friday nights

Building on the fun that started with the Friday Night Wii Nights last year, Seven Lakes Country Club is resuming its casual Friday Night game night program beginning May 7th.

The Club will be open from 5-9 pm for members and non-members alike to enjoy an evening of socializing and or game playing. If you have a favorite game that you like to play, feel free to bring it and join up with others that would enjoy playing the same game.

Or, you can just come and join in on some games that will be provided.

If you like, or would like to learn, Chickenfoot, Mexican Train, Pigs, Pay Me, Michigan Rummy, Sequence, or Milbourne then Seven Lakes is the place you need to be on Friday nights. The Wii game system will also be available if you'd like to bring

your favorite Wii game. If you're not a game player and just want to eat and socialize with friends and neighbors, then this is where you want to be on Friday nights.

For food preparation purposes, reservations are encouraged but not required. An optional one item buffet will be available each night at the price of \$8.15 (plus gratuity & tax).

Buffet Menus for the month of May will be:

May 7th - Chili, Salad, Bread & dessert

May 14th - Spaghetti w/Marinara, Rolls, Salad & dessert

May 21st - Sweet & Sour Chicken w/rice, Salad & dessert

May 28th - Swedish Meatballs & Pasta, Salad & dessert

For reservations please call the Club Dining Room at 673-1100.

Bridge Awards Luncheon



Reservation Deadline Extended!

The Women of Seven Lakes will host their Bridge Awards Luncheon on Friday, May 7 at Seven Lakes Country Club. Check-in will be at 11:30; lunch, at Noon.

Reservations for tables may be made by calling Ginger Finney at 673-1330 by May 1. The price will be \$14 per person; \$56 per table. After making your reservation, please send a check for \$56 to Ginger Finney, 4262 Seven Lakes West. Non-Bridge-players are welcome to attend!

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FRIDAY, APRIL 30

- **WEE PTA Spring Fling** – 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, West End Elementary School PTA invites the community to join them for their annual Spring Fling. Enjoy food, games, and prizes to support the PTA. Pizza, hot-dogs, popcorn, nachos, ice cream, and more will be on sale in the food court. Lots of games, a giant inflatable slide and jumping house, with a dunking booth for the students to get the chance to see their friends or favorite teacher/Assistant Principal make a splash! A plant sale, raffle tickets for sale to win restaurant, gas station, and grocery gift certificates. For more information or volunteer, call Sharon Bailer, Chairperson for Ways and Means at 673-1109 or Kay Miller PTA President at 673-2932.
- **Sandhills Children's Center Wine Tasting** – 6:00 to 9:00 pm, hosting the 11th Annual Run for the Roses Wine Tasting, at the Fair Barn, The Village of Pinehurst. This Wine Tasting event raises money for developmentally disabled children. A Kentucky Derby theme evening will include amazing wines, delicious food, and unbeatable company. Tickets are \$50 per guest. For tickets, call 910-692-3323 or visit www.SandhillsChildrensCenter.org

SUNDAY, MAY 2

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Sunday Eucharist 9:30 am, The Rev. Robert Brown, Vicar. 5th
- **Artists League of the Sandhills** – "The Magic of Maine" a solo exhibit featuring paintings by area artist Betty DiBartolomeo centered on her time in Maine in 2009. Opens May 2 with a reception from 2 pm - 5 pm. Exhibit runs through June 1. Gallery hours noon - 3 pm, Monday - Saturday. Classes & workshops available. League office 910-944-3979, 10 - 4 (M-F). 129 Exchange St., Aberdeen. www.artistleagueorg

MONDAY, MAY 3

- **Moore Republican Women May Luncheon** – held at the Pinehurst Members Club. Registration begins at 11:30 am and lunch served at noon. The guest speaker will be Dena

Barnes, President of the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women. Cost for the luncheon is \$15 payable by cash or check. Check should be made payable to Pinehurst Resort LLC.

Call Pauli Curl @ 215-9796 to make your reservations. Valet parking available.

• **Moore**

- **County Board of Commissioners** – 5:00 pm, at the Historic Court House, Carthage.
- **Chapter 966 Vietnam Veterans of America** – 7:00 pm, Dr. David Casey, an orthopaedic surgeon with Pinehurst Surgical Clinic, will present a program titled Extremity War Surgery. Casey served two tours in Afghanistan, one in Iraq and as a general orthopedic surgeon with Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, NC during 2001-2005. Held at the West Side Community Center in Seven Lakes West. For more information, contact Don Sass, dsass@nc.rr.com The public is invited to attend.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

- **Women of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 2:00 pm, Westside Park Community Center. All are welcome to attend a cel-

ebration in honor of the Women of Seven Lakes 30th Anniversary, featuring historical displays and program honoring thirty years of service and accomplishments in the community. Cake and refreshments will follow.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5 to 8 pm. \$10 for six wines Pinot Noir Tasting and food from Goldie's. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.
- **Seven Lakes Lions Club** – 6 pm, Ms. Joyce Scarlett from the Senior Enrichment Center will speak on Medicare Benefits at the meeting. Held at the West Side Community Center. This meeting is open to all community residents. Please join the Lions for a informative evening. Call Roger 673-0845 for dinner reservations. Seven Lakes Lions helps sight and hearing impaired persons. Used eyeglasses are collected at Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe and Seven Lakes Eye Care. For membership info call Keith 673-2611 or Ray 673-3006.
- **Incorporation: A Public Meeting** – 7 pm, West End Elementary School Gym. The special guest speaker will be Kara Millonzi, Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government, UNC School of Government. Ms. Millonzi is co-author of the book "The

Incorporation of a North Carolina Town"

- **Oscar and Hammerstein Songs Featured** – Enjoy the sounds of Oscar and Hammerstein in a program by New York-based cabaret artist Morgan Sills, at Weymouth Center for Arts & Humanities, 555 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. Sills is an accomplished professional singer, writer, and actor, and is returning to Weymouth by popular demand. His show will feature Hammerstein's greatest songs, from the golden age of Broadway. The program is scheduled for at 3 pm and again at 7 pm. Certain shows may be sold out. If still available, matinee tickets are \$30. The evening performance is \$45 for members of Weymouth and \$55 for nonmembers. Call (910) 692-6261.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

- **Salad Supper Time** – at 6 pm, the annual Salad Supper at West End United Methodist Church. Hosted by the Women of the Church. Tickets are \$8 each, and must be purchased in advance. For tickets call Peggy Adams at 673-5735 or Anneliese Feggeler at 673-3734.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 - 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At

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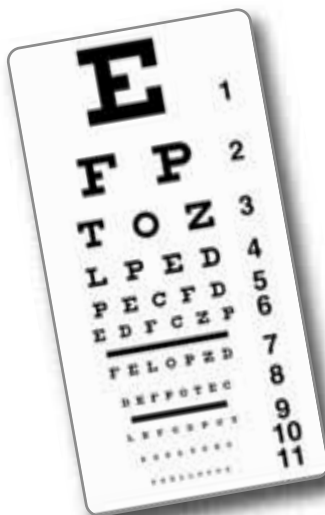
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- **Golf Tournament Fundraiser** – 10th Annual Keep Moore County Beautiful Marge Owings Memorial Golf Tournament, at Mid Pines Golf Club, Southern Pines. Entry Fee of \$125 includes lunch, a gift bag, snacks on course, and the Owings Memorial Gift Packet to every golfer which contains four green fees for future play at Mid Pines, a premier Donald Ross designed golf course. If interested in entering in this tournament and supporting this fund-raising event for Keep Moore County Beautiful, contact Joan Neal, Executive Director, at jneal@moorecountync.gov or call 947-3478.

MONDAY, MAY 10

- **Bingo Night At Our Lady Of The Americas** – 7 pm, Early Bird Bingo; and 7:30 pm, Regular Bingo. Located at 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211 (Exxon Station), just east of Hwy 220 near Candor. Minimum purchase \$15. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 910 974-3051.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

- **Seven Lakes Computer Club** – 3 pm, meeting at Seven Lakes North Game room. Craig Castrogiovanni will return as the guest speaker, continuing with the part 5 of the "Back to Basics" theme. It will cover an in-depth and advanced discussion of software and hardware maintenance, backups and restore.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5 to 8 pm. \$10 for six wines, Riesling Tasting and food from Goldie's. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.

SUNDAY MAY 16

- **Moore County Republican Party** – hosting a "Conservative Unity Picnic" 12 noon to 4 pm, at Cannon Park, Pinehurst. All Republicans, Independents, Disappointed Democrats, TEA Party members and families are most welcome. Family fun, food, entertainment and voter registration available. Cost \$15 per adult, \$10 per active military member and spouse and \$7 per child 12 yrs. and under. Tickets will be available at the picnic.

MONDAY, MAY 17

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, at the Historic Court House, Carthage.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – luncheon and meeting, check in time 11:30 am and meeting starts at 11:45 am, featuring a report from Robert R. Wittmann, the Director of the Moore County Health Department. He will speak on Moore County public health issues, also addressing the changes brought about by the new Health care bill that was recently passed. The public is welcome to attend, with a reservation. Held at the Table on the Green Restaurant, in Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Drive (off of Route 2, between Southern Pines and Pinehurst.) Lunch must be reserved ahead of time, call Charlotte Gallagher at 910-244-9611, by May 14. Cost of the lunch is \$12. A check, payable to LWVNC, is the preferred method of payment. ('No-shows' will still be required to pay.)

THURSDAY, MAY 20

- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 4:00

pm, on the upper level of the West Side Park Community Center. Guest speaker will be Trey Waters, pharmacist and owner of the Prescription Shoppe in Seven Lakes and Aberdeen. He will address the topic entitled *Are We Being Overmedicated?* All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. This session completes the 2009-2010 Forum season. For more information, contact Bill Mamel 673-8970.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

- **Things That Go Bump in the Night National Alliance on Mental Illness Moore County (NAMI-MC) Night Golf Charity Tournament** – with a \$1,000 Prize at Little River Golf & Resort. This exciting night time golf event will consist of 18 holes. Nine holes will be played starting at 4 pm, followed by a Southern Pig Pickin' party and entertainment by the 82d Airborne Division All American Chorus. After the sun goes down players will use Night-Flyer golf balls and be challenged by a golf course lighted only by special equipment while playing under "the moon and stars." Let your golf ball go bump in the night on May 22 - dare to

try something new and challenging! Entry fee for this great night is only \$250/person and includes registration, greens fee, cart, dinner and entertainment. The tax deductible portion of the event is \$100. Cost for dinner is \$40/person. In addition, Little River Golf & Resort is offering a special lodging rate for the event for out of town guests. All proceeds of the event will benefit the Linden Lodge www.NAMI-MooreCounty.org or Betsy Faulkner, 910-215-1053.

- **Pinecrest Spring Choral Concert** – 7:00 pm, "Down in my Soul" and a silent auction. Held at Pinecrest High School, in the Robert E. Lee Auditorium. The silent auction begins 1 hour prior to concert. Tickets are available at the door, \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens.

SUNDAY, MAY 23

- **Pinecrest Spring Choral Concert** – 7:00 pm, "Down in my Soul" and a silent auction. Held at Pinecrest High School, in the Robert E. Lee Auditorium. The silent auction begins 1 hour prior to concert. Tickets are available at the door, \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens.



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What April showers?

The old saying, 'April showers bring May flowers,' will be untrue again this year.

The days of April produced very little rainfall moisture. In fact, it has been dryer than normal and, once again, our rainfall level measurements are below the yearly average. Meteorologists tell us that April in the Sandhills and central North Carolina is one of the driest months of the year.

Another subject of concern mentioned by several, although not a gardening topic, is the degree and abundance of pollen that has been troublesome to many of us with allergies. The male flower pollen no doubt seemed to linger longer because of the lack of rainfall to wash it off and away. Also this Spring season was late and new rapid growth on pines, oaks, and other pollen-producing plants suddenly appeared at once.

The month of April here in the Sandhills graced us with many colorful and gorgeous plants. The Japanese cherry trees were beautiful earlier. The azaleas, camellias, dogwoods, pansies, forsythia, quinces, bulbs, and other blooming were attractive.

Fertilizing tips

When fertilizing lawns, shrubs, and other landscape plants, I suggest you feed your plants according to the recommendations of a soil test analysis report. Soil samples should be sent to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture for analysis. This is a free service. Sampling mate-

rials and information kits may be obtained from the Moore County Cooperative Extension Service office in Carthage.

In the absence of a soil test report, as a general rule of experience for Bermuda and zoysia lawns, use five to ten pounds of a 1-1-1 ratio of premium plant



Gardening in the Sandhills

Jim Caudill

food fertilizer such as 10-10-10, or equivalent, per 1,000 square feet of lawn. This treatment may be applied when the grass starts greening up and should be duplicated again by the end of July.

An established centipede lawn normally requires very limited fertilizing. As a general rule, use two to five pounds of 5-10-30 or 4-12-24 per 1,000 square feet annually.

It is rather difficult to make a general recommendation for all shrubs and trees but be assured that most plants need food nutrients this time of year. Plants go through the greatest stress for fertilization during the period of flowering and fruit-setting. As a general rule for shrubs, azaleas, camellias, and other Spring flowering plants, use one to two tablespoons of premium slow-release shrub special plant food per foot in plant height. Spread

the fertilizer uniformly under the plant circumference. You may want to follow to labeled instructions on the package.

Tomatoes!

Every year gardeners ask what type of tomatoes they should plant. Based on my experience,

here are a few suggestions and production practices I feel are important:

Rotate: Planting tomatoes in the same spot every

season presents problems, such as sailborne diseases, nematodes, and some insects.

High resistance varieties: Always plant tomatoes labeled VFNT or with as many letter inscriptions as possible. Plants labeled with no letters have little or no resistance.

Liming the soil: Adding lime to the soil is very important to prevent blossom rot, to correct the soil pH, and to supply calcium and magnesium. A handful of lime applied and well-mixed in the soil at planting will help.

Fertilizing: Adding the proper amount of fertilizer is important, and supply as needed periodically in liquid or dry form. Use a premium slow-release plant food source.

Watering: Apply water abundantly during the day, not at night when the humidity is high

because many varieties are susceptible to blights.

Staking/caging: I like to stake, prune, and cage all my tomatoes and most varieties will produce until frost.

Tomato Varieties

There are many varieties of tomatoes:

Big Beef VFNT has a determinate production and plant size but produces large, red tomatoes.

All-American Celebrity makes a medium-sized red tomato resistant to most diseases.

Better Boy is an old reliable, offering a medium to large-sized red tomato and is very prolific until frost.

Park's Whopper has an extra-

large red fruit and is highly disease resistant.

Sweet 100 is a small, delicious grape tomato that is a heavy season-long producer but vines seem to disease late in the season.

April Tips

Additional suggestions for April:

Plant warm weather ornamentals that grow from bulbs and tubers, including cannas and dahlias, as well as cladiums, tuberous begonias, and elephant ears.

Buy Gerber daisies, geraniums, and hibiscus plants in pots for a colorful outdoor display.

(See "Garden," p. 25)

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Candidates' Forum

(Continued from page 14)

Superintendent Dr. Susan Pursuer. "Our schools are in good hands and my hope is to continue to contribute to the county," said Frye.

Charles Lambert also graduated from and taught in Moore County Schools, including eight years at West End Elementary, before retiring after twenty-two years as a principal. Lambert has served on the Board of Education for eight years and said the lack of financial resources and need to maintain and improve academic achievement are his primary concerns. He said finances should be prioritized to items that affect students on a daily basis.

"We need to fit the schools to the students," said Lambert, recommending technology in the classroom and increased workforce development programming.

Enola Lineberger has worked as a volunteer with Moore County Schools for twenty years, including several school and county-level boards. She is a registered nurse and the mother of five. She said that an excellent education should be a funding priority. She recommended maintaining appropriate class sizes, encouraging students to take academically-challenging coursework, and better use of available technology and

resources in the classroom.

"Kids need to be pushed. They often get tracked in middle school and are not challenged, and then not ready in high school. Kids should take the most challenging courses: I want to see C's and B's in the hardest classes, not all A's in the easier ones," said Lineberger.

Johnnie McNeill attended Moore County Schools and said following retirement and travel, decided to return as a substitute teacher. Working several days a week in the schools has taught him a lot about the challenges and problems facing students, he said. McNeill said his primary concerns are funding at the local, state, and federal level, difficulty with reading, and the lack of parental involvement in many.

"Teachers don't have time to spend one-on-one with every student. We need to encourage parents at home to read with kids...I would like to see more involvement and see parents really checking on kids and meeting with the teachers," said McNeill.

Pam Thompson began her service to Moore County Schools serving with the PTA, Parent Advisory Council, and then as a member of the Board of Education for the last three years. She expressed concern over financial

resources and the need to improve academic achievement. She said classrooms must provide an engaging experience and that it is important to listen to the needs of the students. Thompson supports expanding computer labs to provide technology access for all students.

"Serving on the MCS Board has been a great experience for me: I've learned a lot of things. I love what I do and love to be involved," said Thompson.

Karen Wicker is an educator with thirty years experience in providing programs for students at all grade levels. She said the issues facing Moore Schools are not unique and that many children struggle in school because of issues at home — divorce, unemployment, unhealthy home relationships, substance abuse. She recommended additional counselors and suggested looking to community and parental involvement to offset costs. Wicker also supports finding better ways to use technology.

"We need to think outside the box. In high school, we need more academic counselors and more volunteers to come in and teach life skills," said Wicker.

NC Senate District 22

Incumbent **Harris Blake** said

the biggest problem facing the North Carolina legislature is lack of funding to pay for obligated programming. He said the 2011 budget will be a major challenge for the state and recommended looking at revenue from the previous year as the appropriate level to set the budget. Blake said he favors cutting taxes and getting a better handle on the growth and expansion of government.

"The business community will believe they can do business in North Carolina without being taxed to death," said Blake.

Responding to several prepared and audience questions, Blake said he supported maintaining the current ABC Store system for liquor sales but suggested tweaking the salaries; said he would support the incorporation of Seven Lakes if there was positive response from the

community; and said the mental health system should be funded on the same level as other social programs.

Challenger **Richard Morgan** prioritized his concerns, placing the economy and unemployment first, immediately followed by corruption. He said he favors cleaning up the government by eliminating contributions from any businesses seeking state contracts, creating jobs through cutting taxes, and cutting wasteful spending.

Responding to questions, Morgan said that politics have stolen the process in ABC Store management and recommended getting political appointees out of the system and eliminating the "winning and dining of ABC Board members and officials."

On the potential incorporation of Seven Lakes, Morgan (See "Candidates," p. 25)

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Michael.J.Bernard@mwarep.org

Candidates' Forum

(Continued from page 24)

said he would want to see convincing arguments supporting the move and public hearings. Morgan said he supported better budgeting and less wasteful spending would help fund mental health programs and others.

"I want to see taxpayer protection that limits the growth of government and to cut taxes to create more jobs," said Morgan. "You find funds by cutting wasteful spending."

Moore County Board of Commissioners

Craig Kennedy has twelve years professional experience working for Federal Express, and is currently employed with Mountaire Farms in Candor. He has held many positions, handling profits and loss and said he has always come in on budget and has won numerous human resources awards. Kennedy said the county's top priority should be jobs – and recruiting new jobs. He recommended using networking and also tapping into the large, retired upper-management population of county residents for assistance.

Responding to prepared and audience questions, Kennedy said he has toured the county courthouse and detention facilities and said they are outdated and offer inadequate space. He

recommended that climate-controlled storage of evidence was a critical need and that a combined facility of courthouse and detention would be more efficient. He said he did not believe a new county administration building was necessary at this time.

On water needs, Kennedy said the county's only short term option is to purchase from neighboring counties, but that he supported establishing a reservoir and independent system for water in the future.

Incumbent **Cindy Morgan** said she has worked hard to

keep taxes low and spend money wisely. A nurse by profession, she serves on several county and state-level committees. Morgan said the economy and high unemployment rate are critical concerns. She said she is encouraged by the work of Partners in Progress in bringing new jobs to the county and that she will continue to work hard to maintain a balance between growth and preserving the quality of life in Moore.

Morgan said she opposed locating the new county administration and detention facilities on the Grimm property in Carthage for several reasons. She said commonsense dictat-

ed that a new courthouse should be built close to the jail and that the Grimm property was unsuitable to hold all three buildings. She said county-owned land at the Carriage Oaks property could hold the administration building using the already-drawn architectural plans.

The current maximum capacity for water in Moore County is 5.6 million gallons per day, Morgan said, and the county has contracts to purchase from most contiguous counties. However, Morgan said she hoped the county would eventually have the infrastructure to build a countywide system.

Nighttime Golf Tourney

NAMI-Moore County will host the inaugural "Out of the Darkness...Comes Light," charity golf tournament, Saturday, May 22, at Little River Golf & Resort.

This exciting night time golf event will consist of 18 holes. Nine holes will be played starting at 4 p.m., followed by a Southern Pig Pickin' party and entertainment by the 82d Airborne Division All American Chorus. After the sun goes down players will use Night-Flyer golf balls and be challenged by a golf course lighted only by special equipment while playing under "the moon and stars."

The entry fee for this great night is only \$250 per person and includes registration, greens fee, cart, dinner and enter-

tainment. The tax deductible portion of the event is \$100. Cost for dinner only is \$40 per person. In addition, Little River Golf & Resort is offering a special lodging rate for the event for out of town guests.

All proceeds of the event will benefit the Linden Lodge, an adult care home in the area that offers independent living for residents with brain disorders. This home sustains itself only with donations and fundraising proceeds and the generosity of our community.

Businesses and individuals can view sponsorship and participation opportunities for the golf tournament at www.NAMI-MooreCounty.org, or by contacting Betsy Faulkner, 910-215-1053.

Garden

(Continued from page 22)

Move your houseplants outdoors to a shady porch or areas underneath trees when our night temperatures remain above fifty degrees.

Be on the lookout for slugs and snails – headed for cabbage, lettuce, pansies, and other leafy plants. Control them with slug bait.

Plant Summer flowering annuals including begonias, impatiens, marigolds, petunias, scarlet sage, and many more.

Vegetable plantings for April are snap, bush, and pole beans, lima beans, pickling and slicing cucumber seeds or plants, cantaloupe seeds or plants, corn, pumpkins, Summer squash seeds or plants, Swiss chard, tomato, and pepper plants, watermelon seeds or plants.

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Westside Meeting

(Continued from page 4)

don't have a position on incorporation. What our position is, is that we owe it to our residents to get the best factual, unbiased information that we can find and to present that information by what means we have."

"I'm not sure it is even our position to take a position as a board," Hoffmann continued, "but rather to gather as much information as we can, so that there is as much data as possible available from credentialed people who have studied these issues."

Legal Director Silberhorn said he had, on the Board's behalf, contacted the office of State Senator Harris Blake, seeking to understand what revenues would flow from the state to an incorporated Town of Seven Lakes. If Seven Lakes were incorporated in such a way that the majority of its road mileage is in private streets, behind gates, the town would not be able to share in a list of tax revenues that the state passes down to municipalities, including:

- State beer and wine tax
- State electric franchise tax
- State telecommunications tax
- State video programming tax
- Local government sales and use taxes.

The town would be able to share in Powell Bill Funds, revenues derived from taxes on gasoline that can be used for

streets, sidewalks, and bike-ways, but could not use those funds on private infrastructure.

Community Center Fee Schedule Revision

Director Mick Herdrich shared with the Board a draft revision of the fee schedule for use of West Side Park facilities that he and Director Jane Sessler had developed. He said the current structure, which divides users into three different groups, with different fees for those groups, is confusing and hard for CAS office personnel to administer.

A key problem is the discount provided to groups and events "sponsored" by a West Side landowner. "Everyone seems to have a Westside sponsor," Herdrich said. For example, folks who want to rent the Great Room for a wedding reception and have no actual family connection to Seven Lakes West, always manage to come up with a Westsider to "sponsor" their event, qualifying them for the discount rate.

Herdrich and Sessler propose tightening up that category, restricting it to immediate family members and non-profits that have a 501-C3 designation.

Another major change — aimed at reducing wear and tear on Great Room furnishings — is to have all set-up and take-down for Great Room events handled by Mike Ellison, a SLWLA con-

tractor. As a result, all groups, other than official SLWLA committees, would be charged a \$100 set-up/take-down fee for use of the Great Room. That would include a variety of fraternal and civic organizations that use the Great Room. That would apply to the Women of Seven lakes, the Seven Lakes Lions Club, the League of Women Voters — any group that uses the Great Room.

Secretary Milligan forcefully objected to the idea that the Vietnam Veterans of America might be charged for use of the Great Room, in which they held a special film screening last year.

"I'm not saying the Board can't make exceptions," Herdrich said, "and the vets might be a great exception."

But when Hoffmann suggested that the Board could periodically review a "Board-approved" list, Silberhorn cautioned that too much subjectivity in the process could create legal problems.

Ultimately, the Board asked Herdrich and Sessler to fine tune their draft and bring it back to a future meeting.

Safety & Security

Director Hoffmann thanked volunteer Bill Carl, who built a shelter at the back gate for the electronics and computer that run the gate arms and cameras.

Hoffmann said he is seeking replacements for two members of the Neighborhood Watch Roving Patrol recently lost to illness. The commitment involves introductory training from Hoffmann and two three-to-four hour patrol shifts per month.

"My goal for this year is to have as many residents as possible identify a neighbor where they have a handshake deal to watch each other's property," he said "That is the core of neighborhood watch: it's neighbors watching out for neigh-

bors."

Hoffmann said he is actively exploring the recent suggestion that stop signs be placed at various locations on Longleaf Drive in order to help control speeding. Noting that he had already received thoughtful input from one resident, he asked that others interested in weighing in on the issue contact him.

Effective May 1, all SLWLA landowners will be required to have barcodes on their vehicles, Hoffmann reminded mem-

(See "Westside," p. 27)

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Westside Meeting

(Continued from page 27)

Manager's Report

Community Manager Joan Frost told the Directors that an agreement had been reached with Wingfield Properties, owner of Beacon Ridge Country Club, that will, by November, catch the firm up on past due payments toward the cost of gate security.

Frost said the office staff has been busy getting the annual dues billing out and will now turn its attention to billing for incidentals like mail boxes, boat and trailer storage, and boat slips at Johnson Point. Landowners will be able to pay their dues in monthly installments, if they desire, by using a coupon book included in the billing or a submitting paperwork included in the package to set up an automatic monthly bank draft.

Mail Delivery

In response to a question from Gene Lentz, Director Silberhorn said he and President Shepard had recently met with US Postal Service officials to discuss mail delivery options for the West Side. They explained that the existing Westside mail house was slated to be removed, which could result in hundreds of new customers seeking boxes at the West End post office.

"They think they could handle 800 more customers," Silberhorn said. "But, if it were 1,000 more, they would have to buy more land for additional parking."

That prospect set the USPS officials to analyzing options, which might include curbside delivery, cluster boxes, or a new Westside mailhouse. "The cost curve may tip in favor of them cooperating with us," Silberhorn said, adding that he felt this was something of a fresh start in the West Side's long-running negotiations with the Postal Service.

Other Business

Other business during the Tuesday, April 27 meeting of the SLWLA Board of Directors included:

- Community Manager Frost reported that she had rejected the application of a landowner for the use of Johnson Point for what was initially described as a family picnic, but had grown into a

fundraising event for the non-profit agency Moore Buddies. After explaining restrictions on non-resident use of Lake Auman, Frost asked the member to refile an accurate application. Herdrich asked that Frost bring the refiled application to the Board for consideration before approving it.

- Responding to a question from Bob Thomas, Director Hoffmann said that, for the time being, both the Seven Lakes and Seven Lakes West

Landowners Associations would, under an informal agreement, reciprocally honor each other's expired windshield stickers for entry at the gates. A permanent reciprocal agreement is still being worked out.

- Jean Downer told the Board during the public comment period that she felt their recent offer of a \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of restroom vandals sent the wrong message to the community. She said she felt Westsiders

with any information about the crime would come forward simply out of a sense of personal responsibility.

- Director Hoffmann reported that he and Frost had been working to refine the contract with Cedar Pines Landscaping to make sure there is an ample list of tasks to fill the company's forty-hour per week contract. Frost noted that they had recently gathered pinestraw from wooded Association property and spread it in

the beds in Lakeway Mall.

- The Board learned from Treasurer Joe Sikes that the Association's insurance policy will not cover the cost of repairing a bulkhead damaged by a brush fire on Pine Island.
- The Board approved the Seven Lakes' Sailing Club's Lake Auman race schedule for the coming year.
- At the request of Director Silberhorn, the Board approved designating CAS, Inc. as its registered agent.

Correction

We reported in our April 16 edition that "A group that has raised more than \$6,500 to help defray the cost of the Annual Fourth of July fireworks display asked the [SLWLA] Board to kick in the entire \$7,000 it had provisionally budgeted for fireworks in FY 2010-2011. But the Directors decided instead to stick with their previous agreement to match the group's contribution dollar for dollar."

While we reported accurately what was said during the Board Work Session, what was said wasn't entirely accurate.

Claire Czupryna, who led the fireworks fundraising effort, told The Times that her group raised a total of \$5,816 and never sought to have the Board kick in more than the promised dollar for dollar match.

As a result of the group's efforts, Westsiders can look forward to a \$11,632 fireworks display over Lake Auman this Independence Day.

Correction

We reported in our April 16 edition on a contribution made by Modern Woodmen to a benefit for the LeFave family, and, unfortunately, listed the wrong contact phone number for local Modern Woodmen manager Michael Bernard. He may be reached at 910-315-2378.

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 5)

meeting of interested parties interested in the Wagram water and sewer plant – including Moore, Scotland, and Robeson Counties - state officials offered to obtain funding to begin a preliminary engineering report; however, as of April 2010, there has been no progress in locating funds at the state level.

“There has been some backpedaling on finding funding,” County Manager Cary McSwain reported, noting that there are questions about the water quality of the Lumber River.

NC-Representative Jamie Boles recommended the county should contact the Rural Center for interest, McSwain said.

Sandhills Center budget request

Sandhills Center submitted a zero-increase proposed budget request of \$283,202, a budget figure that has remained unchanged for the last six years despite what CEO Victoria Whitt termed, “unprecedented cuts” last year of \$4.6 million from the state.

Those cuts - representing nineteen percent of service dollars - were offset by appropriating \$1.5 million from the fund balance and \$1.5 million in reductions to providers, Whitt said, and that additional anticipated cuts for the coming year will require appropriating even more from the fund balance.

Last year, Sandhills Center and FirstHealth initiated a contract to expand beds that allowed more people to be treated locally. Whitt said the Center also has partnerships with the Moore County Sheriff's Office, Sandhills Community College, and Moore County NAMI, to provide crisis intervention training for law enforcement officers.

Asked how a three to five percent budget reduction would affect Sandhills Center, Whitt said patients could expect longer waiting periods to be seen due to staffing reductions.

Moore County Schools budget request

Moore County Schools [MCS] requested no increase over the local Capital Outlay budget of \$1,133,950; but an increase in the total budget of \$1.5 million to offset necessary expenses incurred with opening two new county schools and four elementary schools building additions next Fall, plus \$375,000 to cover state-mandated increases to the health insurance and retirement rates.

Providing a grim review of state budget cuts over the last two years, Superintendent Dr. Susan Purser reported the schools budget absorbed a \$1.2 million reversion in 2007-2008, a \$2.5 million reduction in 2009-2010 – which resulted in the loss of fifty positions – and are anticipating additional cuts this year of at least \$1.1 million.

Citing the pending loss of \$5.2 million in Federal stimulus funding in FY 2011-2012, Purser said the total impact on Moore County Schools will be \$11.7 million in reductions, or 10.7%.

Chairman Tim Lea said while education is critical to the success and future of the county, that the Board has some “tough love” decisions to make this year.

“Cuts are hard things. We'll do everything we can to try to support what is in overall best

interest of the county, especially the children,” said Lea.

Sandhills Community College budget request

With the largest student enrollment in Sandhills Community College [SCC] forty-seven year history, President Dr. John Dempsey submitted a proposed \$4,228,224 budget.

Dempsey said while the budget includes a 2.2% increase, he considers it a flat-budget request because the \$92,000 budget increase simply reflects the state-mandated rate increases to health insurance and retirement.

Other Business

In other business on Monday, April 19, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Adopted the Moore County Water Pollution project ordinance; anticipated costs total \$32 million, with \$26 million in funding from state-revolving loans, and \$6 million in local capital reserve funds. Estimated expenditures include \$27.4 million in construction and \$1.3 million in engineering fees.
- Tabled a motion to approve changes to the county employee Longevity Fund bonus plan, pending further research into the cost impact of the various options presented. The

goal of the modified plan is to combine the longevity and service award programs.

- Approved a letter to the NC Department of Transportation on behalf of SCC, stating Moore County has no interest in the Westmoore Rest Area. NC-DOT will no longer maintain the facility and discussions regarding the future of the property have been ongoing between potters in the Seagrove area and SCC, which operates an adjacent campus.
- Approved a motion to move future budget amendment requests from the consent agenda to a position as a separate agenda item, which will allow for more careful analysis and consideration.
- Approved an agreement with Pinehurst to extend a one-year lease of the maintenance

yard property at Rattlesnake Trail for \$1. The facility is primarily used for county vehicle storage.

- Convened as the East Moore Water District to approve two purchases using USDA grant funds; \$48,000 for automating equipment, and up to \$15,000 for water quality monitoring equipment. Remaining grant funds of \$63,000 will be used for debt service payment.
- Adjusted the BOC meeting calendar for upcoming budget work sessions; budget presentation by County Manager Cary McSwain on May 3, Work Sessions on May 6 and May 20, a Public Hearing on May 17, with budget adoption scheduled for June 7. Optional Work Sessions may be scheduled May 13 and May 27.

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The call to the wild . . .

It must have been the call of the wild.

Her day had started as usual: breakfast in the kitchen, a scratch behind the ear, some general excavation of the yard, and then she hit pay dirt . . . or more probably, scat.

Whichever it was hardly mattered to Biscuit, the wonder hound. Joyously rolling in the mysterious mess, she suddenly smiled up at me with that puppy-charm and then bolted into the woods.

Biscuit? Biscuit!

Nothing, nada.

No bueno.

Now, I can cover ground fairly well, but she has the advan-

tage of four-paw drive. A flash of fur and she was gone.

I should have been upset but, truth be told, I was just plain old mad.

Mostly a Labrador retriever with hints of Chow Chow and, I'm just guessing here, some odd mixing of greyhound too, Biscuit spends more time by my side than any other creature. I feed her, I walk her, I brush her, I yell at her when she blocks the refrigerator...you know, we're bonded.

Now, I also have two children who are perfectly capable of ignoring my requests, so it pleases me immensely that the dog will at least occasionally follow a

simple command.

"Go clean your room, Lindsay," or "Let's start homework, Jack," clearly translates in kid-ese to pick up a toy, grab a book, or just demand food.

Whereas, "Get off the couch, fleabag" will actually result in positive action, well sometimes.

So you understand my frustration as I stood in the yard, hollering like a fool at the wind, the trees . . . but not the dog.

Luckily, I have some experience in canine matters, having served with a small Animal Control unit a long time ago in a universe, far, far away.

Giving up the hot pursuit in my slippers and robe – always a

good look for neighborhood entertainment – I stomped home,

straight back, a mile or so directly behind my house where the endless woods

pause, ever so briefly for a thin strip of road, before continuing on past another million acres of



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

fired up the Mommy-van, and decided to head her off at the pass.

I don't know typical behavior for lost children in the woods, but I do know dogs. Dogs run in a straight line — well, sometimes.

Sure enough I found her:

trees.

Leaping into the van, she again flashed that innocent puppy smile and collapsed on the floor, exhausted from her big adventure.

Call of the wild, indeed.

Residents have little to gain from incorporation

Dear Editor:

A little research shows that some of the most vocal proponents of incorporation do not live in Seven Lakes. They may say they are concerned about keeping our gates, but loss of the gates is not a personal issue for them and certainly not a commercial negative. For them it seems one of the main issues of incorporation is "state money" for their business roads.

One comment I read said that some tax money could be saved in case the roads within the gates became public. Whoa!

Sounds like someone is ready to shove the camel's nose under our tent. I suppose the next thing we will hear is that we should make all the roads public, so they could be upgraded and we could enjoy additional government regulations.

I agree with dissenters' comments that the cost estimates put forth to operate as a town appear underestimated. The federal government wants more of your money, so do "the folks" in Raleigh, and now the proponents of incorporation say just a few dollars more for local taxes.

If you believe it will only be a few dollars you probably wait up with Charlie Brown for the great pumpkin.

The incorporation proponents appear to want their business roads paved by public money and play on the fear that Pinehurst is ready to plunder Seven Lakes if the residents don't immediately rush to incorporation. I certainly don't want to be taken over by Pinehurst, but what is the benefit to the residents except to eliminate the anxiety of a Pinehurst takeover.

I have more anxiety about

rushing to the wrong decision or taking any action that allows our private residential areas to become public. We purchased our first house here nearly 30 years ago and one of the primary reasons was privacy. Without that privacy you will live with the booming stereos of cars driving down your street while their occupants throw beer bottles and whatnot on your lawns. And you will no longer allow your children and grandchildren to ride their bikes or walk to the pool alone, because who knows what pedophile may

be roaming the streets.

North Carolina is one of the very few remaining states that allow forced annexation. I suggest that those who want to dive into the bowels of incorporation put as much effort into getting legislation passed that will stop forced annexation. Then, we can continue to enjoy our privacy, not pay additional taxes, and those businesses which are hot for incorporation can pay for their own paving.

John Allen, CPA, CVA, CFF
Seven Lakes North

SEVEN
LAKES TIMES

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Letters to the
Editor



**Your letters
welcome!**

The Times welcomes letters from our readers, and we print most all we receive.

You will need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached.

We prefer email, but we also accept letters delivered by fax, or the US Postal Service. Or you can drop your letter off in the box outside our office at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, across from First Bank.

Letters longer than 300 words maybe returned to the author or edited for length.

Homework has been done on incorporation

Dear Editor:

I read with interest the comments of several SLWLA directors on the subject of "incorporation." Speaking at the conclusion of a special budget review meeting on April 6th, one was quoted as saying "there is a lot to be said for incorporation but all the facts haven't been laid out yet." On the contrary, the research has been done, and the facts have been laid out as anyone who has visited the web site IncorporateSevenLakes.Com or spoken to the principals will attest.

Another board member, while

acknowledging that the founders of this initiative have done a lot of research, feels that the response from the community has been largely "emotional" and that many look inaccurately "at incorporation as a way to solve many of the financial strains on the gated communities." I don't know of any who feel that if we incorporate and retain our gates, our financial problems would be solved. Nor have I heard of many who would be willing to do away with our gates to resolve any such problems. IncorporateSevenLakes.Com

is built around the preservation of our gated communities.

Another commented, "if you want to keep the gates, incorporation isn't going to give you very much?" I would differ. It would

put to rest any fear of involuntary costly annexation. Over time, incorporating Seven Lakes will result in a downtown in which we all can take pride, and one which will enhance our real estate values.

Powell Bill funds enabling us to repair our public pot-hole ridden roads would become available. Police coverage could be initiated and speeding controlled. And, if requested by a plurality, an application for an ABC store and the additional funds it would generate could be made.

Also, let's not forget that as the

third largest town in Moore County, we would have an influential "seat at the table" in county affairs.

So, before we give too much credence to the published "off-the-cuff" comments of others or fall prey to questionable conclusions, let's do our own due diligence and set aside Thursday evening May 6th at 7:00 pm, to attend a public meeting on incorporation at the West End Elementary School Gym.

The special guest at this meeting will be Ms. Kara Millonzi, co-author of the book "The Incorporation of a North Carolina Town." Let's pose our questions, and if satisfied with the answers of those who have dedicated so much of their time and effort to this concept, sign the petition to incorporate.

Ron Erskine
Seven Lakes North



Incorporation pros and cons

To the Editor:

Incorporation Pros & Cons

If you own a business in the area of Seven Lakes, which is proposed for incorporation, I can see nothing but pros, especially if your residence is outside the area.

The reason being that the people who live in the gated areas, as well as others living within the proposed area, will each have to pay hundreds of dollars a year, in addition to what they already pay in Association dues.

This money will go to provide better roads in *The Business Area*, beautification throughout *The Business Area*, police pro-

tection in *The Business Area*, (Remember, we voted it out, inside the gates; we didn't need it.)

And last but not least, another layer of government for both *The Business Area* and inside the gates.

The government would be paid and have full powers of taxation, assessment, eminent domain and everything else we know and love about government.

I can see no cons for the business area.

If you live inside one of the gated areas of Seven Lakes, the pros I see are that the business area, around which we all

live will look a little nicer, the potholes patched and I'm sure a new doughnut shop will move in with all the extra police in the area.

As far as becoming incorporated before Pinehurst gets us, this is nothing but a "Red Herring." They, Pinehurst, would have to go against their agreement with Foxfire and jump the town of West End, also furnish services to all the open spaces, in between with no tax base. Not in many life times, I'm sure.

The cons for us living in the gated areas: The outlay of hundreds of additional dollars a year to do improvements in the business area of Seven Lakes because the businesses that are shouldering the load for these things are looking for someone to pay the freight.

Also, another layer of government which will not be happy unless they are passing some bill, ordinance, or tax, to mess with someone.

Oh well, this is only my opinion and I'm sure others feel different.

God bless them, too.

Phil Thingstad
Seven Lakes North

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Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

Flowers open, birds flourish, post-embryonic leaves emerge from trees, and four-legged small animals start scampering across your and the neighboring acreage.

At Springtime, love of life is boosted. The freshness of the morning reaches clear inside you. It's rebirth. It's almost as though that's when New Year's Day should be.

And what of the sky that looks us over each day but some of us seemingly don't

take – or have – the time to unhurriedly examine closely.

Are there many of us who sometimes stand outside our homes shortly after sunrise and almost unknowingly raise our arms skyward in silent appreciation as we see a hawk soaring gracefully, silhouetted against the rising, slightly cloud-flicked orb? Yes, only a few instants' worth of beauty created by circumstances.

Yet, it's a good thing to realize that we can all benefit from at least some intermittent touches of refreshment like this to appreciate, even more, the creation that made it possible.

Kudos to Carolina Car Care

Dear Editor:

Tuesday could have started badly; however, thanks to Car-

olina Car Care, it started with a minor glitch, smiles, and speedy professionalism.

Getting into my car on Tuesday morning, slightly before 7:00 am, I noticed one of my tires was quite low. I drove directly to Carolina Car Care, which was already bustling. In less than 10 minutes my car was on a lift, a

screw was removed from the tire, the tire was plugged, and I was on my way. I wasn't even late to work!

Thank you Carolina Car Care for the excellent service you have given our family all these years!

Lee Foreman

Seven Lakes Forum

The next Forum is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 4:00 pm, on the upper level of the West Side Park Community Center.

The guest speaker will be Trey Waters, pharmacist and owner of the Prescription Shoppe in Seven Lakes and Aberdeen.

The role of the pharmacist focuses on helping patients better understand their medications as related to their disease state.

By doing so, they try to encourage the pursuit of wellness and health instead of 'running away' from disease through the use of medications.

He will address the topic entitled "Are We Being Over-medicated?"

All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. This session completes the 2009-2010 Forum season.

For more information, contact Bill Mamel 673-8970.

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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

each director overseeing one or more. Director responsibilities are limited to oversight and they may opt to act alone or appoint a committee member to coordinate activities.

Zielsdorf recommended that a non-director leading a committee should be designated as a "liaison," since ultimate responsibility for the committee rests with the director, except for Judicial Committee, which is a standing committee managed separately from the Board.

Ed Chapman was appointed to chair the Judicial Committee, with members Dean Charles, Carolyn Follansbee, Ken Keating, Frank Krohn, and alternate Bob Racine.

Director Melinda Scott was appointed to chair the Architectural Review Board, with members including former SLLA director Sally Kindsvatter, Mike Cummins, Don Fentzlaff, and Edie Starkey.

Former SLLA director Laura Douglass was appointed to serve as liaison to the Recreation Committee, with members Bob Racine, Jackie Wells, and Jana Snowball.

Other current committees include Finance, Capital Infrastructure, Community Standards, Grounds, and Security and Safety.

Capital Infrastructure

Director Bud Shaver will oversee the Capital Infrastructure Committee and will be drafting a comprehensive five to ten year plan detailing timelines and estimated expenses to renovate and/or replace all major capital items.

Currently, the committee is researching replacement costs for the Sequoia Island bulkhead. Once in hand, those figures will

be forwarded to the Finance Committee for budgeting purposes.

Shaver reported he is also compiling a list of all community building and structures: When were they built? When was the last time major construction work was completed? When will they need to be replaced?

Finance

The Finance Committee met for a three-hour marathon meeting in April, reported Treasurer Denny Galford.

He said some minor errors will be corrected this month in anticipation of closing the books. Accrual basis reporting will be picked up by the Talis Management system beginning May 1. Galford said the committee had reviewed, in depth, an item related to employee vacation and sick leave.

"Talis responded, and we all are comfortable that the transition will go as smoothly as possible," Galford said, noting that internal controls applicable at present will be revised to fit into the operations of the on-site manager.

Road Paving

All paving projects have been placed on indefinite hold until a cost estimate for road repairs on Firetree Lane at Echo Dam is received.

Southsider Mike Cummins, a civil engineer, submitted an action plan to permanently repair the erosion problem; however, Cochran said the project must first be approved by the state safety board.

"We had anticipated an easy fix, but it looks like it might be a much more expensive project," reported Cochran.

Architectural Review Board

ARB had a busy month, Director Scott reported, granting approval for three additions, new fences, new roofs, an exterior paint project, and a revised landscaping plan.

In addition, the committee is revising standard forms to comply with recommendations made by Talis Management. In particular, Scott said, a new written notification for building contractors was developed. Upon signing, the contractor attests they have received a copy of SLLA builder's guidelines, that footings will not be laid without office notification for inspection of setbacks requirements, and that they acknowledge that failure to comply with inspections and SLLA rules may result in loss of part or all of the compliance fee.

Recreation

A recent inspection of the three community playgrounds resulted in a lengthy 'to do' list, reported Director Bruce Keyser, Jr., including removal of the red metal slide from Northside Park.

"Forty work orders were issued following the safety inspection," Keyser said. "There were a lot of things that needed to be done, items to be repaired and those involving liability we decided to remove."

Safety and Security

Director Chuck Mims said he has initiated a review of all security cameras in use in the community to determine the quality of images, whether a better solution is possible, and if the units can be wireless.

In addition, Mims is reviewing the Standard Operating Procedures for security and will begin training Roving Patrol.

An advertisement for a seasonal Boat Patrol officer has been posted.

Community Standards

With Talis database and tracking systems now in place, Director Kent Droppers said the Association has a real opportunity to improve compliance with community standards. He reported seventy-eight open items were reviewed in April.

"As we move forward, we will try to spruce up the community more and more and get every property into compliance with the rules and regs," Droppers said.

(See "SLLA" p. 34)



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Soup and Packaged Dinner Calendar for May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Tuscan White Bean Soup ♥ Baked Spaghetti Dinner	4 Tomato Basil Soup ♥ Chicken Divan Dinner	5 Chicken Brunswick Soup Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	6 Beef Vegetable Soup ♥ Sesame Salmon Dinner ♥	7 Cream of Zucchini Soup ♥ Smothered Pork Chops Dinner
10 Sausage & Bean Soup Shepherd's Pie Dinner	11 Tomato & Chicken with Tortellini Soup Chicken Parmesan Dinner	12 Vegetable Soup ♥ Two-Bean Enchiladas Dinner ♥	13 Asparagus Vichyssoise ♥ Crab Cake Dinner ♥	14 New England Clam Chowder Beef Burgundy Dinner
17 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Italian Meatloaf Dinner	18 Split Pea with Ham Soup Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	19 White Bean Chicken Chili Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	20 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Spice-Crusted Tilapia Dinner ♥	21 Manhattan Clam Chowder Swiss Steak Dinner
24 Chicken Dumpling Soup ♥ Salisbury Steak Dinner	25 Chilled Cucumber Soup Chicken Enchiladas Dinner ♥	26 Black Bean Soup Herb-Roasted Dinner	27 Roasted Corn & Tomato Bisque Basil Shrimp with Feta Dinner ♥	28 <div>CLOSED</div>
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Castrogiovanni takes club Back to Basics

by Irene Baumgartner

The Seven Lakes Computer Club had the pleasure of a second visit from Craig Castrogiovanni (Gio) of G&D Computers in Seven Lakes.

He continued with the Back to Basics topic and began the presentation with an overview of what the group had been learning at the last three monthly

meetings.

The April presentation concentrated on learning about Maintenance which covered the physical case maintenance, the purging of files and ScanDisk/Check Disk. He stressed how bad smoke, dust, pet hair, dander & cobwebs are for our computers. Castrogiovanni demonstrated with an open PC

Tower showing the actual components and advising everyone on how to clean them.

The first and very important thing everyone needs to know is to make sure you are grounded before working on the computer. You can purchase Anti Static Straps or secondly keep one hand on the computer chassis at all times while working.

Castrogiovanni then discussed the importance of purging files and showed everyone how to do that. Users should purge all temporary files & log errors, but never check the Compress Old Files box unless you have a specific reason to do that. This would also be a good time to update your software to keep it current.

ScanDisk/Check Disk should also be done, checking the Automatically Fix & Repair box and the check the Scan & Recover Bad Sectors box. Once you click Start, it will run the next time you turn on your computer.

If you get a message saying it can't be fixed, then backup your files as this is a sign your hard drive might be starting to fail. It is good practice to backup your files daily, weekly or monthly onto a disk to keep it safe anyway. He recommended that we should maintain our computers as we do our cars for optimal performance.

The last item Castrogiovanni mentioned is a web site called Techrepublic.com, which is useful because it is a great resource for finding computer information. Once again, the computer group learned a lot from Castrogiovanni and looks forward to seeing him again in the future for another presentation.

SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 33)

Grounds Committee

The newly created Grounds Committee has been tasked with taking a comprehensive look at all common areas and then identifying the best and most efficient way to maintain those areas.

Droppers said he had met with Shaver to glean knowledge from his work with maintenance, and that he is particularly interested in making sure that any future landscape plantings require minimal water and care, but will still be representative of the beauty of the area.

"I want to pick the right plant for the right area," said Droppers.

Other Business

In other business on Wednesday, April 28, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board:

Responded to Northsider Donna Fentzlaff's question about excessive noise at Sequoia Point. Cochran said that nuisance activity, such as noise pollution, violates community rules. Shaver recommended that residents should contact security or call the gate to report such violations.

Heard from Northsider Ron Erskine that two dogs were running loose at Sequoia Point. He witnessed one defecating on the beach. The dogs are not owned by a SLLA member. Zielsdorf said previous research suggested SLLA has no authority to

control non-resident animals, though county animal control can be alerted. He asked Cochran to confirm whether SLLA had any legal authority over outside animals.

The Board went into Closed Session to discuss legal issues immediately following the meeting.

The next SLLA Board Work Session will be held Monday, May 3 at 8:30 am.



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Foxfire

(Continued from front page)

Councilwoman Leslie Frusco took a middle of the road stance, suggesting that a greater police presence could reduce speeding and serve as a crime deterrent, but said she was unwilling to approve the position if money would not be available to continue the program.

"Adding a part-time officer is not going to eliminate the potential for crime. You could have 24/7 coverage and you wouldn't eliminate the potential, but is it a waste of money? Or could this help cut down on some speeding?" Frusco asked.

"Whether or not we can afford it remains to be seen until we get through the budget process at least for next year," she said.

Mayor George Erickson said he supported hiring a relief officer only, "If that is what we're doing, than fine."

Road paving schedule

With \$45,000 in accumulated Powell Bill funds available, Councilman Vic Koos presented two proposed road paving sched-

ules for consideration. Both recommended paving Pine Top Court, Pine Ridge Court, Pine Ridge Drive, and Pine Glen Court; however, the plans differed on whether to include Wildwood Lane or S. Wrenn Place in the first year.

Wildwood Lane, an interior cul-de-sac, needs substantial work – estimated at \$22,217. As presented, the option to include Wildwood was estimated at a total cost of \$50,195, which would surpass available funds.

After going around the table, the Council unanimously approved Koos' second option which included paving the recommended roads and S. Wrenn Place for a cost not to exceed \$40,000, with the expectation that Wildwood Lane would be prioritized to number one in next year's paving schedule.

In a related discussion, the Council reviewed recommendations offered by consultant Tom Collins on a badly deteriorating section of Woodland Circle.

Collins had presented two

options: to repair potholes and overlay the existing pavement at an estimated cost of \$35,000, or contract for a total engineering and road replacement of that section estimated at \$90,000 plus engineering fees.

"My concern is strictly dollars. We have \$50,000 that will be available that can be assessed," said Frusco. "Anything more will come out of village funds and tax payer money."

2010-2011 FY Budget

For FY 2010-2011, Frusco projected a \$15,000 decrease in revenue next year due to losses in sales tax and conclusion of the Grande Pines assessments.

Frusco said the proposed budget will not include salary

for a planning administrator; however, funding will be set aside towards a potential agreement currently under discussion that would allow the Village of Pinehurst to perform that function for Foxfire.

She recommended setting aside \$6,000 for streets, and explained there needed to be some contingency funding to cover possible storm damage.

Frusco reported pool expenditures would increase \$3,000; public safety requested a \$15,500 increase and a fire budget increase of \$7,600 was contractually-obligated, for a total budget increase of \$38,400 which could be offset by \$40,000 in potential administrative savings by eliminating the planning and

zoning position.

"We are looking at having expenses including the shortfall on revenue as a break-even. Expense increases would be off-set by decreases in other areas," said Frusco.

However, she expressed significant concern over Woodland Circle Extension assessment collections.

"If all the property owners go on a five-year payment plan and we discount those we think may not pay, I anticipate collecting \$135,000," said Frusco, which is far short of the \$290,000 loan payment due in April.

"Because of this, I am not looking to spend down the fund balance from current levels

(See "Foxfire," p. 37)

Teacher

(Continued from front page)

ing an eight-year break from teaching to raise her children. She and her family live in Carthage and, in addition to teaching, Mashburn serves as a youth leader for her church, teaches Sunday School, and

coaches recreation league basketball.

"I have an ability to teach children and I want to keep on doing it. The children know I love it and that I really truly care for them," she said.



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Foxfire

(Continued from page 35)

except Powell Bill Funds. I cannot support any budget that includes paying down the fund balance," she said.

Still under construction, the Woodland Circle Extension project has thus far come in under budget, explained Frusco, which could leave approximately \$150,000 in leftover money. She recommended two options; return any remaining funds to the bank to reduce the loan principal, or keep those funds for use on other like/kind road paving projects.

"It's a long drawn-out process to get loans. If we do this [keep the funds], that portion of the loan and interest becomes the Village's responsibility and will not be included with the assessment, said Frusco. "This can be a way to fund over the next three years, a \$50,000 annual budget to resurface our streets."

Additionally, Frusco reminded the Council that a daily fine has been levied against the paving contractor at Woodland Circle for going over schedule — though a grace period has already been approved for inclement weather delays.

"We need to consider, that weather conditions created a big problem, but we have fiduciary responsibilities to those property owners," said Frusco.

Fee schedule

After reviewing other municipal fee schedules, Village Clerk

Lisa Kivett recommended increasing the permit fee to enlarge an existing driveway and noted that current ordinances do not limit the size or width of a drive, only the surfacing material.

Frusco suggested the fee should be commensurate to the amount of work required to review and approve permits, including determining setbacks and site inspections.

"I hate to see Foxfire be the least expensive place in the county to build or close to it," said Frusco. "When we cut fees low, we may encourage building, but does it encourage what we want built?" she asked.

Water aerobics program — on the chopping block

Last year's water aerobics instructor is not available and a replacement has not been identified, reported Frusco.

"This person has to be put on payroll to be covered by insurance....I just don't know if it is worth it," she said.

Participants were charged \$2 per aerobics class or \$35 for the full-season [twice per week], with an average class size of ten.

She noted that a one-hour dedicated adult swim time has already been approved for two days each week this Summer and recommended dropping water aerobics as a planned recreational program.

Yard waste facility

A large amount of debris was abandoned at the yard waste facility. Koos reported that a Foxfire resident's lot had been cleared and that a commercial service disposed of the waste, using a key to access the facility after-hours.

Foxfire Village contracts for waste removal at \$100 per load. Lauer asked if the resident would be fined for the violation but no motion for a penalty was called.

However, the Council did agree on several new strategies to curb misuse at the facility: the lock will be changed, access to keys will be strictly limited and will require a sign-out signature, and there will be no more after-hours access by request. Residents and clubs must adhere to scheduled public hours.

"I'm not accusing anybody with keys, but this is just not how it's done in other villages. We have vehicles and water department equipment in that area and my feeling is, there shouldn't be a bunch of people with keys," said Koos.

Other Business

In other business on Thursday,

April 22, the Foxfire Village Council discussed a proposed golf cart ordinance which would allow carts to drive alongside but not on public streets with a posted speed limit greater than 35 MPH, and to limit golf cart use to within two hours after sunset.

Coker explained the proposed ordinance was developed to limit Village liability in case of an

accident. A public hearing to discuss the ordinance will be scheduled in June.

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& Saunders
Real Estate**

7 LAKES WEST GOLF FRONT



188 PAULA COURT \$394,500
3Bd/2.5Ba MLS#137025

7 LAKES NORTH WATERFRONT



177 FIRETREE LANE \$212,000
3Bd/2Ba MLS#133858

7 LAKES WEST WITH POOL



148 MORRIS DR \$364,000
3Bd/2.5Ba MLS#135504

SEVEN LAKES SOUTH



147 W DEVONSHIRE \$169,000
3Bd/2Ba MLS#137134



LINDA CRISWELL
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www.lindacriswell.com
Your 7 Lakes Neighbor!

116 Sunset Way - Seven Lakes North



April's Featured Home
\$299,900 3 Bd/3.5 Ba

Space Galore in this water front home on Lake Echo. All primary living areas located on main level with tons of extra space on lower level; including heated workshop and storage space. Beautiful hardwood and tile flooring. Great kitchen with trivection oven and a water view. Too many appointments to list.



7 LAKES NORTH WATERFRONT



120 SUNSET WAY \$239,000
3Bd/2.5Ba MLS#137194

7 LAKES NORTH WATERFRONT



103 DOGWOOD LN \$229,000
3Bd/2Ba MLS#136125

FOXFIRE



12 WILDWOOD LANE \$249,000
3Bd/2.5Ba MLS#136654

EASTWOOD WITH ACREAGE



240 OAKHURST VISTA \$550,000
5Bd/3.5Ba MLS#137441



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Your 7 Lakes Neighbor!

142 Banbridge - SL West Golf Front



April's Featured Home
\$389,000 3 Bd/3 Ba

Golf Front Living At Its Finest! Spacious and exhilarating Golf Front views. This home has all that you would ever want, living on one of the most exciting greens in Beacon Ridge. Large kitchen, living and dining spaces with exterior screened porch and deck facing the golf course. The expansive walkout provides access to the back yard and more views of the green and fairway.



40%
UP TO FORTY PERCENT

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Jim Leach/Agent

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