

Special Meeting set on Dam Road

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

A special meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] to vote on reopening the road across Lake Auman Dam has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 15 in the Great Room of the Westside Park Community Center.

After hearing from Secretary Karen Milligan that 218 members in good standing had signed petitions calling for a special meeting, the six members of the SLWLA Board of

Directors present for their Tuesday, November 9 Work Session approved the December date and appointed the Association's outside attorney, Stephen Later, to chair the meeting and serve as parliamentarian.

Though it is clear the meeting will be held on December 15, that Later will chair it, and that it will concern the reopening of the dam road, few other details are available. Speaking with *The Times* after the Work Session, Legal (See "Special," p. 32)

Sikes resigns from Westside Board

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Joe Sikes has resigned as Director and Treasurer of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA]. The Westside Board appointed Don Friert to serve out the two-plus years remaining in Sikes' term as Director and also named him Treasurer during the Tuesday, November 9 Work Session.

President Ron Shepard announced that Sikes had

tendered his resignation on Saturday, November 6, and thanked Sikes for his service. Shepard did not elaborate on the reasons Sikes stepped down, although the former Treasurer had outlined the concerns underlying his action in an open letter to the membership.

A copy of that document provided to *The Times* suggests that Sikes found himself in frequent conflict with his fellow Directors, at least (See "Sikes," p. 29)

Handsome Molly



West End Elementary reading dog, Molly, and her owner Nancy Kling of Seven Lakes West were honored by the Moore County Board of Education for their outstanding volunteer service. [See story on page 6.]

IncorporateSevenLakes.com drops effort to create town

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

IncorporateSevenLakes.com will not be presenting the North Carolina General Assembly with a petition this month aimed at making Seven Lakes a town.

"We have no plans to submit a petition," Randy Merritt told *The Times*. Merritt, one of three Seven Lakes business owners who spearheaded the incorporation effort, added "It's effectively dead, as far as we are concerned."

Merritt, Darrell Marks, and Vann Joyce introduced the idea of incorporating Seven Lakes and McLendon Hills — while keeping the com-

munities' gates intact — in March, touching off a months-long community-wide debate about whether — and how — Seven Lakes could become a town.

The group rapidly attract-

ed several hundred signatories to their incorporation petition, but, in the long run, fell short of the minimum 596 signatures needed to present their proposal to the

(See "Incorporation," p. 17)

Times Thanksgiving Hiatus

The Times is going to try something a little different this Fall. Like most of the Boards and Councils we cover, we're going to take some time off for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

So we'll be skipping the edition we had scheduled for Thanksgiving week, which means our next paper will be published on Friday, December 10. The deadline for news, ads, and announcements will be Friday, December 3.

A very Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours from all of us at *The Seven Lakes Times*!

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County deems Seven Lakes pit bulls ‘vicious’

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Two pit bull terriers that reside in the Sunset Way area of Seven Lakes North have been deemed vicious after an investigation by Moore County Animal Control. In a telephone interview

with *The Times*, Community Manager Alina Cochran said the Association is taking the appropriate steps to resolve the matter.

Late in October, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board heard from Northsider Edith Swigart that her leashed dog had been attacked in the street by the two dogs, apparently after their electronic invisible fence collars had failed.

Animal Control Officer Bryant Voss investigated the complaint and determined that the two dogs in question had also attacked another resident's animal a year ago.

"The first time a dog attacks a person or pet, we say shame on the dog," Voss told *The Times*. "

"The second time a dog attacks, we say shame on the owner — because you know the potential of the ani-

mal."

Voss explained that the county has an informal "three strikes and you're out" policy on vicious dogs.

"If there is a third attack," he said, "that is pure neglect, and we will do what we have to do and remove them at that point."

Once deemed vicious by Moore County, the owner is given fourteen days to construct an appropriate outdoor enclosure or to make arrangements for the animal to be secured at all times — housed indoors, supervised when outdoors, and only allowed off-property when leashed and muzzled.

SLLA rules, however, are more restrictive.

In fact, two vastly different regulations have come under consideration in recent meetings between Voss, Cochran, and Directors

Melinda Scott and Chuck Mims.

First, the county's requirement for a secure outdoor enclosure with a six-foot chain link fence, roof, and concrete pad would not be allowed by Architectural Review Board [ARB] standards.

Secondly, SLLA rules stip-

ulate that household pets shall be kept so as not to become a nuisance, that the keeping of a vicious animal is prohibited, and that it is unlawful for any owner or custodian to maintain a vicious animal in the community, irrespective of whether said animal is on a leash or otherwise confined.

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@sevenlaketimes.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Dec 3	Dec 10
Dec 17	Dec 24

2011

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

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

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Alzheimer's Support Group

The Seven Lakes Alzheimer's/Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Chapel in the Pines on Seven Lakes Drive. For more information, call 673-5493.

Come to the Merry Market!


The popular Merry Market sponsored by St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church will take place on Saturday, November 20 beginning at 9:00 a.m. and running through 4:00 p.m.

The Merry Market this year is featuring the works of 14 area crafters of wonderful jewelry, festive candles, baskets and a host of other items. Also take advantage of the huge bake sale of cake, cookies and all manner of baked goods.

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No federal inmates to be housed in county jail

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

While frequently at odds over the location, size, and construction scheduling of the new Public Safety and Detention Center complex in downtown Carthage, the five member Board of County Commissioners recently found themselves on common ground -- unanimously approving a resolution that prohibits housing Federal inmates in Moore County, except as required by law.

The \$29.2 million detention center has drawn concern from local residents that some of its 192 beds could be used to house Federal prisoners; however, a straw poll conducted by Commissioner Nick Picerno revealed universal opposition to such action from all five commissioners.

As initially drafted, the resolution only restricted Federal inmates at the new facility, but Chairman Tim Lea asked for the text to be amended to include restrictions at both the old and new jail facilities in Carthage.

County Attorney Misty Leland cautioned the commissioners that local law cannot supersede Federal law and explained that exceptions to the resolution would include Federal inmates held for extradition or those held for committing a Federal crime in Moore County.

During Public Comment,

Carthage resident Burt Patrick spoke against the resolution arguing that, in previous meetings, Chief Deputy Neil Godfrey, of the Moore County Sheriff's Office, has repeatedly stated that Federal prisoners cannot be housed in Moore County without the Board's permission.

In addition, Patrick addressed the proposed \$52 million bond that will be used to construct the new county facilities. She said her research on the status of the county's application with the local government commission, found that the bond request totaled \$32.8 million, with a total indebtedness of \$29 million.

"I don't understand why the numbers don't jibe," Patrick said. "It is your moral obligation to taxpayers to have your numbers straight."

Recognitions

County Manager Cary McSwain was commended for his service to Moore County. In presenting the award, Commissioner Morgan said that during McSwain's four-year tenure, he had brought stability and professionalism back into the workplace and worked tirelessly to promote partnerships and create a strong and cohesive leadership team.

"No one can make any good accomplishments without a good team," McSwain said.

"This is demonstrated by the miles and miles of accomplishments we've made. I can't say enough about the employees of this county."

Cancer survivor Eli Arroyo-Allen, Moore County's public information officer, and several other county employees were thanked by the Commissioners for their participation in Breast Cancer Awareness month activities

held in October. Fundraising activities at the Moore County employees' Family Fun Day generated \$2,200 for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure organization. In particular, Arroyo-Allen was acknowledged as an inspiration as a national ambassador in the Pink Together campaign and for reaching out locally to Latina women. 2010 Governor's Volunteer

Service Award winners Judie Wiggins, James Kilpatrick, and Stephanie Carey of Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills were honored by the County Commissioners for their extraordinary work.

Wiggins was honored with the Director of Volunteers award and also the Moore County RSVP Medallion Award for amassing the high-
(See "Commissioners," p. 26)



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Foxfire swears in new K-9 police officer



Foxfire Police Officer Chad Shue with Ruger at West Pine Elementary School.

by **Laura Douglass**
Times Reporter

Fully trained and certified, Ruger, a five-year-old Czech shepherd was sworn in on Tuesday, November 9, as the newest member of the Foxfire Police Department.

Initiated over a year ago, Foxfire's K9 program started with the donation of a puppy and assistance from Sandhills K9.

Unfortunately, after several months of training, the puppy named Asia was unable to pass the required certifications and simply did not exhibit the drive necessary to serve as a police dog. Chief Mike Campbell said she was placed in a good home, but that left the program was in limbo.

Through a stroke of good luck, K2 Solutions, another local training facility that primarily works with military dogs, heard that an Indiana Sheriff's office had a certified K9 available and rec-

ommended the dog to the Foxfire Police.

Worth an estimated \$16,000 to \$18,000 in training and equipment, Campbell was able to negotiate for the purchase of Ruger and his equipment for the ridiculously low sum of \$500. He explained that the Indiana force had undergone a major personnel change and their K9 program was eliminated with one dog retired and the other being Ruger.

A dual-trained K9 officer, he can perform searches for both people and narcotics, and is also trained to attack on command. Intimidating in size but the perfect gentleman when in good company, Ruger was a big hit at West Pine Elementary during a recent K9 demonstration during Red Ribbon Week.

While on-duty with Sgt. Chad Shue, he has already proved his mettle by alerting
(See "Foxfire," p. 27)

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McGee treats sleep apnea, TMJ, migraines

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Eighteen million adults in the United States have been diagnosed with Obstructive Sleep Apnea, and an esti-

mated thirty to forty million more suffer from the condition, yet remain undiagnosed and untreated.

Dr. Shannon McGee, DDS, of Carolina Dental Sleep Cen-

ter in Aberdeen, specializes in treating obstructive sleep apnea, TMJ disorders – a catch all term for facial pain related concerns, and also headaches and migraines.

Recently, he partnered with Dr. Pete McKay and will be available by appointment to treat patients in Seven Lakes for several days each month.

While frequent and loud snoring can be benign, it is often a symptom of a sleep disorder. Statistically speaking, forty percent of adult men snore and, within that percentage, forty percent have OSA. Other risk factors include obesity and people with large necks, regardless of the reason.

When a person is having a sleep apnea episode, McGee explained, breathing ceases for periods greater than ten seconds and patients with the disorder can have hundreds of episodes each night.

“When apnea occurs, the brain sends a signal to wake up enough to resume normal breathing. During these ‘awake’ periods, you’re not getting good sleep. Basically, you are waking every minute or so all night long,” said McGee.

As a result, obstructive sleep apnea [OSA] is known to greatly increase the risk for heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular concerns, as well as to cause extremely hazardous conditions on the roadway from exhausted drivers. In addition, when breathing ceases the heart is forced to work harder and it is estimated that fifty percent of people with high blood pressure also have OSA.

A military dentist for twenty years, McGee retired in 2008 and opened his private office specializing in treat-

(See “McGhee,” p. 19)



Dr. Pete McKay welcomes Dr. Shannon McGee to his practice in Seven Lakes Business Village.



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Nancy Kling & Molly honored by School Board

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Her big brown eyes were serious, but Molly’s wagging tail revealed her excitement upon receiving the Moore County Schools Growing to Greatness Volunteer of the Month award along with her owner, Westsider Nancy Kling. The team was honored at the Monday, November 8 meeting of the Board of Education.

A nine-year-old Welsh corgi, Molly is the longest serving participant in the ‘Tail Waggin Tutors – Children Reading to Dogs’ program and is the only active member of the 2006 inaugural class of the Luther and Friends Canine Visitors Bureau CARE program.

Each week, Molly and Kling visit West End Elementary to assist First and Second grade students with improving their reading literacy skills. In addition, Kling also volunteers with the Fourth grade Pet Responsibility program.

The MCS Board also recognized Pinehurst residents Mert Smits and Mollie Holtzman-Hipp with Volunteer of the Month awards in November.

Smits, a retired educator, stays active in the classroom teaching debate with the Academically and Intellectually Gifted [AIG] program at West Pine Middle School. Holtzman-Hipp is a member of the West Pine Elementary

School PTA and delivers weekly Backpack Pals supplies, coordinates the school yearbook, and initiated the Box Tops for Education program.

Seven Pinecrest High School students were recognized for their achievement in the National Merit Scholarship program. Each year, approximately 1.5 million students nationwide compete, with the top 50,000 being recognized. Shannon Potter, Ceci Weibert, and Andrew Sobeiro scored in the top 16,000, qualifying as Semi-finalists. Also recognized are Commended Students, Emily Rolland, Megan Fruchte, Robert Edens, and Garrett Berk.

American Education Week

Moore County Schools will celebrate American Education Week, November 14-20, through featured guest speakers and special classroom activities that recognize the outstanding accomplishments and value of public education.

To coincide with the week’s festivities, a Hall of Fame banquet hosted by the Moore County Public Education Foundation will be held Thursday, November 18, to honor MCS graduates who have made significant and lasting contributions to the community.

The MCS Board of Education was also thanked for their service, receiving cards

and thank you cards written by students. In addition, each of the eight members of the Board was asked to select three books to be placed in a MCS library.

“As one of only two elected bodies that represent the entire County, the Board faces challenges on a daily, weekly, monthly, and annual basis,” said Schools Superintendent Dr. Susan Pursuer. “The citizens of Moore can be proud of their excellent and conscientious leadership.”

Election results

Incumbent candidates Charles Lambert and Dale Frye retained their seats on the Board of Education following elections on Tuesday, November 2. They will be

joined by newcomers Enola Lineberger and Ed Dennison.

Frye will return for a third term, receiving the most votes in the race for one of three at-large seats. He was followed by Lineberger and Dennison, who beat out candidates Karen Wicker and incumbents Sue Black and Pamela Thompson. Lambert defeated Johnnie McNeill, and will serve a third term in the District 3 seat.

Black, an eighteen year veteran of the Board, served on the legislative, policy, and strategic planning committees. With over 1,445 of continuing education credits under her belt, last year she was named to the NC School Board Association Scholar’s Circle.

Thompson, who served as Vice Chair of the Board this year, worked on the policy, appeals, facilities, strategic planning, and curriculum committees. She obtained a Certificate of Achievement with the NC School Board Association for completing 180 hours of continuing education.

Quarterly financial update

With budget amendments totaling \$251,969, the current budget stands at \$59,731,129, reported Chief Finance Officer Mike Griffin.

There are no changes in the Local Current Fund at \$26,260,140, or the Federal Fund at \$13,405,463, though Griffin noted he anticipates

(See “Schools,” p. 18)



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5237Close to Clubhouse\$47,500	3156 & 4107Waterfront\$145,000

Board approves home occupations language

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Concluding months of discussion, the Moore County Planning Board approved several text amendments related to home occupations during its Thursday, November 2 meeting, setting guidelines for both standard home

occupations and intensive home businesses.

Initiated last March after Planning staff recommended a review and update of the existing ordinances, the approved amendments stipulate that a standard home business may utilize up to twenty-five percent of the

gross floor area of the principal residence, while an intensive home business can utilize up to fifty percent of the gross floor area of the principal residence. In addition, a non-resident employee is allowed for intensive use.

Applications for standard

home occupations will be reviewed and approved at the Planning staff level, while intensive home business requests must be approved by the Planning Board.

Action on the recommended text amendments had been tabled in October while Planning staff researched the term 'reasonable person' as applicable to complaints over nuisance factors in the zoning regulation; however, Planner Robert Farrell reported that legal counsel recommended the term is best reserved for court cases and that it should not be included within the proposed amendments.

Expansion of two commercial antennas

Conditional use permits were approved to allow for expansion at two existing antennas in West End; one a 194' array located on a 7.83 acre tract on Juniper Lake Road near Hwy 211, and a 195' array located on a 51.29 acre tract on Hwy 15-501 near Juniper Lake Road.

The purchase of Alltel by Verizon Wirelss prompted the upgrade to integrate the exist-

ing network facility. The expansion increases both towers 4' panels to 8' panels, and does not increase the height nor require the addition of lighting to the towers.

Accessory dwelling unit

Since 2005, nineteen accessory dwelling unit requests have been heard, and approved, by the Moore County Planning Board – occasionally to the consternation of neighboring property owners.

Planner Tim Garner reported that countywide zoning adopted in 1999 only allowed for one unit for each ten acres of land for accessory dwelling units in either Residential-Agricultural or Residential-Equestrian districts. In 2005 an application was approved to allow a detached garage to be converted to a guest house, which prompted an amendment permitting such use in all residential zoning districts except the gated communities of Seven Lakes and Woodlake.

If the secondary residence is a site-built home, the

(See "Planning," p. 19)

NCDOT tweaks NC211 plans

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Right-of-way acquisitions are ongoing for the proposed \$30 million NC-DOT road widening project that will expand Hwy 211 to four lanes, with a divided median, from the Pinehurst Traffic Circle to the West End intersection with Rt. 73 West.

A workshop held on Tuesday, November 9, drew an interested crowd to review plans that included a few minor changes. In particular, the new roadway just west of Hoffman Road will run closer to the railroad line than the existing road, a change NC-DOT representatives explained will save tax pay-

ers dollars since the shift reduces the amount of land necessary to purchase for the right-of-way. Also not far along the same stretch of road between Hoffman and Archie Roads, plans indicate the addition of a bulb-out section that will create a turnaround area for large vehicles and commercial trucks traveling west.

As originally proposed, 400-foot dedicated turn lanes will feed onto Archie Road, from either direction, which should improve traffic flow in and out of West Pine Middle and West Pine Elementary; however, preliminary results of a traffic study at that intersection indicate that an eastbound

two-lane dedicated turn may actually be necessary. A final decision is pending.

Traversing over seven miles, the road widening project is scheduled to open for bid in Fall 2011 with hopes that it will be completed in time for the 2014 U.S. Open at Pinehurst Resort.

For more information or to submit comments, contact Elmo Vance, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, at 919-733-7844, eevance@ncdot.gov or in writing to Project No. R-2812, NCDOT PDEA, 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598.



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Kiwanis learn about Free Care Clinic

by Frank Krohn
Seven Lakes Kiwanis

Mark Weatherington, a retired Methodist Minister and a commanding speaker, spoke to the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club on Tuesday, October 5. Since leaving the pulpit, Mr. Weatherington

has become extremely active in community activities, and he spoke about one of his most active endeavors, The Moore County Free Care Clinic.

This organization offers free medical and dental care to those who can show that

they cannot afford such care. The idea came from a church Health Fair in 2004, and jump started into being by an anonymous donation of \$100,000. There is a current base of 300+ patients, with others who use the facility only occasionally. These people are given regular Primary Care by local physicians who donate their time and efforts. The Clinic also provides access to the operating room, radiology, and, in some cases, even free medication.

The Clinic also works with mentally disabled people and those who need help with healthy eating, nonsmoking, and other problems that affect ones normal living on their own.

This program has a waiting list of 20-30 per week because of the lack of enough

providers.

The Clinic not only provides this service to those in need, but by so doing is helping to relieve the load on the local emergency room.

So far, the Clinic has relied completely on donations from Clubs such as the Kiwanis,

Churches, individuals, and a few grants. There is currently an application in process to solicit State or Federal assistance.

Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets every Tuesday at noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club. Visitors are always welcome.



Mark Weatherington and Outgoing Seven Lakes Kiwanis President Ed Schempp.

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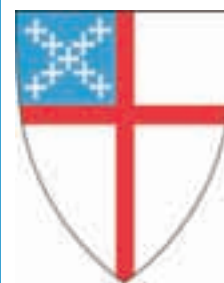
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Thanksgiving!**

Sports Club restores Pine Island bulkhead

A fire of unknown nature destroyed a portion of the Pine Island bulkhead earlier this year. Needing repair before the inclement weather set in, which could have a devastating effect, a Lake Auman Sports Club work crew headed out to Pine Island to replace the portion of the island's bulkhead that had been damaged by the fire.

The project took a lot of hard work and over six hours to complete on October 13. There was lumber and equipment – generator, chain saw, shovels, rakes, crow bars, hammers, circular saws, etc. – to move, brush to clear, old bulkhead to be removed before rehabilitation could start. Following cleanup, posts were replaced, new stiffeners added and bulkhead boards replaced.

A very effective and efficient work team included: Bob Caldara, Denny Penrod, Charlie Flinchum, Don Smith, Jim Johnson, Robert Wiestling, Bill LeGars and Dick Williams. Some of the team worked semi-submerged but only a socket was lost into the lake. No one had to take an unplanned swim.

Special thanks to Charlie Flinchum for his time and expertise ensuring that the group had all the right equipment (mostly supplied by Bill LeGars) and materials to do the job correctly. Thanks to Jane Sessler, these efforts were captured on camera and the pictures have been posted in the "Photo Gallery" on the new SLW community web site.

The Lake Auman Sports Club is dedicated to the improvement of all facets of Lake Auman for all Seven Lakes West residents. Activities include stocking of small fish to replenish the existing population, providing Lake Patrol volunteers throughout the boating season, hosting spring and fall fishing tournaments, an annual club picnic in September, building and installing fish habitat, an active sporting clays shooting group, lake trash cleanup,

Come see the trains!

Come out to the Aberdeen Train Station and Museum on Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, November 21, Noon and 4 pm each day.

The Sandhills Central Model Railroad Club will operate numerous freight and passenger trains at the same time on an 800 foot layout of track that is the result of three years of preparation. Its buildings and scenes represent the Aberdeen area.

The Sandhills Model Railroad Club was founded in 1979 by a group who shared a common love of railroads and railroad modeling. In

the past, the annual shows were in the Southern Pines location, but this year the club members will showcase their new layout and operating system in the historic depot in Aberdeen.

General admission is \$3. Children under 4 feet 8 inches (the distance between the two tracks on a modern railroad) will be admitted free and will delight in seeing Thomas the Tank.

Held at Main Street and Sycamore Street, Aberdeen. The Club welcomes new members. For more information contact Jim McNiff, at 692-7439.

maintenance of Pine Island and the lake buoys, etc.

Membership is open to all property owners in Seven Lakes West and all are encouraged to join.

Meetings are held at the

West Side Community Center, lower level at 7 pm, the second Tuesday of each month.

For information contact Don Smith, 673-1618

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— Rumi

Brown rice, with its sweet nutty flavor, provides four times the amount of insoluble fiber found in white rice because it is a whole grain that has not been stripped of its natural bran covering. It contains an impressive number of vitamins and minerals such as concentrated B vitamins (which help nervous systems and mental depression), niacin, magnesium, manganese, phosphorus, selenium and even some vitamin E. This whole grain also contains a small amount of high-quality protein in the form of the amino acid lysine, which helps boost the body's ability to fight viruses, especially those that cause cold sores.

In each grain of brown rice exists a matrix of whole unrefined energy and nutrition. It is a complex carbohydrate and therefore burns slowly in the body, providing a steady stream of long-lasting energy while increasing the brain's levels of serotonin, the chemical responsible for the feeling of well-being. Those who consistently eat brown rice report steady energy and an overall

feeling of calm and balance in their daily lives.

For brown rice and whole grains in general, the majority of digestion occurs in the mouth through chewing and exposure to saliva. For optimal nutrition and assimilation, it is vital to chew your rice well and with awareness. A great meditation is to find a calm place, without distractions, to sit down for your meal. Make it a habit to chew each bite 20 times or more. See how this simple practice can help your digestion and overall focus for the rest of your day.

*Adapted with permission
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August Special: \$25 Sports Physicals

FirstHealth has a sweet way to treat wounds

A new innovation in wound care treatment didn't originate in a lab but with the ancient Egyptians and Greeks.

Wound experts at the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center have begun to use a specialized medical grade honey product for chronic and acute wounds such as diabetic foot ulcers and pressure ulcers. The idea is 5,000 years old and came from Egyptian and Greek civilizations, which were known to use honey for wound care.

Testing has revealed that honey contains antibacterial agents and that leptospermum honey yields more antibacterial activity than honey from other sources. Modern-day wound dressings contain active leptospermum honey – a honey unique to New Zealand and Australia – which has beneficial plant-derived properties.

"In addition to reducing bacteria, the honey-treated dressings keep wounds moist and enable the removal of unhealthy tissue near the wound site," says David Strom, M.D. "The effects of the dressing last up to a week, reducing the need for more frequent visits to the Wound Care Center."

Dr. Strom, an orthopaedic surgeon with Pinehurst Surgical, serves as medical director of the FirstHealth Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center at Moore Regional Hospital.

Several large randomized controlled studies have shown medical grade honey dressings to be effective on difficult-to-heal wounds. In most cases, honey is used when conventional antibacterial treatments with antibiotics and antiseptics are ineffective.

Inflammation, swelling and pain rapidly subside; and unpleasant odors stop. In addition, debridement (dead tissue removal) is enhanced as the honey dressings remove tissue painlessly and without causing damage to re-growing cells.

Medical grade honey dressings are among a number of highly specialized wound care methodologies and treatments that are offered at Moore Regional's Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center. Others include hyperbaric oxygen therapy, negative pressure wound therapy, bio-engineered tissue, biosynthetic dressings and growth factor therapies.

Chronic wounds are wounds that have not healed or responded to treatment within 30 days. Factors affecting underlying causes of slow-to-heal wounds include diabetes, high blood pressure, age, obesity and vascular disease.

For more information on the treatment of chronic or infected wounds, contact FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital's Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center at (910) 715-5901.

Seven Lakes Tennis contributes



Twenty-seven teams competed in 216 matches over a four and half hour period to raise nearly \$600 to benefit Juvenile Diabetes. The Round Robin tournament for parents and children was held Saturday, October 16, at Seven Lakes Tennis Center.

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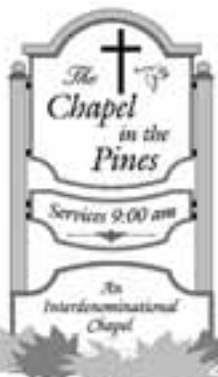
November 21st –
Chapel in the Pines Choir

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

www.sevenlakeschapelinthepines.com



Celebrate Christmas Season at Weymouth

Celebrate the joy of Christmas Around the World December 1 through December 4, where twenty-three rooms are decorated for the season at Weymouth, a state-historic Georgian mansion in Southern Pines, with literary associations and glorious gardens, trees, and other plantings surrounding the former home of James and Katharine Boyd.

Kicking it all off is the Preview Party, from 6-9 pm, Wednesday, December 1 in Weymouth's Great Room. Invitations are already going out. The \$55 per ticket event features dancing, music, an open bar, and a fine buffet, also "first peek" at the newly decorated house. Holiday attire is recommended. Reservations may be made by calling Weymouth Center at (910) 692-6261.

Weymouth Center, or the Boyd House at 555 E. Connecticut Avenue, Southern Pines has a special flavor, left by James Boyd. He was an early 20th-century historical novelist and regularly hosted such famous literary artists of the 1920s and 1930s as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Thomas Wolfe, Sherwood Anderson and playwright Paul Green.

Among the Weymouth traditions that are reflected in photographs and memorabilia in the mansion are founding of the Moore County Hounds by James and his brother Jackson. The Hounds are still hunting foxes in the Southern Pines woods and fields, today.

The Christmas tradition at Weymouth, enriched by music, is many decades old and has been embellished by the current owners, a foundation whose fund-raising arm, the Women of Weymouth, annually provides joyous and memorable Yule experiences as part of their benefits to help support and maintain the estate, while offering arts and cultural programs for the communi-

ty to enjoy.

Following the Preview Party, daily self-guided house tours of the decorated house will be available, 10 am to 4 pm, Thursday through Saturday, December 2 through December 4. Garden Clubs from Pinehurst, and others of the area each year outdo themselves decorating the different rooms in this mansion, combining homelike comfort with elegance that take visitors to another world.

A new feature this year is "Artists' Alley," a needlepoint display of Christmas themes by the Sandhills Needlers

Guild. This exhibit will be the hallway from upstairs tour, leading to the first floor dining room.

Tickets are \$10 advance, \$12 at the door for the tours. Tickets may be purchased in advance at The Country Bookshop and Weymouth Center in Southern Pines; the Given Bookshop at Olmsted Village in Pinehurst, and in Seven Lakes, Phoenix Fashions.

A special gift for active duty military will be Saturday, Dec. 4, when men and women in uniform or with appropriate identification,

may tour the house for \$5.

Saturday, Dec. 4 is also special for children, who get their own tour and get to visit with Santa from 8:30 am to 10 am. Children's tickets are \$3 each. Children

under three are admitted at no charge but all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Reservations may be made by calling Weymouth Center at (910) 692-6261

Merry Market

The popular Merry Market sponsored by St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church Seven Lakes will be held on Saturday, November 20 at 9 am until 4 pm.

The Merry Market this year is featuring the works of fourteen area crafters of wonderful jewelry, festive

candles, baskets and a host of other items. Everyone can also take advantage of the huge bake sale of cakes, cookies and all manner of baked goods.

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SLCC Christmas Party

Everyone's invited to the annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 11, at the Seven Lakes Country Club. Festivities begin with cocktails at 5:30 pm, followed by a fabulous dinner at 6:30 pm featuring Salad, Ham Steak with Pineapple Glaze, Julienne Vegetables, Roasted Red Potatoes and Carrot Cake. After dinner, the evening's MC, Don Welch will lead the Christmas sing-a-long and Jo Nicholas will provide piano music.

The all-inclusive price for members is \$30 and non-members \$35 inclusive. Reservations for members may be made in person at the club on November 15, 10:30 am to 11:30 am and call in reservations taken after 11:30 am. Nonmembers may call the club at 673-1100 starting November 22 for reservations. You do not have to be a member to attend this fun event.

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In memory of . . .

John Richard Loy, died November 6, at his home in Seven Lakes.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, November 9, at Our Lady of the Americas Catholic Church, Biscoe. Interment was at Tyler Mountain Memorial Gardens, Cross Lanes, WV.

Mr. Loy was born in Benwood, WV, the son of Mazie Amelia Jones and Donald Walter Loy.

He served in the United States Marine Corps 1946-1948 and was called back to duty from 1950-1951, attaining the rank of Sergeant. He was employed by Union Carbide Corporation, South Charleston, WV at the Tech Center as a Senior Laboratory Technician for 35 years.

He belonged to Washington Lodge, #58 for more than 50 years, The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for more than 50 years, and was awarded a KCCH. He was

also an active member of Beni Kedem Shrine 1963-2008 Charleston, WV and became Captain of the Marching Patrol twice. He was member of the Royal Order of Jesters Court 111 for 35 years. Recently, he was a member of Oasis Temple, Charlotte and Royal Order of Jesters Court 109. He was active with the Moore County Shrine Club and Elberta Masonic Lodge, West End.

He was preceded in death by his first wife and mother of his children, Helen Irene Bowen Loy and his parents.

He is survived by his wife Mary Constance Higgins Loy; brother, Arthur Donald Loy of Benwood, WV; his children Lavonne Loy Chapman(Colin), Brian Walter Loy, Nan Elizabeth Loy Zupancic(Michael); stepchildren Hilary Christine Toma, Julie Anne Toma Trombley(Paul), George William Toma, Meredith Brennan Toma Moorman(Jason);

and his grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center Inc., 406 Capitol Street, Charleston, WV 25301-1717. 304-342-7852.

Robert E. "Bob" Musser, 90, of The Village at Brookwood in Burlington died at Alamance Regional Medical Center on Wednesday, November 3.

A service will be held at a later date.

A native of Chicago, IL, he was the son of Frank Musser and Irene Erb Musser. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army serving during World War II, 1942 to 1946. He retired from sales in the building industry. Mr. Musser was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, a member of the McMillian Lodge #141 in Cincinnati, OH and the Shrine and Scottish Rite of the Valley of Peoria, IL, and

a former member of the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club.

In addition to his wife, Helen of the home, survivors include two sons, Robert E. Musser, Jr. of Peoria, IL and Rick Musser of Cary and also by nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled and Burned Children, C/O The Amran Temple, 11101 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27614 or to the First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, 508 West Davis Street, Burlington, NC 27215.

Lonie Rudd, 90, of Seven Lakes died Monday, November 1, at Rex Hospital, Raleigh.

Dr. Rudd was born in Benton, KY the son of Oscar Allen Rudd and Alice June Rudd.

Dr. Rudd resided twenty four years in Seven Lakes where he was a member of the Seven Lakes Garden Club and the Chapel in the Pines. He grew up on a farm in western Kentucky, and earned a Bachelors Degree after attending three years at Murray State College. He

(Continued on page 14)



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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 13)

later served in the US Navy during W.W.II as a Lieutenant, and earned his Master and Ph.D. degrees from Ohio State University in Mathematics' Education. His distinguished career included appointments at Ohio State University; Tufts University, Boston, MA; Kabul University, Kabul Afghanistan; and State University of New York, Fredonia, NY.

A Memorial Service was held Friday, November 5, at The Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes. The Rev. Don Welch officiated. Internment followed at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Dr. Rudd was preceded in death by his wife Barbara Rudd.

Dr. Rudd is survived by his daughter, Linda Rudd of Raleigh; son, Lawrence Rudd of Henderson, NV; his granddaughters, and a great-grand daughter.

Memorials can be made to: Keep Moore County Beautiful Campaign at PO Box 1807 Carthage, NC 28327.

Family was served by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

Larry Lee Brewer, 64, of Eastwood died Wednesday October 27 at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Mr. Brewer was the son of J.T. Brewer and Elizabeth Green Brewer of Moore County.

Graveside services were held Sunday, October 31, at Culdee Presbyterian Church, Eastwood.

Mr. Brewer served his country in the US Army during Vietnam and Desert Storm and was awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded in Vietnam. Mr. Brewer served in the Army National Guard and was a member of the VFW.

Mr. Brewer was preceded in death by his father, J.T. Brewer.

He is survived by his wife of twenty four years Laine Garrison Brewer of Eastwood; daughter, Holly Brewer of Eastwood; stepdaughter, Jamie Williams of Eastwood;

his mother, Elizabeth Brewer of Eagle Springs; sister, Judy Freeman of Louisiana; and his grandchildren.

William Hustler McNeill, Jr. 89 of Seven Lakes died after a long illness Wednesday October 27, at Kingswood Nursing Center, Aberdeen.

Mr. McNeill was born in Moore County the son of the William Hustler McNeill, Sr. and Ella Brewer McNeill.

Funeral services were held Saturday, October 30, at West End Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Larry Lyon officiated. Burial followed in the Seven Lakes Cemetery.

A native of Aberdeen Mr. McNeill was active in the Order of the Eastern Star for over sixty years. He was elected as the youngest Worthy Grand Patron in the State of North Carolina in 1955 and had been an active member of the Aberdeen Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 259. He was also a member of the Roman Eagle Lodge 550 of Aberdeen for over fifty years.

He served his country during W.W.II in the US Air Force. He successfully flew over thirty five missions and achieved the status of having the plane that flew more missions during W.W.II than any other during that era. He retired from Union Oil of California and moved to Seven Lakes in 1985.

Mr. McNeill was preceded in death by his wife, Ernestine Y. McNeill; his sisters, Dorothy McNeill and Margaret Robertson.

Mr. McNeill is survived by a son, William McNeill, III and wife, Judith L. McNeill of Seven Lakes; daughter, Cherianna Marie McNeill of Carolina Beach; brother Frank McNeill of Aberdeen; sisters, Ella Ruth Clark and Katherine Burns of Aberdeen; and his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association at 3800 Shamrock Drive Charlotte, NC 28215

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Buy a tree, support Pinecrest Wrestling

The Conference Champion Pinecrest Patriot Wrestling Team has started their 2010-11 season this month with four returning conference champs, senior Nathan Frederique, senior Michael Lipincott, junior Zac Lupien and junior Garrett Bateman. Also returning is junior Dustin Roemer who placed 6th at the NC state tournament and ended his sophomore season with the team's

highest number of wins at 41.

Head Coach Travis Flinchum returns, with assistant coach Sam Naryan and two new assistant coaches Andy Socha and Nick Johnson, to continue to rebuild and strengthen the Patriot wrestling program. With the help of the Southern Middle and West Pine Middle Schools wrestling programs, Coach Flinchum has many incom-

ing freshman and sophomores with more experience than ever before including Dallas Roemer and Rider Excell, who both ended their middle school seasons among the top in the state.

"Rebuilding the team is only part of the work", according to the coaches, "the rest comes from the support of the parents, volunteers and the community."

There has been growing support from parents and volunteers through the Patriot Wrestling Boosters Club and corporate sponsors like the Village Fillin Station in

Pinehurst, but Coach Flinchum hopes to see more people from the community in the bleachers cheering on these hard working athletes.

You can get your chance to cheer them on when the Patriot wrestlers host Fayetteville's 71st High School for their 1st home dual meet at 6pm, Wednesday, November 24th at the Pinecrest High School main gym. Other home meets are scheduled for Jan.5, Jan. 12, and Feb. 2 at 6pm.

Another way the community can help grow the program is by supporting the

Annual Christmas Tree Sale. The fresh cut Watauga County 6-7ft or 7-8 ft trees sell for \$55 and 9-10ft trees for \$85, with home delivery available for \$8.

This fundraiser has allowed the team to purchase a new competition mat and new uniforms for meets and tournaments, both which have helped rekindle that "Patriot Pride."

For more information about the Christmas Tree Sale or Sponsorship opportunities, please contact Doug Roemer at 910-916-8313.

Campbell wins 1st Prize



by Mason Gould

Ann Campbell's latest award is First Prize in the Watercolor category division from the Annual Fine Arts Festival, presented by the Arts Council of Moore County, in August and she received a Purchase Award from the Springfield Museum of Art, Springfield, MO as well.

Campbell's recent Solo exhibits include Clayton Center, Clayton, NC and the Artists League of the Sandhills in 2009.

She currently teaches "Drawing & Painting with Ann" for Sandhills Community College. Three of her paintings are on display in Van Dusen Hall at Sandhills Community College. Campbell considers herself to be a Landscape Artist and also does Life Drawings.

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SLWLA Storage Yards

It's time to clean them up!

We found several boats/trailers that are not registered with Seven Lakes West storage. We ask homeowners and previous residents who may have left their belongings behind to please check the storage yards at Longleaf and Johnson Point. If you have a boat/trailer at the storage yard that is not currently registered with SLW, contact the West Side Community Center Office @ 910-673-5314. All items remaining on Nov 15, 2010 will be removed from SLW by a towing company. You will then need to contact them directly to pick up your belongings and pay towing & storage charges. We appreciate your help in cleaning up our storage yards!

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Vitamin Deficiencies in Seniors

Many seniors suffer from vitamin deficiencies and don't even know it. Many conditions such as anemia, cognitive impairment, and poor wound healing may be a result of a vitamin deficiency. The causes of vitamin deficiencies are many. Smoking, poor diet, alcohol consumption, and medications also may be the cause.

There are websites that can help you understand recommended daily allowances (RDA) of vitamins and proper food choices. One such website is www.fnic.nal.usda.gov. MyPyramid.gov is another

website where you can actually track your food choices to reach your weight loss or dietary goals. You can also find on these websites the



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RDAs for older adults. It is recommended that you use these websites when choosing a proper multivitamin supplement.

Multivitamins are becoming more and more important because many medications could deplete your body of essential vitamins and ele-

ments. It is also important to support a healthy immune system and there is evidence in the medical literature to back that up.

Some examples of medication vitamin deficiency include: Antacids - decrease vitamin B1, cholestyramine or prevalite - decrease vitamins A, D, E, and K, diuretics - decrease vitamin B1, proton pump inhibitors such as Nexium - decrease vitamin B12.

Many of us are on at least one of these medications. In fact, Nexium, Prilosec, and Protonix all affect stomach acid secretion which lowers vitamin B12. Vitamin B12 deficiency could result in anemia, slowed thinking, confusion, memory loss, or

even depression.

Another vitamin deficiency that is becoming increasingly more problematic is vitamin D deficiency. Most seniors do not get enough vitamin D from their diet. This could result in decreased energy levels, lower bone density, and increased risk for fractures.

There are new studies being performed that are looking at increasing the RDA for vitamin D to at least 2000U per day.

As always, talk with your physician or pharmacist if you have any questions about vitamin supplements that you should be taking before starting any supplement, as some vitamins can interact with certain medications.

Chili's Gives Back for Animal Rescue

Chili's Restaurant, on U.S. 15-501 in Southern Pines, is hosting a "giveback" night on Tuesday, November 16, in support of Montgomery Moore Animal Rescue.

Chili's is donating 10 percent of receipts placed in

the donation bowl located at the front door of the restaurant to help with this program. Come support this endeavor.

Many dogs and cats thank you for your support!

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Incorporation

(Continued from front page)

General Assembly's Joint Legislative Commission on Municipal Incorporations.

Moore County Elections Director Glenda Clendenin told *The Times* that IncorporateSevenLakes.com had presented 522 signatures, of which 459 were found to be those of registered voters residing in the area that would be incorporated.

Merritt told *The Times* that he had learned that Moore County's state legislators — Representative Jamie Boles and Senator Harris Blake — wanted to see much more than the minimum fifteen percent support before getting behind any incorporation effort. The support of local legislators is critical to the success of any incorporation effort, UNC School of Government incorporation expert Kara Millonzi told several Seven Lakes groups earlier this year, because the local legislators draft and introduce the enabling legislation that actually creates the town.

Competing proposals muddled the water

After IncorporateSevenLakes.com introduced their petition for incorporation with the gates — which would have created a modest municipal government with a five cent tax rate and tax increases limited by the town charter — a second vision for an incorporated Seven Lakes was introduced by the Seven Lakes Study Group. The latter group advocated dropping the gates in order to create a much larger, better-funded municipal government that would take over responsibility for maintenance of the roads within the now ungated communities.

Merritt told *The Times* that this second proposal doomed the IncorporateSevenLakes.com plan.

"We felt like, when the Study Group went public, we were dead," Merritt said, "because we would never

recover from the confusion their proposal created in the mind of the public."

"We kept getting feedback that 'We don't want to take our gates down.' We kept trying to clarify, but the message got so muddled that it became impossible for us to gain the further support that would be needed."

The Study Group laid out a budget and proposed services for the Town of Seven Lakes, but did not offer a concrete incorporation petition that residents could sign and support. Instead, they proposed a two-year educational period in which the idea of incorporation could be thoroughly discussed in the community.

Though their original idea was to ask the League of Women Voters to sponsor a

series of small group meetings, that idea apparently fell by the wayside as the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association launched its own internal study of incorporation. The Study Group endorsed that process and encouraged the other landowners associations to follow suit.

Regarding the West Side's study, Merritt said, "What has frustrated us is that bodies like the Westside Board and their committees have felt the need to respond to both proposals even though we were the only group organized with a real petition."

"The Study Group just floated an idea — an idea that was very unpopular. But everything you read references both groups, and we have been confused with

them."

Still a good idea?

"We're disappointed that the public didn't see the benefits of incorporation beyond the fact that we would get some of the downtown streets repaired," Merritt said. "And we could do that without using local taxes."

"The public didn't see the benefit of gaining local zoning control, or gaining a real municipal voice with the county," he added.

"As a result, we lost the ability to someday have an ABC store. We lost the ability to, as a municipality, explore ways to better our town by possibly getting sewer at some time. We lost the ability to apply for grants that could have paid for projects to better the communi-

ty . . . and we lost the ability to create our own municipal police force."

"We lost all this that we could have had at not a real expensive price," Merritt continued, noting the tax rate proposed would have amounted to \$250 per year for the owner of a \$500,000 home.

"In the end, we failed to get more people like ourselves involved that were fervent about the need for incorporation," he said. "Three people just couldn't do it."

More study ahead?

The Westside Board has published four subcommittee reports on incorporation so far, out of seven originally proposed. All four are available on *The Times* website at www.sevenlakes.com.



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Schools

(Continued from page 6)

adjustments in the Federal account later this fiscal year. In addition, there is no change in the Child Nutrition Fund.

The Local Capital Outlay budget was increased \$179,813 for debt service on yellow school bus replacement and the Local Operating Fund was increased \$98,000 for a Department of Defense grant received for technology enhancements.

Griffin reported the State Fund is currently at 28.5% of the budget, Local Current at 23.8%, Federal at 22.7%, Local Capital Outlay at 31%, Local Operations at 28.9%, and the Child Nutrition Fund – operational for 26 of 180 days – is on target at 14.4%.

NC Race to the Top

MCS submitted and application to receive a portion of funds received by North Carolina through the Federal 'Race to the Top' education grant program.

The Moore County funding opportunity was reported at \$1,039,273, by Dr. Purser.

The application emphasized three of the four pillars developed in the original proposal; great teachers and principals, quality standards and assessments, and data system to improve instruction. The fourth pillar, the turnaround of lowest-achieving schools, was not applicable since Moore County does not have a school categorized as low-achieving.

Phonebook

It is time to update the Seven Lakes EMS Telephone Book. If you are not listed in the telephone book, please go to the Seven Lakes North/South Landowner's Office or the Seven Lakes West Landowner's Office and fill out a ticket which they have on their display tables. Or you can email your name, street address, mailing address & phone number to emsbook69@gmail.com



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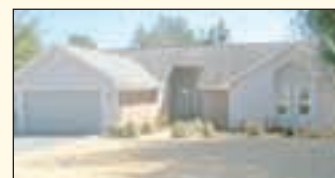
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McGhee

(Continued from page 19)

ing sleep disorders and related issues.

He said the traditional treatment for sleep apnea, using a CPAP machine that forces air pressure through a hose and mask system is effective but, unfortunately, nearly half of all people find the machine uncomfortable and that the mask is easily dislodged while turning in sleep.

The alternative McGee offers is a custom oral device that brings the lower jaw and tongue forward, which opens the airway for unobstructed breathing.

"Most people adapt to the oral appliance in just a few days and they are also extremely effective for treating snoring," said Dr. McGee.

In working with new patients, McGee said he per-

forms a comprehensive exam which may include x-rays. If the patient has not already received a sleep disorder diagnosis, they are sent to a physician to complete a sleep study. The oral device is then custom-made, a process that takes approximately four weeks.

"The device fits on the teeth like an athletic mouthpiece and, depending on need, can keep the mouth closed or allow for complete opening and closing of the mouth," said McGee.

In addition he specializes in treating TMJ disorders which can have multiple causes, but is frequently a result of teeth grinding. Symptoms include pain in the neck and

shoulders, facial or jaw pain, and occasionally headaches. McGee also prescribes an oral device for treatment, though a different type than is used for OSA patients. A combined device can be used for people who suffer from both disorders.

McGee also treats migraine headache patients and explained that while there is still a lot not known about the causes, that there is a trigger that creates the cascade leading to a migraine. One of these trigger factors is, in fact, teeth grinding.

"It is very rewarding to treat patients and to get rid of their pain. You can see pain in their face on the first visit and when the pain is gone,

their whole demeanor changes," said McGee.

To schedule a consultation with Dr. McGee, please call Dr. Pete McKay's Family Den-

tistry office in the Seven Lakes Business Village at 673-0113, Monday to Thursday from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Planning

(Continued from page 7)

request is approved at the staff level; only when the accessory dwelling unit is a manufactured home is the request approved by the Board.

Planning Member Rodney Pickler expressed concern that when manufactured homes are moved within the county, there is nothing in the local or state ordinances that control standards related to their age or condition as long as the home meets minimum standards for electricity and running water.

Since the home cannot be regulated by aesthetics, Planning Board member Robert Hayter inquired whether the county could adopt a minimum standard housing code, noting that there are two sides to the issue — acknowledging that there must be fair, social equity, but also recognition that such homes can diminish the value of neighboring properties.

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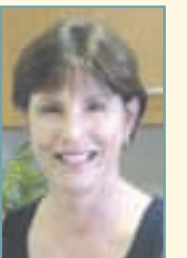
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- **Art Exhibit, Sale & Reception:** – Opening wine and cheese reception, 6-8 pm, 16th Annual Art Exhibit and Sale, including special exhibit "Nothing Could be Finer...", Gallery hours noon to 3 pm, Monday through Saturday through December 17. Artists League of the Sandhills Exchange Street Gallery, 129 Exchange Street, Aberdeen. 910-944-3979

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day & Paper Shredding Service** – 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, at Pinecrest High School, (parking lot off of Voit Gilmore Lane). Free and open to the public. Examples of Items to be collected are: Paint and paint thinners, furniture strippers & finishing products, solvents & degreasers, wood preservatives, polishes, aerosols, fluorescent light tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, batteries, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and insecticides will be accepted but *must* be in its original containers for identification purposes. *Commercial Waste Not Accepted*
- **"Cooking With Carmela"** – 1 to 3 pm, with Marjorie Nurnberg, Ann Chase, and Cathy Menendian, They will demonstrate, prepare, and make "sides" to complement your main course for the holiday season. A

special vegetarian main dish will also be presented as an alternative for the vegetarians in your family. Make ahead desserts, to wow the crowd. Cost \$15/person.



What's When Calendar

Information and to register, call 673-5314. Recipe packets available for participants and a sampling will follow. Held at the West Side Park Community Center in Seven Lakes West. Sponsored by the West Side Activities Committee.

- **Carolina Pines Chapter of USA Dance** – 7-10 pm, Annual Holiday Dance.. 105 McReynolds St, Carthage, (on the second floor of the Sinclair Bldg). Dress: semi-formal. Finger food & beverages provided \$7 members, \$10 guests. Singles & couples welcome, no dance experience necessary.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. Seven Lakes. Holy Eucharist All are Welcome.
- **EMS Benefit Bingo Party co-sponsored by Women of Seven Lakes and the Seven Lakes Kiwanis** – 2 pm, Westside Park Com-

munity Center. Proceeds from event will be donated to the Seven Lakes EMS Squad. Bingo prizes items cooking demonstrations and tastings, door prizes, free Pampered Chef sample items. Tickets \$20, call Joan Matula 673-3464, Lois Ann Eisel 400-3094.

- **Belford Baptist Church** – 3 pm, hosting Appreciation Celebration for Pastor Brenda K. Robinson & John Robinson. Rev. Robert Dockery from Congregation of Macedonia Church, Hoffman is the guest speaker. 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. *Ameranouche* is the guest for tonight. \$10- \$12. Purchase your tickets on line with debit or credit cards. Cash and checks are accepted at the door. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- **Ladies Bible Study** – 6:30 to 8 pm, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Seven Lakes. Studies include Beth Moore - The Patriarchs, Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob. Questions: 673-4656.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. Rev. Carol Burgess, Deacon. All are Welcome.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – 11:30 am, at Table on the Green, Midland Country Club. "Prescription Drug Abuse in Moore County" is the subject. Capt. Jerrell Seawell of the Aberdeen Police Department is the guest speaker. Reservations required. Call Charlotte Gallagher at 910-944-9611. Cost is \$12.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, regular meeting. Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10am to 3pm North Clubhouse. The group will be working with fleece to make blankets, inspect blankets and label blankets. Supplies will be furnished. If you are not interested in blanket making, then join in to work on selected crafts to be sold during the St. Mary Magdalene "Merry Market." All of the supplies and tools to do the crafts will be on hand. Come join in for the fun as Project Linus helps others. Call

Pat Weber 673-147, if you have any questions.

- **Gallery at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – Last week for the current Gallery show. Visitors are welcome. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7:30 pm, monthly meeting. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a wonderful meal is provided at a charge of \$5 per person.
- **Gallery at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – Gallery exhibit's last showing until Wednesday, December 1. Open 1 to 4 pm. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8:30 pm. \$10 for six wines and food from Goldie's. Located at 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Moore County Amateur Radio Society (MOCARS)** – 7 pm, monthly meeting, at Moore County Emergency Operations Center, 105 W. Saunders Street, Carthage. This month's meeting will focus on election of officers and initial

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planning for 2011 activities. Everyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome to visit our website at mocars.org and to attend the monthly meetings. For testing and licensing information contact Charles Wackerman at 910-947-2707. For MOCARS information James Johnson, PIO, 910-400-3019

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

• **3rd Annual Celebration of Seagrove Potters** – 6 pm, Gala Preview Party. Celebration held indoors at the historic Luck's Cannery, on NC 705, Pottery Highway, half mile south of the traffic light in Seagrove. Meet the artists and enjoy the opening night festivities of this fabulous event as visitors have the first opportunity to browse and purchase from the thousands of pieces, sip a favorite beverage and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, while listening to the jazz band of Joe Robinson. Artwork will be auctioned at 8 pm. Tickets limited and must be purchased in advance. Purchase on-line at www.CelebrationOfSeagrovePotters.com. Ticket price includes admission to events on Saturday and Sunday as well.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

• **Annual Merry Market at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9 am until 4 pm, featuring the works of fourteen area crafters of wonderful jewelry, festive candles, baskets and a host of other items. Everyone can also take advantage of the huge bake sale of cakes,

cookies and baked goods. St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

• **3rd Annual Celebration of Seagrove Potters** – 9 am to 6 pm. Fundraising auction at 4 pm. Luck's Cannery, on NC 705, Pottery Highway, located a half mile south of the traffic light in Seagrove. www.CelebrationOfSeagrovePotters.com

• **All Aboard For Aberdeen** – 12 noon to 4 pm, at Aberdeen Train Station and Museum. Sandhills Central Model Railroad Club will operate numerous freight and passenger trains at the same time on an 800 foot layout of track. Admission \$3. Children under 4 feet 8 inches (the distance between the two tracks on a modern railroad) will be admitted free and will delight in seeing Thomas the Tank. Main Street and Sycamore Street, Aberdeen. Contact Jim McNiff, at 692-7439.

• **Kool Kids Parent Date Night** – 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Recreational play for kids grades K-5th. An evening out for just the two of you. Cost for 3 hour evening \$7/child registered Kool Kids students, or \$12/child for others. 4139 Hwy 211, Seven Lakes, 2 doors from McDonald's.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

• **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. Seven Lakes. Holy Eucharist All are Welcome.

• **3rd Annual Celebration**

of Seagrove Potters – show is open from 10 am to 4 pm, demonstrations, educational opportunities will be available, and much more. Luck's Cannery, on NC 705, Pottery Highway, located a half mile south of the traffic light in Seagrove. Watch the web site www.CelebrationOfSeagrovePotters.com for upcoming information.

• **All Aboard For Aberdeen** – 12 noon to 4 pm, at Aberdeen Train Station and Museum. Sandhills Central Model Railroad Club will operate numerous freight and passenger trains at the same time on an 800 foot layout of track. Admission \$3. Children under 4 feet 8 inches (the distance between the two tracks on a modern railroad) will be admitted free and will delight in seeing Thomas the Tank. Main Street and Sycamore Street, Aberdeen. Contact Jim McNiff, at 692-7439.

• **Interfaith Service Of Thanksgiving** – 4 pm, Five congregations in the Foxfire/West End area are joining hands, hearts and voices in an Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving at host site, Temple Beth Shalom,

at the corner of Hoffman and Jackson Springs Roads in Foxfire Village. Thanksgiving sermon will be given by the Reverend Don Welch. The service will feature a community choir lead by Chris Boveroux with members from each of the congregations. Worshippers are asked to bring canned goods or desperately needed winter items such as coats, new undergarments, and blankets as a Thanksgiving Offering, to be donated to the Sandhills/Moore Coalition for Human Care.

• **The Rooster's Wife** – at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Annie Sellick is the guest for tonight. Purchase tickets on line with debit or credit cards. Cash and checks are accepted at the door. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.

• **Community Thanksgiving Service** – 7:00 pm, West End United Methodist Church will host a Community Thanksgiving Service. Rev. Dr. Larry Lyon of West End Presbyterian will deliver the message and special music will be provided during this Thanksgiving service. Light refresh-

ments served following the service. Come join in for a time of thanksgiving and fellowship.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

• **Bingo Night at Our Lady of the Americas** – 7 pm, Early Bird Bingo; and 7:30 pm, Regular Bingo. 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211, just east of Hwy 220, Candor. Minimum purchase \$15. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. 910 974-3051.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

• **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. All are Welcome.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

• **Thanksgiving Day**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

• **Wine & Beer Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8:00 pm. Food from Goldie's. 910-673-2949. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. www.sandhillswinery.com

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It's Punkin Chunkin time!

Mid-November feels just about right, doesn't it?

Exactly now is that most perfect of seasons. It's not too hot, it's not too cold. The pantry is overflowing with leftover candy and there's still plenty of time to tackle that enormous holiday gift list. But let's not go there, at least yet.

Gazing outside I can see that the insistent weeds have finally given up and allowed the trees to take over the messy job of decorating my yard. Instead of patchy grass and a poorly-advised bamboo stand, my piney lot embraces an autumnal cloak of scattered orange leaves.

No wait, my mistake. That's just the pumpkin or, rather, what's left of it spread around out there.

You see, around the Douglass camp, we have our own special post-Halloween ritual: the great pumpkin smash.

Armed with hammers and shovels, my little darlings tear apart the mushy, moldy Jack-O-Lantern remains with great enthusiasm. No doubt, this tops the list of our most disturbing family traditions.

Wasn't it only a month ago that I ever so patiently sifted through a mound of gourds, thoughtfully selecting the two finest, plumpest pumpkins from the pile?

Of course it was all downhill from there.

First the butcher knife, then guts and glop were unceremoniously scooped out, the skin was



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

pierced and carved, before the ultimate indignity – a lit candle was shoved into its belly.

At least I can take comfort

in knowing I'm not the only chocolate-fueled maniac out there desecrating vegetables.

From the great State of Delaware I give you, 'Punkin Chunkin.'

An annual extravaganza featuring catapults, trebuchets, and air cannons all crafted to one purpose:

to throw a pumpkin as far as humanly or inhumanly possible.

This year's organizers celebrated their twenty-fifth year

with a Miss Punkin Chunkin contest and an eleven-page safety manual and rule book for participants that offered such helpful tips as, no explosives are allowed, and, pumpkins must be in their natural state.

I guess inebriated gourds are out of luck in Delaware.

Though like following thoroughbred racing, half the fun is picking the winner: my money is on Sir Chunk A Lot, Live Free or Chunk, and that crowd fave, The Launchness Monster.

Happy hurling.

Who's in control? You, or God?

Question: I am a fourteen year old girl. I have been baptized a Christian and attend church almost every Sunday. I try to live a good life and make good decisions, but sometimes I make big mistakes. Lately, I have been wondering "Do we control our lives or does God control everything we do?"

Answer: This is a big question for someone so young, but it shows that you not only are trying to do the right things, but you are also using the mind that God has given you.

My first inclination is to give you the simple answer that God has given free will and the abil-



Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

ity to make decisions to all human beings. We also have the ability to freely turn control of our lives over to God.

Some theologians think that God has a plan for all our lives, but we must choose to seek this plan and follow it, if we want the

best that God can give us in this life.

These are beautiful religious thoughts, but is life really that

simple and is God's plan that easy to find? Aren't there many areas of our lives over which we have never had control and never will? We had absolutely no choice of our parents, our race, our place of birth, our gender, our genetic make-up, or the gender and disposition of our siblings. I am one of the many who believe that even our sexual orientation is decided for us before we are born. Where we were born also has a bearing on our religious beliefs. If we were born in a country where the majority of people are Hindus, Buddhists or Muslim, it is highly unlikely that we would be Christian.

Even though our choices are greatly influenced by our heredity and environment, we are free within these given conditions to make moral and ethical decisions and be responsible for these decisions. We are also free to give up our freedom, and many of your friends may already be making decisions that may lead them to turn control of their lives over to alcohol, drugs, sexual promiscuity, pornography or other addictions. When this happens, they will be fortunate if someone helps them realize that their lives are out of control and that only one who is greater than they are can restore them to sanity.

At age fourteen, you have a

lot of life to live. You are in control now and you are responsible for taking what life has given you through your parents and all who have gone before and making decisions that will mold that life into the person God intends you to be. With the help of your church, your parents, and God as you grow in your understanding of God, you will mature into a responsible, loving adult whose life will bless all who know you. This is my prayer for you.

Don Welch is the minister at The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines and welcomes your questions. Address them to dwelch1@nc.rr.com

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Your letters welcome!

The Times welcomes letters from our readers, and we print most all we receive. You will need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached.

We accept letters delivered by e-mail, fax, or the US Postal Service. You'll find our addresses in the boxes on page 2 & 20.

The length limit for letters is 300 words. Longer letters will be returned to the author or edited for length.

Thanks for supporting Tanglewood Ride

Dear Family and Friends,

This year's Tour to Tanglewood for Multiple Sclerosis has come and gone. The event was fantastic! The most special part of the whole thing is how you have contributed your good money towards the effort to help those with the disease. This takes on special significance now that my wife Mary's recent diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis.

Outside of this most close connection to the disease, I often get inspiration from others that ride bicycles or help with supporting the event with a sign honoring someone special to them who has Multiple Sclerosis. Of course, my sign was for Mary. As I rode my bike, I saw a sign on the back of another rider that could not quite read. I caught up with him and found his sign to read that he was riding, "for all of us that have Multiple Sclerosis." That blew me away! You see, that was not an easy task for him at all. It is hard for those with Multiple Sclerosis to get hot. That can exacerbate their symptoms in a major way. We talked as we rode together and I learned a lot from him, and I learned to admire him even more for his effort with such a challenge before him.

The people with Multiple Sclerosis are just like everyone else, they just have the added difficulty of trying to continue their life as best as is possible. My wife, Mary has that in her life now. She benefits from people like you that donate money.

When I first began participation in the Tour in 1994, the first medicine to be used specially for Multiple Sclerosis had just been approved by the FDA. Now, there are several drug regimes. Just within the couple of months, there has been approval of an oral medication for the dis-

ease. Before this there were only various injection medicines.

My number for the ride this year was #22! This is important — I was #22 in the level of donations raised out of about 2000 participants! Again, I could not have done this without you. Thank you for your continued support in my efforts to help those with Multiple Sclerosis. This is especially important to me because of Mary.

But, there is also that guy riding in the event with Multiple Sclerosis, and that lady directing traffic for the riders whose daughter was just diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and the lady with Multiple Sclerosis whose husband heads the collective team I am on for this event, and the boy who rides for his mother with Multiple Sclerosis, and also the lady with

a cane at the rest stop that gave me my snack. Look around . . . the disease is everywhere and it needs to be no where!

Thanks again for your help! I be back next year. So will

my daughter, Megan, who just joined the team I am on. It just keeps growing and needs to, in order to help overcome this devastating disease.

Dr. Pete McKay

A rummage success!

Dear Editor:

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 16 was a huge success. Many thanks to the organizers, Don and Pat Truesdell and Butch and Mary Kay Allen for their tireless efforts. George Hoffman

and Bud Holzerland help throughout the year also to make this a success.

The sale proceeds were over \$12,000 all of which goes to help others in our community and neighboring ones. This is possible because

of all the people in the community and chapel members who help with endeavor. Thank you one and all!

Alice Shaughnessy
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A response to Silberhorn, Shepard

Dear Editor:

I submitted two articles for publication in the November Seven Lakes West Landowners Association newsletter after reading Director Ed Silberhorn's initial submission of his article, "Enough is Enough" (I did not see President Ron Shepard's very

similar article until the Newsletter was published).

I am informed that the Newsletter editor considered my articles "inflammatory" and so submitted them to Mr. Shepard.

I am not sure what Mr. Shepard did with them since I have had no communication

from him on the subject, but I know my articles were not published in the newsletter.

So here they are. It is a bit unfortunate that they are not seen side by side with the other articles, but it seems to me that the fact that publication in the Newsletter was denied adds

a bit of credence to my arguments. You may decide for yourself, of course, and that is the true meaning of what Mr. Silberhorn referred to as "the marketplace of ideas."

For the record, I believe the community will gain nothing through Mr. Gorenflo's efforts. Whether I like it or not

(and I don't like it) I believe, as I concluded at the October 26 Board meeting, "...so long as Dr. Marks's report is extant and so long as the nature of our dam does not materially change, I cannot in good conscience support the reopening of the dam road."

I gave my reasons for that conclusion at that meeting and I would be happy to discuss them again with anyone who may be interested.

Joe Sikes

Seven Lakes West

A cautionary offering

In my brief tenure on the board, I have heard a litany of three otherwise perfectly good phrases manipulated to justify virtually any action the board has been inclined to take and to also stifle dissent. These three tricky phrases are: we are a representative democracy; board members have a fiduciary responsibility; and, board members are volunteers.

The first two of these phrases concerning democracy and fiduciary responsibility are often used together to create an exaggerated sense on the part of the listener that what is to follow is both ministerial and inevitable. The speaker first wraps himself in the American flag by indicating that our little community shares with the nation the same general form of government (our lack of other branches and of separation of powers is ignored). Thus insinuated is that disagreement with what is to follow may be un-American and that in any case the speaker is in the catbird seat.

Having set this stage, the speaker then suggests that because his responsibilities have a fiduciary component, his position on a particular matter must, ipso facto, be

prudent and essential to the community well-being. To believe otherwise, it is implied, is to suggest the speaker is irresponsible and perhaps even in violation of ethical and legal

constraints. Finally, just in case the listener may not be fully persuaded, the appeal goes out for sympathy. The speaker is a volunteer who spends countless hours working selflessly only for the good of the community. There is no remuneration for this devo-

tion to the greater good thus disagreement with the speaker's position is churlish and shows an unseemly lack of appreciation for the speaker personally, and for volunteers generally.

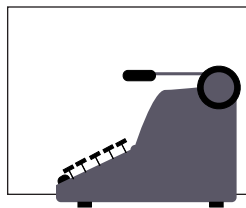
These three phrases may be misused individually or in some combination in a common

rhetorical device to subtly shift responsibility from the speaker to prove his point to the listener to disprove it.

Any time you hear or read any one of these three phrases your antennas should begin to vibrate. If you come across more than one of them in the same statement

Your Turn

Joe Sikes
Seven Lakes West



Help Wanted! Part-Time Reporter

The Seven Lakes Times, a community newspaper serving Seven Lakes, Foxfire, McLendon Hills, and West End, is seeking a part-time reporter to cover local government meetings and write feature stories.

Relevant educational background and experience are required. The Times needs someone who writes clearly and concisely and has a passion for accuracy. Excellent computer skills are a must.

Commitment averages six to twelve hours per week, but is determined by local government meeting schedules — and thus is not particularly flexible. Morning, afternoon, and night meetings are common.

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From My Perspective, Enough is, Indeed, Enough

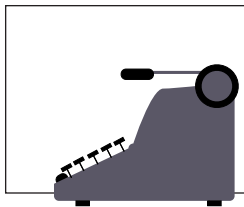
Sadly, I feel compelled to repudiate Mr. Ed Silberhorn's submission, "Enough is Enough" in the Legal Affairs report of the Seven Lakes West newsletter.

In my opinion Mr. Silberhorn and Mike Gorenflo have treated the issue of the dam road closure as if it were a court case and they were opposing attorneys. In a court case, at the end of the day, someone is judged right and someone is thus judged wrong. We have no need for more of that kind of adversarial self-indulgence here.

While there is enough blame to go around for everyone (including me) in this debacle, I place the majority of the onus on us as a Board. Mr. Gorenflo's responsibility is less only because his power

is less. I believe that the great power vested in the Board by our by-laws and by North Carolina law brings with it a commensurate responsibility.

Except in highly



Your Turn

Joe Sikes
Seven Lakes West

unusual circumstances (i.e., two thirds of the entire membership compels specific Board action) Board members are under little legal obligation to pay any attention to the membership (majority or minority). Precisely because of that power,

I believe the Board has a special responsibility to actively and aggressively seek the greatest possible member input on questions of possible importance to the membership (not just on those matters grudgingly deemed of "significant interest").

This does not mean that the

Board shifts its responsibilities for the governance of the Association to the membership. It does not mean "government by referendum, like California" (though we just might learn a thing or two from the Swiss).

That the broader member-

ship may not take advantage of existing opportunities to express its opinions in no wise justifies restricting those opportunities. In fact, it argues for the Board to try harder to find additional ways to more actively engage the membership.

The rote exercise by the Board of its powers ultimately undermines public engagement in the affairs of the Association, undermines respect for the Board as an institution, and is unnecessarily divisive in a small com-

munity where comity and openness should be the by-words.

Board members are certainly within their rights to push their own opinions and, indeed, one expects them to do so on matters concerning their board responsibilities. Board members are also generally within their legal rights to ignore opposition unless that opposition is formally expressed by two thirds of the total membership. That something is legal does not mean it is right.

Thanks to Steven McVey

Dear Editor:

This is a letter of an overdue "Thank You" to an SLLA Security Guard.

Late on the night of May 19, I fell . . . injuring my neck, right leg, and three front teeth. Having difficulty breathing, I called 911.

Security Guard, Steven Roger McVey being on duty, heard of my call and responded in a very caring and

thoughtful way: driving to my home, leaving his pickup in the front with the lights on, so the 911 crew could easily find me; he knocked and came inside.

Mr. McVey sat on the couch holding my hand until the 911 crew arrived.

Furthermore, our Security Guard, Steven Roger McVey went door-to-door looking for a neighbor who might

have a key for him to lock my house.

I am 87, live alone and now after a month in FirstHealth Hospital, I am able to give these facts concerning the high quality of service our Security Guard, Steven Roger McVey gives. He guards us, while we sleep.

Madelyn L. Howard
Seven Lakes North

Gospel Singing

The Harvesters Quartet will be singing at Bensalem Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, December 5, at 6 pm. The public is invited to join the church for an evening of Southern Gospel music. No charge, however, a love offering will be taken. Bensalem Presbyterian Church, 2891 Bensalem Church Road, Eagle Springs. Call 910-673-8078.

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 3)

est overall score. Under her leadership, Habitat's volunteer base has grown from 75 to over 350 active volunteers. Wiggins was also recognized for her ability to create successful partnerships and sponsorships.

Kilpatrick, a resident of Seven Lakes South, was recognized with a Lifetime award for his eighteen years of service as a volunteer on the Habitat board, and as a committee member. Nicknamed "Tin Man" for his construction skills with exterior metal work, Kilpatrick is credited with many positive changes and growth in the organization and has been an integral part of building more than 170 Habitat homes.

Carey won the Perseverance award. A Habitat volunteer since 2005, she has overcome significant personal obstacles following a massive stroke and continues to actively contribute upwards of 1,600 volunteer hours each year.

Also honored during the meeting were Albert Everette, a daily volunteer presence at Penick Village for the last eleven years, and Therapy Dogs International and the St. Joseph of the Pines Assisted Pet Therapy program volunteers, who provide weekly visitations to offer emotional support and companionship to nursing home residents, patients and staff.

Code of Ethics

By January 1, 2011, all North Carolina cities, counties, municipalities, local boards of education, and unified governments must adopt a policy or resolution containing a Code of Ethics.

County Attorney Leland has recommended the County Commissioners adopt a hybrid-style Code of Ethics that incorporates both aspirational and punitive elements, using a model code developed by the UNC School of Government as the base document.

With Commissioner Jimmy Melton not in attendance at the November 1 meeting, discussion and action on the

proposed Code of Ethics was tabled until the entire Board could be present.

During Public Comment, Pinehurst resident John Marcum suggested three points to consider for inclusion in the final draft:

- That County Commissioners may not be a member of any other commission whose budget and activities are overseen by a county board;

- That any purchase of equipment or software must be competitively bid and may not have a gift portion that is linked to a support contract and that any board member must recuse him or herself from voting if he or she has interest in a company with a product recommended for approval;

- That, in the case of a closed land purchase process, the county may not pay more than the highest appraised value unless a Public Hearing is held and a complete survey and environment review of the property is conducted before any preliminary agreement to purchase is offered. In addition, a board member should recuse him or herself from voting if the property owner is a friend.

Heart of NC Megapark

Bylaws were adopted and Chairman Lea was nominated to serve as chairman of the new 501c3 organization, "The Heart of North Carolina Megapark, Inc." which will promote a 3,000 acre industrial site that lies astride the border of Montgomery and Moore Counties.

Initiated nearly five years ago, the privately-owned site is being developed as a green, sustainable industrial megapark that will attract new business and tax revenues. So named because of its proximity to the geographic center of North Carolina, the tract is bounded by Spies Road, NC Hwy 24/27, and Hwy 73/74, between Star and Biscoe.

Other Business

In other business on Monday, November 1, the Moore County Board of Commis-

sioners:

- Approved a resolution to continue to pursue good faith negotiations with the Town of Robbins on water discussions, placing all assets on the table for discussion to further the best interests of both and a mutually beneficial agreement.
- Approved a \$480,000 grant for Moore County Transportation. Described as a major component of the funding for the county's local transportation service, this is an annual grant received from the NC-Department of Transportation.
- Approved two requests to rename roads; one at Pelham Farms Subdivision

north of Youngs Road, one at Cotswald Subdivision off Linden Road.

- Appointed Stephen Sheffield to the Subdivision Review Board as an alternate surveyor.
- Proclaimed November 14-20 as Homeless Awareness Week. There were at least 1,100 instances of home-

lessness in Moore County last year. St. Joseph of the Pines has developed a website to increase awareness of the need for action, and to help direct volunteers and contributions, visit www.iamthefaceofthehomeless.org



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Foxfire

(Continued from page 4)

Shue twice to the presence of narcotics.

In addition, Foxfire Police also recently welcomed part-time Officer Scott Patterson.

Woodland Circle Extension

Two flat gutter areas on the Woodland Circle Extension project do not meet specifications and will allow water to pond for longer than desired periods but should not affect the long term integrity of the road and were described by both Foxfire consultant Tom Collins and Neil Smith Engineering as minor concerns.

Rather than repair that section, which was already repaved earlier this year, Smith recommended accepting the road as-is. All other items on the punch list have been satisfied once final paperwork is received later this week.

Due to delays by the culvert supplier, Smith said the contractor had been granted a 93-day extension on the project. In addition, inclement weather delayed proof rolling work on the sub-grade last November through January, which has prompted the contractor to ask for another extension grace period, this time for 110 days. Smith reported 56 days of unavoidable weather delays and 39 days when the project was

shut-down during Winter and recommended the Foxfire Village Council grant a 95 day extension for weather.

The final payment request of \$240,000 was submitted by the contractor several months ago and at \$1.6 million, the total project cost is under budget, reported Collins.

A Special Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 16 at 7 pm and, if the requested documents have been received, the Woodland Circle Extension project will be placed on the agenda for final approval.

Finance

Forty-two percent of the current year's property taxes have been collected, reported Finance Director Leslie Frusco. Reminder notices will be sent and the deadline for payment without penalty is January 5.

The General Fund stands at \$608,534 which includes \$16,722 in Powell Bill funds, \$20,977 in the Stonehill Pines account, and \$50,023 held in capital reserves. In addition, \$725,844 in General Funds from BB&T loan proceeds remains in the Woodland Circle Extension project.

Frusco reported the Water Fund at \$277,471 which does not include an additional \$26,561 in loan proceeds held for the Woodland Circle

Extension project and \$135,405 set aside is a restricted escrow account for a new well.

The first payment on the Woodland Circle loan, anticipated at \$269,864 from the General Fund and \$19,069 from the Water Fund, will be due in April 2011.

Frusco also reported that she is reviewing four bids for next year's audit report and will make a recommendation to the Council in December. Last year's audit report was submitted but has not yet received final approval by the local government commission.

Long Range Planning

Not surprisingly, survey results collected from Village residents run the gamut from some advocating for no future growth while others are looking forward to the possibilities of shopping locally at grocery stores and restaurants, reported Long Range Planning Chair Mick McCue.

He said the committee is reviewing responses to the survey and also putting together a baseline of cost information. Small focus groups will be formed for

more comprehensive discussion over the coming months.

"I would anticipate that you'll get the most qualitative and quantitative data in the focus groups and will allow you to put price tags on desires," Frusco said, noting that the Council is facing a difficult budget process for next year.

McCue agreed to provide a preliminary report on the survey to the Council by February when budget discussions will commence.

Water

Inclement weather caused some delays in water tower refurbishment project, but work should be complete by Thanksgiving week, reported Councilman Ed Lauer.

To comply with new State regulations, the Village must approve a new Water Shortage Response Plan. Lauer explained that unlike the existing plan which recommends specific actions to reduce water consumption during periods of drought, the new plan outlines the State's requirement that reductions be measurable through a demonstrated decrease based on the customer's previous billing period. The new plan includes reduced fines for non-compliance in Foxfire, but a surcharge will be added when voluntary restrictions are in place.

Lauer explained the surcharge makes fiscal sense because it allows the Water

(See "Foxfire," p. 28)



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Foxfire

(Continued from page 27)

Department to offset lesser revenue as a result of decreased water usage.

Action to approve the Water Shortage Response Plan was tabled until December to allow time for public comment and review. A complete

copy of the plan is available at the office and on the Foxfire Village website.

Irrigation meter fee

In a related discussion, the Council also approved a new irrigation meter application and fees, as required by the

State.

Per new regulations, a separate meter is now required for irrigation systems in addition to the primary water meter. The meter may be hooked into the system as a secondary or independent meter and fees will depend on how the water line is hooked up at the connection and also by the size of the water lines.

Streets

In response to several recent traffic-related fatalities in the Village, Councilman John Eltschlager reported a letter was sent to NC-Department of Transportation requesting an evaluation of the Richmond and Hoffman Roads intersection.

Also, while work continues on the water tower, the mobile yard waste truck will continue to be available on Tuesdays and Fridays, between 4:00 and 5:00 pm.

Other Business

In other business on Tuesday, November 9, the Foxfire Village Council:

- Heard from Erickson that one bid has been received and another is anticipated for tennis court improvements.

- Heard from Erickson that during a recent meeting with NC-DOT and county officials, the Town of Carthage is under pressure to make a decision regarding several proposed bypass routes. "They have gone on record as opposing the north and south routes; at some point, the State argued the impasse will begin to hurt other points

in the county and state."

Tabled a proposed animal ordinance for discussion during the Tuesday, November 16 Special Meeting.

- Heard from Erickson that Foxfire Resort & Golf representatives confirmed their concerns that rezoning the property into the proposed Recreational District could lower its value in the eyes of lenders. "Lenders ask two major questions," said Erickson, "What is the zoning and do you have water to sup-

(See "Foxfire" p. 30)



Craig Ramey, former chair of the Foxfire Village Planning Board, accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from George Erickson recognizing Ramey's outstanding performance and lasting contributions to the community.

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Sikes

(Continued from front page)

in part because of operating philosophy and style; that he believed that conflict could be detrimental to the membership; and that he, despite

his title of "Treasurer," felt he was being marginalized in the process of setting the FY 2011-2012 budget.

[The full text of Sikes' resignation letter appears below.]

Newsletter may have sparked action

While Sikes' letter makes clear that his concerns about his ability to work with the current set of Directors had

been simmering for some time, the spiking of an article he wrote for the November edition of the Westside newsletter may have brought the matter to a head.

The November newsletter includes lengthy, strongly-worded articles from both President Shepard and Legal Director Ed Silberhorn that are critical of the Dam Road Group -- a segment of the membership that has successfully mounted a petition drive to force a special membership meeting and vote on whether to have the road over Lake Auman Dam reopened to traffic.

Sikes told *The Times* that Silberhorn's article was circulated among Board members in advance, prompting him to write two articles for the newsletter, one of which "repudiates" Silberhorn's piece.

According to Sikes, newsletter editor Betsy Mikula considered the articles "inflammatory" and had sent them to President Shepard. The articles did not appear in the November newsletter. Both, along with a cover letter from Sikes, can be found on pages 24 and 25.

(See "Sikes," p. 30)

Treasurer Joe Sikes' resignation letter

Dear Fellow Members:

I have been engaged in an internal debate for some while now. The urgency of this self-examination has only been heightened by the recent (and continuing) quarrel over the closing of the dam road and by internal Board communications over the budget process.

Here are my conclusions:

1. The style and methods of operation of some members of this particular Board are ones for which I have a certain distaste;
2. My philosophical liberalism is inimical to the philosophical affinities of at least a majority of my present colleagues on the Board

and that is unlikely to be changed by the upcoming Board election, or, probably, by any subsequent election;

3. The positions I have sometimes taken on issues often seem to act as a lightning rod for negative reaction, closing minds on the Board not opening them. This is, I expect, my fault;
4. My complaints about Board processes may be having the unfortunate effect of diminishing opportunities for member input, not increasing those opportunities. Again, I expect this is my fault;
5. Having promised not to do so, I find myself falling all too easily back into habits of competitiveness;
6. Though this is trivial to my decision, I selfishly

include it so as not to be perceived to be any more derelict than may be convenient. I consider that I have been authoritatively informed that my role in the budget process will be such that my absence from the process is unlikely to be noticed;

7. The conclusions I have listed above clearly indicate that my continuing service on the Board would be a disservice to the membership, to the Board, and to me.

I hereby resign from the Board of Directors of the Seven Lakes West Landowners' Association.

Respectfully,
Joseph T. Sikes

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Sikes

(Continued from page 29)

"We can get by with a lot less control"

The former SLWLA Treasurer has seldom disagreed with his fellow Directors during open meetings on some of the more controversial matters facing the Board. For example, he fully supported the move to permanently close the dam road. However, he objected strongly to a recent Board decision to adopt a set of guidelines that lay out the fairly extensive qualifications for service on the Board, as well as a code of ethics for Directors.

"We don't need guidelines for who is qualified to run for the Board," Sikes told *The Times*, noting that the US Constitution imposes only three qualifications on candidates for the Presidency.

"We can get by with a lot less control," Sikes said. "We don't need to limit access to the website. We don't need to keep this secret or that secret. We don't need to not let the treasurer go to the membership with a draft budget."

Sikes took the unprecedented step of hosting two public meetings on the budget for the upcoming year before the Board itself began work on that project, and he had scheduled additional input sessions as part of the budgeting process.

"The Board has enormous power under the law," he added. "So it certainly doesn't need to arrogate to itself any more."

Noting that "there are var-

(See "Sikes," p. 31)

Foxfire

(Continued from page 28)

ply the course?"

Thanked Mr. and Mrs. Mick McCue for organizing the community Trunk or Treat party at the Village Green.

On Thursday, November 11, at 3:00 pm, a Flag Pole Dedication at the new memorial garden is scheduled.

Councilman Vic Koos was unable to attend the meeting.



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Sikes

(Continued from page 30)

ious ways to run a Board," Sikes said he no longer wanted to participate in the way the Westside Board is being run.

Freiert brings financial background

Freiert, who will serve out Sikes' term and replace him as Treasurer, ran unsuccessfully for the Board in March. He has since been active in the community in a variety of ways, President Shepard said during Tuesday's Work Session, including serving on the Finance Committee, on two Incorporation Study subcommittees, and as an active member of the Lake Auman Sports Club.

Formerly a Maryland-Certified Public Accountant, Freiert managed Nationwide's real estate portfolio, managing 9.4 million square feet of commercial real estate, before retiring to Seven Lakes in the Fall of 2009.

Public Comment

During Public Comment, Mike Gorenflo objected to the use of the website by directors to publish their personal opinions, when he was denied the right to place a non-partisan notice on the website indicating where petitions for the special meeting on the dam road could be obtained. Noting that the website is funded with member dues, Gorenflo said the website "should be able to be fairly and equitably be used, or not used at all."

"I am incredibly disappointed with lack of understanding by this Board that there can be more than one position on an issue," he added.

Director Hoffmann disagreed with Gorenflo, saying "I would not think the website is available for my use to oppose a 9-0 decision by the Board." Hoffmann said the website was an asset of the community, like the dam, the lake, and the community center, which fall under the authority of the elected Board.

Architectural Review

During Tuesday's Work session, the Board approved the combination of lots 5522 and 4206 -- an unusual request, in that the lots front on different streets and adjoin back to back instead of side to side. Director John Hoffmann questioned the value to the Association of such recombinations. Director Adam Wimberly noted that the Association loses revenue from dues on one of the lots, but gains some open space and a less dense streetscape.

The Board turned down the appeal of an Architectural Review Committee [ARC] decision not to allow the owners of lot 5501 to construct a four-foot-tall lighthouse alongside their driveway.

Wimberly told the Board that the ARC is considering asking for a revision of the construction fee schedule that would link fees to the size of the structure rather than offering a flat fee for all homes.

Nominees Sought

Secretary Karen Milligan reported that her Nominating Committee currently has just two candidates to fill three Board seats that could potentially come open in March. The terms of Milligan, President Shepard, and Legal Director Silberhorn are expiring.

Milligan is expected to deliver a list of nominees to the

Board for approval at its December 8 Work Session. She especially encouraged members who are still in the work force to consider running for a seat on the Board, noting that the Board's current Tuesday morning and evening meeting times are not carved in stone.

Community Events

Reporting in the absence of Director Jane Sessler, Community Manager Joan Frost said volunteers are being sought to help hang holiday decorations on Saturday, November 20, beginning at 10:00 am. Folks interested in

helping out can call the SLWLA office or email Sessler at janes@sevenlakeswest.com

Kids photos with Santa, as well as an evening tree lighting a cocktail party, will be held on December 5. There is no charge for the event; however, reservations and tickets will be required in order to help the office anticipate attendance.

Other Business

In other business during the Tuesday, November 9 SLWLA Work Session:

- President Shepard reminded Board members that the Tuesday, November

23 Work Session had been cancelled because of its proximity to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

- Community Manager Frost reminded Board members that they have a budget retreat scheduled for November 16.

- Director Hoffmann reported that gates have been installed on either end of the dam, allowing the concrete and wooden barriers to be removed. He will be asking local fire and EMS departments to conduct a training drill utilizing the gates.

- Frost relayed a request (See "Sikes," p. 32)

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Special meeting

(Continued from front page)

Director Ed Silberhorn said he had placed the details of how the meeting will be announced and conducted in the hands of the Association Attorney. Thus, it is not clear whether a ballot will be mailed with the meeting announcement, what that ballot will say, or how proxies will be handled was also not clear.

The last time a group of Westsiders successfully called a special meeting by petition was during the debate regarding the building of West Side Park. That resulted in two dueling special meetings, one held by the Board and another by the petitioners.

Silberhorn assured those who raised questions during the Work Session that Later was researching the Association bylaws, the NC Planned Community Act, and the NC Non-Profit Corpora-

tions Act -- all of which might have some bearing on how the meeting is conducted. The meeting would be conducted "in complete accordance with the bylaws," Silberhorn said.

That suggests Later's research will need to quickly lead to a plan for the meeting, because the bylaws call for at least 30 days notice to the membership.

Silberhorn encouraged Association members to make a special effort to attend, because a quorum of only ten percent is needed to make the meeting official. He said it is possible that those holding what is in actuality a minority position could pack the meeting and "have action taken."

President Ron Shepard said members should be sure to arrive early -- at 6:30 pm -- because CAS, Inc. staffers will be screening attendees to

make sure they are members in good standing, entitled to vote. Community Manager Joan Frost said it is important that those attending know their lot number.

Question as yet unclear

Exactly what attendees will be voting on remains unclear, pending Attorney Later's review, even though the petition submitted laid out in considerable detail the question on which the the petitioners wanted to vote.

The question, as drafted by Westside resident and Seven Lakes Attorney Mike Gorenflo, is this:

Shall the dam road be reopened for member and resident traffic subject to a (posted and reasonably enforced) speed limit of twenty (20) miles per hour and valid transponder/bar code sticker gated access and for all emergency vehicles (specifically

including, but not limited to, fire trucks, ambulances, and police vehicles) only?

Secretary Milligan reported that Gorenflo, who coordinated the petition drive, submitted 249 signatures. Of those, two were withdrawn by the signatories, two did not match the owner of any lot, twelve were duplicates, and fifteen were not members in good standing.

That left 218 "appropriate responses," 24 more than the 173 needed to exceed the ten percent hurdle set out

in the bylaws.

Board may disregard special meeting vote

Legal Director Silberhorn has made clear in previous Work Sessions that the SLWLA Board does not believe that its decision regarding the dam road can be bound or changed by any Special Meeting action, based on a legal opinion drafted by the Association's outside counsel.

An article by Silberhorn (See "Special," p. 33)

Sikes

(Continued from page 31)

from former Treasurer Kathy Kirst that the current Board ratify a decision by the previous Board to utilize the outstanding accumulated balance of dedicated West Side Park dues to make advance principal payments against the mortgage on the facility. The Board deferred action on that request until the auditors' report is available, because that report will define exactly how much surplus dues have been collected.

• Frost said a plan to

remove apparently abandoned trailers from the boat and trailer storage lot has been put on hold until the SLWLA rules and regulations can be revised to permit the Association to dispose of those items.

• Infrastructure Director John Goodman said the Association needs to rent storage space -- and ultimately, budget to build a storage building -- to house Association property now stored in the residence of former Infrastructure Director Ray MacKay.

• Manager Frost asked that landowners using the Community Center facilities not adjust thermostats, but rather ask the staff to do that for them, so that there is less chance that the heat will be left turned off on a cold night, risking frozen pipes.

• Frost noted that a security system has been added to the pool area, so residents should not enter that area without checking in with the office, lest they trip an alarm that will generate a call to the Sheriff's Office.



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Special meeting

(Continued from page 32)

printed in the November edition of the Association newsletter reiterates this point, stating: "Our outside counsel has thoroughly researched this matter and has opined that neither our Articles of Incorporation, our By-Laws, the NC Planned Community act, nor the NC Non-Profit Corporation Act give Members the right at a Special Meeting to force the Board to take actions which would effectively rescind its position in this case."

Although Gorenflo has asked that the outside counsel's opinion on this matter be made available to the membership, the Board has thus far refused to release it.

If the majority at the Special Meeting vote to reopen the dam road and the Board sticks to its guns, Silberhorn wrote in the newsletter, the only recourse for the members who want the road reopened would be to sue the Board -- a lawsuit that

Silberhorn believes the Board will win.

Public comment

Speaking on the dam road issue during the public comment segment of Tuesday's Work Session, Westsider Jim Brannon called the Board's survey of the membership on the issue "extremely prejudicial in your favor." He also suggested that Board members have, in email correspondence, evidenced bias against individual members that is in direct conflict with the Board's just-approved code of ethics. Brannon suggested the Board make better use of the website and social media applications to gather opinion from the large number of residents who have difficulty making time to attend Board meetings.

Answering Brannon, Infrastructure John Goodman said the Board had good reasons backing up its decision on the dam road and would have been remiss in its duty

to the membership not to share that information in the material accompanying the dam road survey.

Dale Erickson, who was permitted to speak outside the public comment portion of the meeting, after the Board had voted on the date and time for the special meeting, Called it a "sad, sad day for Seven Lakes West when we are acquiescing to the minority who want to drive across the dam." He said members who are "misinformed, misled, and mistaken" are costing the Association money to hold the Special Meeting.

He added that the conflict in the community over the dam road would soon be reported in the *Southern Pines Pilot* and the *Raleigh News and Observer*, damaging the reputation of Seven Lakes West and property values in the community.

Mike Gorenflo, who had spoken during the Public Comment period, was ruled out of order by President Shepard when he attempted to address the Board after

Erickson. The Board instead moved quickly to adjourn the open portion of the meeting and move into an Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

Creative Christmas Table

The Creative Christmas Table, will be held on Tuesday, December 7, at Little River Resort, Carthage, 11 am to 5 pm. Admission is \$5 per person. Moore County Extension & Community Association is sponsoring this sixth annual fundraiser.

Visitors will view 25 beautifully decorated holiday tables, decorated by local decorators and other talented individuals in Moore County. Holiday items may be purchased from: The

Country Store, Heritage Crafts Sales, and White Elephant Specials. Christmas cookies and other treats baked by the Sandhills Community College Culinary Department will be available to purchase. Demonstrations will be held at 12 noon, 2 pm and 4 pm. For more information call 910-947-3188.

Proceeds from the event will provide scholarships to Culinary Arts students at Sandhills Community College.



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Have a Safe and Healthy Thanksgiving Holiday!

Susan



Seven Lakes Times
November 12, 2010

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4tp 10/15

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3tp 10/29

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4tp 10/15

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6tx 9/3

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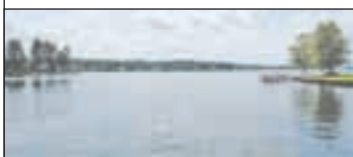
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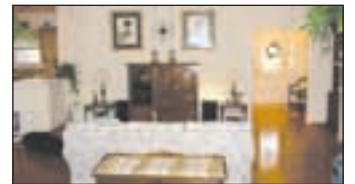
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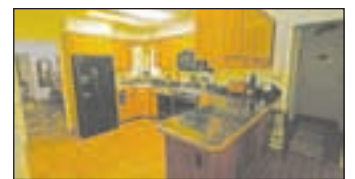
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