

To dance, to fly . . .



Kathryn Hasty performs in last year's Taylor Dance Production of *The Nutcracker*. This year's performances are November 23-25. See story on page 5.

Commissioners vote to appeal Aeromodelers ruling

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



The Moore County Board of Commissioners have unanimously

agreed to appeal a recent Superior Court ruling that could have a far-reaching impact on the property rights of local farmers.

At the center of this nearly two year-long dispute are

West End farmer Watts Auman; the Seven Lakes Aeromodelers, a club that leases a portion of Auman's property for twice weekly sessions flying remote-controlled model airplanes; and Samuel and Elizabeth Blackwell, a Wake Forest-based couple who own an adjacent ten-acre tract on NC Highway 73, near its intersection with Beulah Hill Church Road.

On Tuesday, November 13, the County Commissioners held a Special Meeting to decide whether to appeal Judge James Webb's ruling that rescinded the club's permit to fly on the basis that their use does not constitute a farming activity and, there-

(See "Aeromodelers," p. 20)

SLLA imposes 10:00 pm curfew

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



The old saying that "nothing good happens after midnight" holds true for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], as petty vandalism remains an ongoing problem, particularly in the wee hours of the morning at the community's parks.

On Wednesday, November 14, the SLLA Board of Directors took what the majority viewed as a baby step in the right direction by shifting the curfew back one hour. Effectively immediately, all parks and common area parking lots are now closed between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am, except for Association-san-

ctioned or approved events.

"We think it would be draconian to completely close the parks after dusk, but we have seen vandalism and graffiti that seems to be happening when it is dark," said Security Director Steve Ritter, in presenting the proposed restricted hours.

He also reminded the Board of their recent action that gives on-duty security officers the authority to order non-residents off community premises.

Based on the new curfew, any vehicles or persons observed at common areas after 10:00 pm may be approached by Roving Security. If the vehicle is unattended, the patrol will attempt

(See "SLLA," p. 10)

Westside Board may drop Work Session

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



The Westside Board may become smaller and meet less frequently, if two Nominating Committee recommendations prove as popular with the membership as they appear to be with the current Directors.

During the Tuesday, November 13 Work Session of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors, Secretary Jane Sessler recommended that the Board downsize from the current nine to seven members, and that it drop its second-Tues-

day Work Session, holding only one evening business meeting each month.

"The Committee would like to make some changes," Sessler told her fellow Board members. "One of them would be to change our meeting schedule to minimize the time that Directors have to spend in meeting, having one general meeting in the evening." Eliminating the monthly Work Session, which is currently held on a weekday morning, might make serving on the Board more attractive to younger members, she added.

"There is lots of communication via email between Board members," Sessler

(See "Westside," p. 14)

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Northsider charged with growing pot in attic



Christopher Brian Driggers

Officers from the Moore County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit, executing a search warrant on October 11, found a marijuana farm in the attic of a house on Brandywine Drive.

Eleven marijuana plants one to three feet tall were found in the attic, along with grow lights and timers, as well as fertilizer.

A Sheriff's Office news release put the weight of the plants at 440 grams, or about a pound.

Also found in the house were eleven dosage units of Hydrocodone, twenty-seven dosage units of Xanax, twenty-five dosage units of Valium prescription pills, and \$230 in cash.

Christopher Brian Driggers,

40, of 103 Brandywine Drive, was arrested on October 15 on a host of charges, including felony manufacturing of marijuana; felony possession with intent to sell, deliver, or manufacture marijuana; felony possession of marijuana; felony trafficking in opiates by possession; felony possession with intent to sell or deliver a Schedule III con-

trolled substance; felony possession with intent to sell or deliver a Schedule IV controlled substance; felony maintaining a dwelling to keep controlled substance; and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

Driggers was released on a written promise to appear in court.

Donate to the Chapel Christmas Fund

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Fri, Nov 30	Fri, Dec 7
Fri, Dec 14	Fri, Dec 21
Fri, Jan 4	Fri, Jan 11
Fri, Jan 18	Fri, Jan 25
Fri, Feb 1	Fri, Feb 8
Fri, Feb 15	Fri, Feb 22
Fri, Mar 1	Fri, Mar 8
Fri, Mar 15	Fri, Mar 22
Thu, Mar 28*	Fri, Apr 5
Fri, Apr 12	Fri, Apr 19
Fri, Apr 26	Fri, May 3
Fri, May 10	Fri, May 17
Thu, May 23*	Fri, May 31
Fri, Jun 7	Fri, Jun 14
Fri, Jun 21	Fri, Jun 28
Fri, Jul 5	Fri, Jul 12
Fri, Jul 19	Fri, Jul 26
Fri, Aug 2	Fri, Aug 9
Fri, Aug 16	Fri, Aug 23
Fri, Aug 30	Fri, Sep 6
Fri, Sep 13	Fri, Sep 20
Fri, Sep 27	Fri, Oct 4
Fri, Oct 11	Fri, Oct 18
Fri, Oct 25	Fri, Nov 1
Fri, Nov 8	Fri, Nov 15

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

The Chapel in the Pines begins their 24th year of holiday fund-raising this month.

All donations will be used for needy children, adults, and seniors in the area. The Chapel's community Christmas Fund encompasses much more than Christmas. It also helps families at

Thanksgiving and Easter, as well.

The money raised provides food vouchers and gifts for more than 50 area families in West End and Jackson Springs for the festive occasions.

"The source for these gifts is threefold: the Chapel's

Benevolence Fund, Seven Lakes area businesses, and individual contributions," said Cindy Holland, the Benevolence Committee's Chairwoman. "I would like to assure contributors that the Chapel works diligently with Moore County's Social Services Department to

ensure that the funds benefit those of need in the area."

If anyone would like to make a contribution for the holiday season, please send your checks to the Chapel Community Christmas Fund, c/o Cindy Holland, Box 4042 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC, 27376.

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Council welcomes new resort & golf owner

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



Good business for Foxfire Resort & Golf means good business for Foxfire Village

and — in the spirit of that mutual interest — the Mayor and Council approved an open letter of welcome and support to Brown Golf Management during their Tuesday, November 13 monthly meeting.

"We wish them great success and pledge the Council's cooperation with them in our goal to make Foxfire a better place for all of our citizens," said Mayor George Erickson.

He noted that he had visited the clubhouse and introduced himself to the new Food and Beverage Manager and also the new Golf Pro.

"Whatever we can do make them successful, makes everybody successful," Erickson said.

Debt service still tops list of concerns

The recent sale of two former municipal well site lots drew attention from MaryAnne Lauer during public comment.

In particular, she questioned whether the proceeds from that sale would be used for debt reduction, noting that the purchase of a new police vehicle had been paid for — at least in part — by the recent three cent tax increase.

Speaking for Finance Director Leslie Frusco, who was unable to attend the meeting, Erickson said each of the Village-owned lots had been sold for \$18,000 and he anticipated that revenue would be moved from the Water Fund to the General Fund.

Erickson also asked Lauer to put her specific concerns in writing for the Council to discuss at an upcoming work session.

In a related discussion on debt service and real estate, Erickson distributed an email from Village Attorney Michael Brough that addressed several questions that have come up regarding the much larger

160-acre Village-owned property currently for sale.

Erickson explained that he met with the listing agent, Robert Edwards, to discuss questions that have been raised by prospective buyers.

"I hope this information [from Brough] will be helpful to Edwards, so that these properties can be sold and built on," he said.

Rick Rhyne Memorial

Suggesting that a memorial to former Police Chief Rick Rhyne was needed in Foxfire Village, Angie McKew recommended that a plaque be placed at the Village Green Park and, possibly, a second memorial at the Town Hall or Village administrative offices.

"There has been recognition for Rick at other places, but not here in Foxfire where he served longest," she said.

Rhyne was killed in the line of duty last December, while serving as a Deputy

with the Moore County Sheriff's officer. Admired for his dedication, he was mourned by hundreds from across the state. Rhyne's name has been added to law enforcement memorials in Raleigh and Washington, DC, in addition to a plaque honoring his service with Pinehurst Police. In June, the Moore County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved naming the new public safety facility in Carthage as the Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center.

However, it was in Foxfire Village that the well-respected lawman spent the majority of his professional career — twenty-six years — serving as Chief of Police.

Mayor Erickson agreed that a local memorial was fitting and asked Public Safety Councilman Mick McCue to work with McKew to develop ideas.

Surplus police vehicle donated to West End Fire

The Board unanimously approved donating an older Foxfire Police car no longer needed for service to West End Fire & Rescue, as an administrative vehicle.

"We could sell it, but the benefit it gives to West End Fire far outweighs any money we might receive," explained

Councilman McCue.

He noted that the decommissioned police car is much more fuel efficient for any routine tasks and will be used for administrative runs between the Foxfire facility and the primary West End station; however, once prop-

(See "Foxfire," p. 27)

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Memorial hosts large Veterans' Day crowd

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

The November day was bright and warm, as former members of the armed forces gathered with family, friends, and neighbors at the Veteran's Memorial in Carthage to celebrate Veteran's Day, one day early.

But the Saturday, November 10 festivities had some somber notes, particularly when participants remembered Staff Sergeant Justin Cameron Marquez, a twenty-five-year-old Aberdeen native who was killed in October while on foot patrol in Afghanistan.

Many local officials attended the service, including Moore County Commissioners Tim Lea, Jimmy Melton, Craig Kennedy, and newly elected Commissioner Randy Saunders. District Attorney Maureen Krueger, Clerk of Superior Court Susan Hicks, and Carthage Mayor Lee McGraw were also on hand, as was

NC Representative Jamie Boles.

"It's a beautiful day, and it's humbling that we can come out and honor the veterans for what they sacrificed," Boles said. "We also should recognize what their families sacrificed. We take for granted going to bed with our families safe at home, when their loved ones are not."

A Place for Reunion

The Veterans Memorial has become more than a monument, said Mary Ann O'Connor, Post Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW] Post 7318. It is a place for reunion.

"This is a sacred place of remembrance and recognition of our veterans of Moore County both living and dearly passed," O'Connor said, "a gathering place for camaraderie and for loving memories."

Many area veterans con-

sider the annual memorial service a homecoming — and it's a popular homecoming, with overflow parking filling an adjacent field.

"Today is to celebrate our veterans," said Ruby Hendrick, Secretary-Treasurer of the Moore County Veteran's Memorial Committee. "This is sacred ground."

Alluding to the on-going negotiations between veterans groups and the Commissioners over the fate of a vacant three-acre county-owned tract adjacent to the Memorial, she added: "We want all this area preserved for the veterans and jointly owned by the County."

Noting that there was not enough seating to accommo-

date the crowd, Hendrick envisioned enhancing the site in stages: first an

amphitheatre, then a walking trail, and, eventually, rest-rooms.



Union Pines NJROTC students Chase Herrington, Brandon Leclair, Michelle Miller, and Taylor Anne Kramer.

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The Nutcracker – Years of experience, months of work

By Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

Behind the ethereal curtain of sleep, Clara dreams. The snow fairies take flight and ribbon candy spins on pointe. But it is the wise magic of the dark cloaked Drosselmeyer that awakens Clara's sense of devotion. Without Clara fighting for her prince, *The Nutcracker* would be little more than spun sugar.

It is substance that Gary and Rita Taylor of Taylor Dance successfully bring to the professional stage. It is devotion to their students that keep the Taylors on the road from High Point, commuting three to four days a week. The reward is a professional production performed by a classically-trained dance troupe. The Taylors mount their third annual production of *The Nutcracker* on November 23-25 at the Robert E. Lee Auditorium in Southern Pines. Then they'll pack up the show, and take it to High Point for their twenty-seventh season.

What would inspire the Taylors to drive the distance? "There's a saying: The arts belong to everyone," Rita Taylor told *The Times*. Taylor founded the High Point Ballet in 1987. "For those of us who have grown up in the world of dance, we recognize that the only way our art form will survive is to pass on the tradition, technique, choreography, and, most importantly, our love of dance, to others. Art forms survive because artists are willing to hand down from generation to generation the traditions and training."

The training began at age two for Kathryn Hasty, daughter of Winfred & Dawn Hasty of Pinehurst.

"I remember being lifted up into the air, and I thought I was flying," said Hasty, who is now sixteen and feels at home on the stage. "The stage is magical when the snow is falling. Beyond the first row, it is dark. You can't see anything. I've been doing this for so long, it's just natural to want come to class and

perform."

Kathryn and her five brothers spent their summers swimming at their grandfather Dr. Clay Daughtridge's home in Seven Lakes. "He had two dogs that swam with us," Hasty recalled, and when Kathryn wasn't swimming, she was dancing. Dance lessons were also considered play dates. "All of us girls have danced together since we were little," she explained. "We are like family. It's having that relationship with each other and knowing what the expectations are. There are no surprises."

The Taylors have worked hard to create a drama-free studio, with the expectation that older students mentor the younger. "It is important that we constantly share our love of the arts with our students, and they in turn share that joy and love for dance with one another," said Rita Taylor. "We have created a program built on the positive, and provide an open environment where our profes-

(See "Nutcracker," p. 28)



Kathryn Hasty in costume for Taylor Dance's production of *The Nutcracker*.

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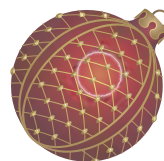
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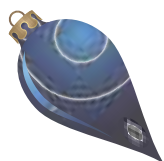
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In memory of . . .

Robert Esson Ham, 86, of Seven Lakes, died Saturday, November 17, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

He was born in Orange, NJ son to the late James Goodwin Ham and Frances Esson Ham.

Mr. Ham was a veteran of his country and served in the United States Navy and was a member of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Pinehurst. Mr. Ham owned Ham & Ham Insurance Agency in New Jersey and was also the owner of Robert E. Ham Real Estate in North Carolina and New Jersey.

He was preceded in death by his grandson, Matthew VanMasters.

Survivors include his wife, Baiba Lase Ham; sons: Robert Esson Ham Jr. of Houston, TX; and Richard Purcell Ham of Berkeley Heights, NJ; daughters: Marguerite Claire Ham of Elizabeth, CO; Laila Schmitt of France; and Aija Lazdane of Latvia; a brother, James Goodwin Ham of Red Bank,

NJ; ten grandchildren and several nieces and nephews also survive.

A funeral mass will be held on Saturday, November 24, at 11:00 am at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Pinehurst with Rev. Edward Burch officiating. Military honors will follow the mass at the church. The family will receive friends on Friday, November 23, from 5-7 pm at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Eye of the Storm, 10940 S. Parker Rd., Suite 444, Parker, CO 80134.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is serving the family.

Thomas "Tom" Schultz, 88, of St. Paul, MN, formerly of Seven Lakes died November 9. He was born in Centerville, Iowa and was a WW II veteran.

Mr. Schultz was a resident of the Seven Lakes community for over 25 years.

A natural leader, he was active for many years in the growth of the Chapel in the

Pines of Seven Lakes. He along with his wife, Bette, regularly delivered Meals on Wheels in Moore County.

He also escorted residents to doctor appointments for FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital for which he received a Governor's Award of Moore County. His sense of humor and community spirit were reflected in the bulletin boards he maintained at the Seven Lakes North and South entrances.

He had joined his family in St. Paul, MN for the last two years of his life.

Mr. Schultz is survived by his wife, Bette; daughter Marghe (Ron) Tabar; son Jeff Schultz (Kathy Falk); and his granddaughter Ashley Schultz.

The family will have a private service.

Memorials may be made to The Chapel in the Pines, 2125 Seven Lakes South, Seven Lakes, NC 27376.

Willwerscheid Funeral Home of St. Paul, MN assisted the family.

(Continued on page 7)

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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 6)

James Albert Kilpatrick, 87, of Seven Lakes died Thursday November 8 at his home. A memorial service was held on Wednesday November 14 at the Seven

Lakes Chapel in the Pines with the Reverend Don Welch and the Reverend Fran Stark officiating.

Mr. Kilpatrick was born in New Carlisle, OH and grew up in Tipp City, OH, where

his father was a veterinarian. After graduation from high school, where he was class president, Mr. Kilpatrick joined the US Navy. After his time in the service, he then attended college at Ohio

State where he met his wife of 65 years, Ellie.

Mr. Kilpatrick was a successful businessman, the owner and operator of Kilpatrick Heating and Cooling for thirty years. He was a member and president of the Tipp City Rotary Club with a perfect attendance record, and a board member of the Monroe Federal Savings and Loan. He was a Boy Scout in his youth and Scout leader in adulthood. One of his favorite scouting adventures was guiding canoe trips down the nearby Great Miami River, teaching the boys the correct way to handle a canoe.

The Kilpatricks retired to Seven Lakes in 1989, and he became quite active in Habitat for Humanity, building houses for people who needed a "hand up" not a "hand out." In 2009, he was honored by Habitat and Moore County as the "Volunteer of the Year", for eighteen years of faithful service. He was known by Habitat volunteers as the "Tin Man," a reference to his skill

in installing the metal work under the eaves of houses.

Mr. Kilpatrick was a starter-ranger for many years at Pinewild Country Club Golf Course. He worked with his partner Larry Auckland on the second major expansions of the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines in 1997, expanding the sanctuary from 80 to 275 seats.

He was preceded in death by his younger brother John.

He is survived by daughter Gail Lee and her husband Chris Whitis; son Andy and his wife Mary; and daughter Leslie and her husband Andre Van Ekeris; six grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

Memorial donations can be made in memory of James Kilpatrick to the Chapel in the Pines at 2125 Seven Lakes South, Seven Lakes, NC 27376 or Habitat For Humanity of NC Sandhills at 2268 NC 5 Highway, Aberdeen, NC 28315

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.



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Baby B's Antiques – New shop on Grant Street

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

It's just a happy coincidence that the newly constructed pediatric facility is right across the street from Baby B's Antiques.

Opened in early October on Grant Street, in the Seven Lakes Business Village, the "baby" in this shop is owner Claire Barrow.

"I have a soft heart and cry easily, so my husband used to tease me a little and call me a cry baby. Then he eventually just started calling me Baby B," she said.

But make no mistake, Baby B is no sissy when it comes to finding a good deal.

A lifelong collector who loves the thrill of picking through estate sales and rummaging through favorite second-hand stores, she said the real excitement is finding something unique.

"Picking reminds me of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, where Charlie was looking for that golden ticket," Barrow explained. "The fun thing about picking is you just might find a Picasso among those old velvet pictures of dogs playing poker."

Her new shop is missing a Picasso but is otherwise filled with vintage treasure.

"I have everything! I have some antique porcelain, 1950's kitchen appliances,

cast iron tools, furniture, and antique mirrors," she said. "I just love the historical aspect of things . . . especially stuff from industries that no longer exist in this country. You just never know what people have."

Her cardinal rule is everything in the shop must be at least twenty years old, and she works hard to keep her inventory varied and interesting. One perk is that Barrow also maintains two booths at a large antique mall in Concord, so she also has the option to bring items back and forth.

In addition to her shop and booths, Barrow keeps busy with selling her unique finds on Etsy, an online site. In fact, it was when she went looking for office space to store her massive catalog of items that she found the shop in Seven Lakes.

"This place is perfect! I have a place to work from to list online and, at the same time, can have a retail space too," she said. "I love to interact with people and having a shop allows me to meet new people. I can find out what they are looking for and keep a wish list and an eye out for it when I am out and around."

Barrow said learning to sell her goods on Etsy was a wonderful opportunity and she

shares that knowledge by hosting Etsy classes.

"I teach people how to set up their store and sell online. A lot of people are intimidated by computers but, if you can send email, you can sell on Etsy," she said.

In particular, she said the site is successful because it is well-respected and was developed exclusively for handcrafted and vintage or antique goods. Plus, an online shop can reach potential customers twenty-four hours a day.

"Etsy is not an auction site

(See "Baby," p. 9)c.o.



Claire Barrow of Baby B's Antiques



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Beaconettes raise \$2,200 for CancerCare

The Beaconettes raised \$2,200 to benefit the CancerCARE Fund in a golf outing on October 25, at Beacon Ridge Country Club.

Seventy ladies participated in the even, which included a luncheon, nine holes of golf, and a voluntary blind

donation to the Fund.

Guest speakers Laura Kuzma and Pam Hudson, representatives of the Cancer CARE-Net program, part of the Moore Regional Hospital Foundation, told participants that the Cancer CARE Fund provides prosthesis, wigs,

transportation, medications and other individual needs of the cancer patients. One hundred percent of the money raised benefits the Cancer CARE Fund of the Moore Regional Hospital Foundation.

Susan Schurr, Beaconette

President, and Barbara True, Foundation Volunteer, co-chaired the event.



Laura Kuzma, Barbara True, Pam Hudson, & Susan Schurr

Baby B's

(Continued from page 8)

because items are listed by price," she explained. "But, as a worldwide market, there are things I can sell on Etsy that people cannot find in other countries. They might be looking for something where, here in the United States, it is not even considered collectible."

Once, Barrow said, a stenciled creamer caught her fancy in an Indiana thrift store. She thought the pattern was cute and picked up a few for less than two dollars each.

Listed on Etsy, the little diner-style creamers were discovered by a buyer in Finland who snapped them up

for over \$50 each.

"The creamers were actually made in Finland in the 1940's. Somehow they made their way across the Atlantic to Indiana and this lady in Finland was so excited. She bought them from me, saying, 'It is time to bring those little dears back home!'" shared Barrow.

She herself understands that nostalgia perfectly.

"I was raised around antiques. My mother had beautiful family pieces like mahogany desks and Chipendale tables," Barrow explained. "She taught me a lot about antiques and I have always been a collector. One day, I decided to start

selling things and, the next thing I knew, I had a business."

Baby B's Antiques is located on Grant Street, and the shop is open, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 am to 6 pm. To reach Claire Barrow directly, call 910-515-5824 or email BabyBAntiques@gmail.com



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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from front page)

to contact the owner, and an incident report will be filed with the office.

Director Chuck Leach opposed the decision, arguing that a stricter curfew is needed.

"To my way of thinking, if we are going to change the policy it should have a significant difference," Leach said. "At night, the only thing we see around here is VDS — vandalism, drugs, and sex."

Ritter replied that the Security Committee considered closing the parks earlier in the evening, but was concerned such a decision could have a negative impact on evening walkers, particularly those residents who live near community parks.

"We are hoping the new hours will have some impact on the issues you are talking about, that is being done by some fringe element out there," Ritter said. "Our hope is to give our [Roving] Security enough items in their tool bag to deal with these people."

President Bob Darr expressed support for the less restrictive hours, noting that the newly-hired Roving Security officer has made significant progress in elim-

inating after-hours vandalism.

"That activity has really, really decreased because, frankly, they are not hanging out anymore behind the Clubhouse," said Darr. "Chuck and I were in agreement to close the parks at sundown, but now that I am seeing what is going on now, I am in favor of trying 10:00 pm. And if this doesn't solve our problem, then we can revisit the issue; but, for now, this is a step in the right direction."

Six-month pass eliminated

Arguing that the old system of allowing six-month gate passes for contractors was poorly managed and tracked, Security Director Ritter successfully proposed a new thirty-day maximum pass.

The new policy will take effect December 31, when all contractors — including construction, health care professionals, landscapers, and more — will be required to sign in their staff and vehicles on a monthly basis at the SLLA office.

Treasurer Conrad Meyer reiterated his concern about asking residents to take responsibility for the actions of contractors, particularly noting that many businesses

have multiple work sites within the community.

As approved, at least one resident must sign the contractor request form, but it will be up to the individual business to keep the pass current and to list all of their job sites within the gates. Any violation of community rules by a contractor could result in termination of their access to SLLA.

"This is a good start in terms of getting control over who is on our premises," said Darr. "We may have to work out a few issues that may cause us to rethink exactly how we do it, but this policy is another step in the right direction."

New financial policies

Mirroring a standard policy used by other communities under CAS management, the Board unanimously adopted a new policy that still allows for dues payment plans — but under a much more restrictive timeframe.

As approved starting next fiscal year, residents will be

limited to a three-month payment period for annual dues — except under extraordinary circumstances, when a longer period may be granted.

"We are not making drastic changes to the methods that people can use to pay their dues," explained Meyer. "This allows for a payment plan, but only up to a six month maximum. That is the biggest change from what we have had before."

The Board approved a new uniform policy that will allow the Association to write off landowner accounts as bad debts. Each will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and only the Board has the authority to determine if an account is uncollectable.

Treasurer Meyer noted that there is a backlog of uncollectable accounts that will be handled on a reasonable schedule, rather than attempting to write off everything in a single fiscal year.

"We will keep the throttle on the valve a little bit," he said.

Boat trailer fee approved

At \$10 annually, the newly approved boat trailer fee is a minimal cost to boaters, but the Board is hoping it will improve tracking methods and help identify owners.

As discussed, the new stickers will become effective in May 2013, and will be required on any boat trailer that is stored on common property — including the Sequoia Point lot and the Yard Waste facility. All proceeds from the fee will be used to defray maintenance costs of those same areas.

Stables policy includes option for free-lease horses

Based on recommendations of the Recreation Committee and Stables Manager Kate Pennington, the Board approved a revised set of operational policies.

Many of the items were basic housekeeping issues related to stables use, but questions were raised over a new ban on cell phones during trail rides.

(See "SLLA," p. 11)

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nov 26	Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30
	Tuscan White Bean Soup ♥ Italian Meatloaf Dinner	Curried Chicken Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	Mexican Meatball Soup Herb-Crusted Salmon Dinner ♥	Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo Beef Enchiladas Dinner ♥
3	4	5	6	7
CLOSED	Tomato Basil Soup Chicken with Artichokes Dinner ♥	Cabbage Paprikash Soup Pot Roast Dinner	Beef Barley Soup ♥ Pecan Crusted Tilapia Dinner	New England Clam Chowder Smothered Pork Chops Dinner
10	11	12	13	14
New Hours!	Potato Bacon Soup Italian Meatloaf Dinner	Broccoli Spinach Soup ♥ Chicken Marsala Dinner ♥	Chicken Brunswick Stew Tilapia Florentine Dinner ♥	Shrimp & Corn Chowder Beef Burgundy Dinner
17	18	19	20	21
Tuesday - Friday 11:00 - 6:30 pm	Chicken Dumpling Soup Salisbury Steak Dinner	Split Pea with Ham Soup Chicken Paprikash Dinner	Butternut Bisque ♥ Crab Cake Dinner ♥	Vegetable Soup ♥ Walnut Pork with Cranberry Dinner
24	25	26	27	28
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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 10)

Recreation Director Bob Racine explained the restriction was a safety issue — as vibrating and ringing phones could spook horses and also be a distraction for riders. But he explained that Stables staff would always carry a cell phone on trail rides, in case of emergencies.

Also approved was a new policy that will allow the Stables to accept free lease horses. Historically, privately-owned horses have been prohibited at the barn; however, Pennington is currently pursuing an option to acquire two new horses under a free lease agreement.

"What we are looking at here is the opportunity for us to have usable, ride-able horses in our stables that we don't have to buy," explained SLLA President Darr.

Under a free lease agreement, the Association would cover all feed, grooming, and veterinary costs to maintain the horses, in exchange for the animals being placed in

the stables trail ride program. The horses are owned, in fact, by a Seven Lakes member, but that resident will have the same access and privileges as all other members. In addition, the free lease includes a two-month probationary period.

Darr and Racine described the new horses as young and in excellent condition — thus they will require less feed and veterinary expenses.

"From an economic standpoint, this is a win-win," said Darr.

The community's longest serving horse, Casey, who has provided over twenty years of trail rides to SLLA residents and guests, will be retired immediately to his new home. Once the two free lease horses are settled in, another older horse will also be retired, reported Sohl.

Singling out Pennington's efforts in securing the newcomers, Darr applauded her proactive work.

"She gets in her car and drives all the way to Kentucky to ride these horses and

approve that they are sound," he said. "She is doing a heck of a job, I'm telling you!"

Proposed facility fees for guests raises ADA concerns

A proposal to charge daily guest fees at the Northside Pool and Seven Lakes Stables was pulled from the table over concerns about American Disabilities Act [ADA] requirements.

Recreation Director Racine said his committee thought the proposed guest fees were a good starting point — at \$5 per day for the pool, \$20 for trail rides, and \$10 for pony rides — but there is a possibility that charging for outside use could force the Association to adhere to ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] accessibility standards.

Potentially, that could mean installing two handicap lifts at the pool and renovations to restrooms, ramps, and hallways at the barn.

Darr expressed frustration at the lack of progress with

recreational issues, most especially with attempts to control high guest use, which outpaces resident use by twofold at the stables and was estimated at thirty percent of all pool users. But Racine argued there was no urgency and then it was important to consider all related issues before making any decisions.

"We have found these obstacles; and, if you see a bump in road you don't stop, but you do slow down," he said. "We need to review first and then go forward."

Community Manager Sohl noted there is some wiggle room with ADA standards for guest use of residents from an adjacent community, such as Seven Lakes West, but agreed it would take more time to properly research that possibility.

Director Ritter also expressed concern about adding new fees.

"We are lumping the pool and stables in together for


a set fee," he said. "It looks like, at the stables, what we are trying to do is reach an acceptable number for guests who use horses because their use drives up our costs: I am okay with that."

But Ritter argued that the pool had certain set costs — such as staffing and chemicals — that would not fluctuate whether there were ten guests present, or thirty. In particular, he questioned the impact of a \$5 per day for visiting grandchildren.

"For two weeks [visit], you are looking at maybe \$30 to bring grandkids to the pool. And, in reality, what more work have they caused us to do?" Ritter asked.

Darr responded that extra people in the pool do drive up chemical needs and, therefore, costs, but that more visitors also require additional capital infrastructure in the way of pool furniture, cushions, and umbrellas.

(See "SLLA," p. 12)



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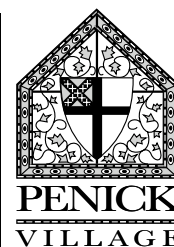


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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 11)

"We not looking at off-setting fees," Darr said. "What we're saying is, there are costs to the Association. Members are already paying and, we think, non-members ought to also help us pay towards defraying those costs."

While the Board did not engage in any meaningful discussion on the hot button issue of whether or not to employ lifeguards next Summer, that concern was raised during public comment.

"I hope you will think long and hard before getting rid of lifeguards at the pool," cautioned a resident.

Director Racine also noted that, without lifeguards, the pool facility would have to be upgraded to include either a key lock or swipe card access system.

Finance

Six accounts are currently

in the foreclosure process, SLLA Treasurer Meyer reported, with Community Manager Sohl estimating attorney fees for each at \$1,300.

Because of the compressed holiday meeting schedule, the Finance Committee had not yet reviewed standard monthly statements, Meyer reported. But he noted that one big change going forward is that road paving improvements will be reported as assets and a footnote explanation has been added to the balance sheet.

Meyer also reminded the Board that preliminary budget proposals are due.

Maintenance to discuss street sign compliance

Another looming and unanticipated expense involves forty-one replacement street signs that are necessary to bring the community into compliance with Moore County records.

Accurate signs are vital during an emergency situation, and the concern was initially raised last year, when staff in the Moore County GIS mapping office discovered that signs within the community did not match their records. Most changes involve minor spelling corrections or shifting a compass point designation; for example, West Devonshire versus Devonshire West.

"It is a costly proposition to change forty-one signs," cautioned Sohl, recommending a phased approach to change all signs in the community to improve safety and appearances.

Darr agreed that cost is a major concern, quoting an estimate of \$240 per sign.

"We are talking about 41 signs, but there are probably 500 or more signs in all of the community," he said. "We are talking about a hell of lot of money, and it will have

to be a phase-in kind of thing. We cannot do it in one shot."

In related maintenance and infrastructure discussion, Sohl reported that six landscape contractors were approached for bids, including the current service contractor Davenport Landscaping. He said those bids would be reviewed by the Maintenance Committee, along with bids for renovation work at the Southside gate house and the pool barn.

An estimate for road striping work drew immediate consternation from the Board, who questioned the excessive square footage anticipated.

Darr said they would "sharpen their pencils" and carefully review exactly where road striping is required. Primarily the striping will be added to traditional No Passing zones, such as dam causeways, curves and hills.

Lakes and Dams

On ongoing pump problem at Little Juniper lake literally reached a breaking point, reported Director Don Fentzlauff; and a new pump has been ordered.

"We have had a multitude of problems," he said. "We would get one fixed then another shows up."

The new pump uses a different design and is much more rugged and efficient than the existing pump.

Resuming discussion of a Lakes & Dams proposal to relax the ban on jet boats, Fentzlauff said the vessels under consideration are not Personal Watercraft. He offered a better description as a water-driven engine on a ski boat.

"They are safer because they do not have moving prop [propeller] in the water," he explained. "It sucks in water and pushes it through a tube.

(See "SLLA," p. 13)



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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 12)

These boats look very similar to a deck boat, and are no faster than what we have on the lake now."

Also during the Lakes & Dams report, he noted that lake water testing was completed and that all readings were well below any danger levels.

"Our water quality is extremely good in all of our lakes," Fentzlauff said.

Darr thanked the committee for their efforts: "This is a large and active committee and they have done some wonderful things this year. We thank them."

Recreation

The children's Halloween Party was a "howling success," Director Racine reported, thanking the many volunteers who helped decorate, baked treats, and helped serve the community's little ghosts and goblins.

Upcoming events include a Mingle & Jingle holiday

party for adults and children scheduled for Sunday, December 16, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Kids will enjoy a visit from Santa Claus and supervised crafts and games in the Community Activity Center, while parents and other adult residents enjoy entertainment and a BYOB party next door in the North Clubhouse. All are welcome to participate, and volunteers are needed.

Security

Despite what is viewed by many as a chronic vandalism problem, Director Ritter noted the previous month had been very quiet, with only two incidents reported — one being a smashed pumpkin.

Based on a recommendation by Roving Patrol, additional GPS checkpoints will be added to the community to bring the total up to forty-seven identifiable targets. The Roving Patrol vehicle records its passage by these points, ensuring that every

street is included in daily patrols.

Ritter said that he is anticipating an upcoming meeting with the Moore County Sheriff's Office to discuss borrowing the speed alert trailer — and that Sohl had received confirmation that local law enforcement agencies do have authority to write citations on the privately-owned roads within Seven Lakes.

Other business

In other business conducted by the SLLA Board during the Wednesday, November 14 Open Meeting:

- Darr reported that the meeting was being audio recorded to ensure accurate meeting minutes were kept. But he explained that state law required those recordings to eventually be destroyed once the minutes were approved, because minutes are not supposed to include public comments and detailed discussions.
- Fentzlauff reported that the

Architectural Review Board approved a new home construction, along with other many other improvement and home renovation requests including new paint and siding, fencing, removal of trees, and new roofs.

- Racine reported that the Community Standards Committee is "going full blast" thanks to new CAS reporting formats. "It will be very easy to track these alleged violations and see

that they don't slip through the cracks," he said.

- Darr reported the Long Range Planning Committee is reviewing suggested items included in the Reserve Study and will submit those for cost estimates. In addition, the committee is developing estimates for the next phase of paving work, anticipated to commence in four years.

Foxfire Kids' Christmas Party

A Christmas Party for Foxfire Property Owners Association Families will be held at the Foxfire Club House on Sunday, December 2, 4:00-5:00 pm.

Festivities will include: Cookies and assorted beverages, Tree lighting, Christmas carols, a sing-along

and a visit and photos with Santa.

Foxfire resident children, grandchildren, and house guests are invited to attend.

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Westside Board

(Continued from front page)

noted. "And we also have a website, with a strong flow of information in both directions."

The Nominating Committee's second suggestion was to drop the number of Directors on the Board from nine to seven members, she explained. Sessler said the community has a strong management company that is increasingly handling the day-to-day issues that were once handled by Directors. And she suggested that making use of committees that are not necessarily chaired by a Director could also reduce Director workload.

President Mick Herdrich noted that the meeting schedule can be changed by a simple vote of the Board. Changing the number of Directors would require an amendment to the bylaws, which is a more involved process. He said that the Board would solicit public comment on both issues, with a possible vote on dropping the Work Session in December. A change in the size of the Board, Herdrich suggested, would likely not be voted on until after the Annual Meeting in March.

Herdrich asked each Director to comment on Sessler's proposals; and there was strong support for dropping the Work Session.

Eliminating the Work Session

"I would support changing the meeting schedule," Director Jack Stevens said, noting that the evening meeting draws a larger number of members and that the Board has scheduled additional Town Hall meetings when issues arise that require extraordinary public input. The Directors "get a lot accomplished through emails," Stevens added. "I think it would make serving on the Board more attractive."

"I would support one meeting a month," Treasurer Don Freiert said. "From the perspective of finance and treasurer, our reporting is all monthly. In our last several

meetings, the formalized portion of the meetings [that is, the committee reports] has been relatively short. I attribute that to the enhanced communications that do go out with the website and other communications."

"For me, I like these meetings, but I don't know whether they are necessary," Infrastructure Director Jim Pierman said. "The thing that I see is that there is some redundancy here. I'm not sure we really need to have the morning meeting." He added that eliminating one meeting a month "may enhance the ability of some to serve."

"The ARC requirements are such that our reports can follow a thirty-day window," said Architectural Review Director Dan Blue. But Blue cautioned that having only one Board meeting a month could delay progress on construction projects by thirty days, in cases where Board approval is needed for some reason. He said he supported moving to a single meeting during the month "with the exception that there would have to be an accommodation for special meetings."

Sessler said that the Nominating Committee, in interviewing prospective Board members, consistently hears: "I can't put in that kind of time." Moving to one Board meeting month "is going to be for the best of the community," she said. "The people who are the best candidates

are the busier candidates."

"When you are working," Lake & Dam Director Bruce Keyser said, "if you have twelve meetings per year to attend in the morning, a lot of people can't do that. The pool of people we could bring in — which probably represents two-thirds of the people in this community — I think it would open up a new group of people to serve."

Security Director Ed Cockman, who has served for a number of years on the Nominating Committee, said the commitment to two meetings a month is a distinct impediment that prevents good candidates from serving on the Board.

"Meeting on Tuesday once a month would be more attractive to most people," Events Director Rosemary Weber said. She cautioned that the Board's executive sessions, which are often held as part of every meeting, "seem to run an hour-plus. Having one meeting a month would tend to extend that time."

"I agree with what everyone has said," President Herdrich said, wrapping up the discussion. He noted that, before CAS began managing the Association, and before Board Members began using email and the website to communicate between meetings, "it used to be that things came up that you hadn't heard of before you walked into the meeting. That doesn't happen any more."

"We will put this out to the community for comment for next 30 days," Herdrich said. "We will take it up at the first meeting in December."

During Public Comment, resident Joe Gavala said, "I remember when we just had one meeting a month. The biggest complaint was lack of communication."

Reducing the Size of the Board

The Nominating Committee's proposal to reduce the size of the Board from nine to seven members also

appeared to win support, though questions were raised about exactly how the Board's workload could be cut to accommodate the reduction in manpower. The key question appeared to be whether a smaller Board would require an increase in the size of the management staff, or if work could instead be handled through an enhanced committee structure.

President Herdrich noted that a nine-member Board is relatively unusual, and the idea of cutting down its

(See "Westside," p. 15)

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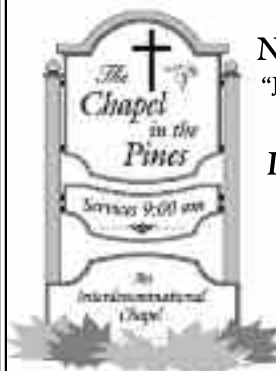
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Westside

(Continued from page 14)

size has been discussed for a number of years. Community Manager Jeanette Mendeance said seven member boards are more common in CAS-managed communities. "I don't see us making a quick decision on this," Herdrich added.

Reducing the size of the Board will require "a lot of thought about what those seven Board members would do," Friert said. "Would there be an implication to the size of the staff? We have been a community of volunteers that do a lot — and that has necessitated the nine member Board, to divvy up those tasks." Noting that significant community feedback would be needed to determine exactly how the Board would be reconfigured, Friert said, "I wouldn't be against it, as long as it is well planned."

Director Blue said he agreed with Friert that the key question is how "duties are going to be apportioned. The bottom line is whether the community is going to pay for it via volunteer time, or whether we are going to expand the staff."

Director Sessler, on the other hand, seemed to feel that a smaller Board could get its work done by offloading work onto better-managed committees, rather than necessarily increasing the size of the management staff.

She held up the ARC committee, where the work is managed by two committee chairs who report to Blue, as an example for the rest of the Board. "There are an awfully lot of community people who are willing to be on a committee — to chair a committee," she said, "anything behind the scenes. But they don't want to be sitting here [at the Board table]. She pointed to the recently-formed Amenities Committee as a smoothly-functioning committee that reports to the Community Manager, rather than to a Board Member. "We, right now, are hands on; and maybe we need to take our hands off," Sessler said.

(See "Westside," p. 16)



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Westside Board

(Continued from page 15)

Legal Director Stevens said CAS President John Stone had confirmed that most of their communities have seven-member boards. "I would agree with the shift of responsibility to CAS," Stevens said. "That would be good. I spent the first year like a deer in the headlights — shifting some of that responsibility would make the Board transition more manageable. Stevens suggested that the Board make a decision on the matter prior to the Annual Meeting in March and develop a transition plan for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

"We are Directors; and, by that term, we should be directing," Director Keyser said. "In past years, the Board was basically CAS — the Board had to do all those things. I think the transition has started to take place where we are giving more of our duties over to CAS. The community will have to determine whether it is willing to pay to have those duties shifted." Keyser said a seven-member Board "makes more sense," but added that he would not like to see a move to two-year terms for Directors, because that could create a situation in which "the Board could be controlled by a faction."

"I would hate to see us make this decision simply because it is hard to get people to serve on the Board," Director Cockman said, suggesting that any change should instead be based on the merits of the idea. "Some Board members have refused to use committees very well," he said. "I see that using committees wisely is a way to handle going to a seven member Board."

"I think going to seven is the way to go — or the way we will end up going," said Director Weber. "But it is going to cost us . . . We would have to increase the staff."

"Unless we got more efficient in how we use our committees," Sessler interjected, pointing to the newsletter committee as an example.

"Betsy [Mikula] runs it," Sessler said. "I don't go to that committee meeting anymore . . . Someone might be happy being Chair of Events, if they don't have to be a Board Member Chair of Events."

"I still see CAS having to hire more staff," Weber replied, "but I can see downsizing as being the way to go."

Noting that he had thought about the issue "quite a bit," Infrastructure Director Pierman said his concern was "sustainability." He explained that it can take six to eight months to get up to speed on infrastructure. "We've had situations in the past where we have Directors go through this learning curve and then, three years later, it all starts

all over again," he said. "There are other communities where the manager is much more involved in the maintenance of the community." He added that committees are better suited to special projects, like building a mailhouse, than to handling routine maintenance.

"Infrastructure is going to be high-cost no matter what," Director Pierman said, recommending that the Association hire an engineering firm to provide guidance on on-going infrastructure maintenance to the CAS management team, which would then handle getting bids and negotiating contracts.

"The process that we have had so far is not working — and will not work — because the breadth of the situation,"

Pierman said. "You never get the history or the follow-through because of the turnover on the Board. We have a structure that hasn't kept pace with all that must be done."

Pierman said that implementing that sort of plan for infrastructure might allow the elimination of the Infrastructure seat on the Board.

Director Stevens pointed out that adding a position to the management team at a cost of \$50,000 would cost each lot owner an additional \$33 per year.

"Seven Lakes West is run by Board, a management

company, and volunteers," President Herdrich said. "You get consistency by having a management company. The volunteer thing is going down. We have a very solid group of volunteers. But they are tired."

"And the demographics have changed. We have a much younger population, and they often don't have time to volunteer. As that goes down, CAS is going to pick it up, or the Board is going to pick it up. It's fair if every household has to pay the \$33."

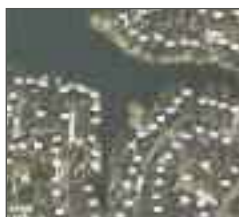
(See "Westside," p. 17)

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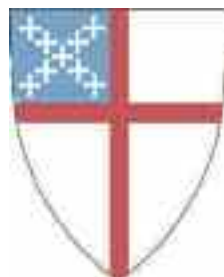
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Across the street from the Lake. Deep lot with a slope towards the road. Many nice trees.

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Westside Board

(Continued from page 16)

Finance

Treasurer Freiert reported that the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Financial Review has been completed, with no need for modifications to the Association's books. SLWLA finances are audited every other year, with a less expensive financial review performed by the auditing firm for the alternate years. With the review complete, the Association's state and federal income taxes have been filed. Because of tax loss carry-forwards, no taxes were due.

Reviewing the results for the first six months of the current fiscal year, Freiert said revenues are \$327,000 ahead of expenses, and \$168,000 above budget, but that is an expected variance, caused by prepayment of dues, that will decline relative to budget as the year progresses. Capital costs for the six month period totaled \$211,000. Freiert said the six-month analysis would be posted on the Association website in a week or so.

"It's been a good six months," he said. "We expect to stay pretty much on budget for the whole year."

Looking at October financial results, Freiert reported that extraordinary expenses during the month included a \$9,951 payment to Marks

Enterprises for engineering services and a \$6,171 quarterly insurance payment to State Farm. He said a treasury note and a certificate of deposit had been sold to raise funds for the new mailhouse and the rehabilitation of Carriage Park Pond Dam #3.

Infrastructure

The remediation of Carriage Park Pond Dam #3 is complete, Infrastructure Director Pierman reported. The next step is to install guiderails and walking paths alongside Longleaf Drive. He noted that the saturation of soil under the roadway had weakened the road structure, so that the heavy equipment and trucks used in the remediation damaged the surface of the road. A temporary patch has been installed; a more permanent fix will be made once the water drains out of the soil, sometime in 2013. Crews have begun tree

trimming along Association rights of way, Pierman said, explaining that branches overhanging the roadway will be removed up to a height of fifteen feet, whether the tree is growing from Association property or landowner property. Property owners who want to balance the appearance of trees by trimming up branches on the non-roadway side of their trees will have to contract for that work independently, Pierman said.

During Public Comment, resident Diane Evans objected to Director Pierman's plans to install some storm water drainage infrastructure on Winston Drive. Evans explained how storm water flows along that street and adjacent streets, and encouraged Pierman to visit the area during a downpour before making changes to the existing drainage structures.

Events

Director Weber reported that upcoming events include:

- Holiday decorations at the gates on Friday, November 16 at 10:00 am. They will be removed on Friday, January 11 at 10:00 am.
- Holiday decorations at the Community Center on November 17 at 10:00 am. Removal on Saturday, January 12 at 10:00 am.
- Tree lighting and community Christmas Party on Friday, December 7 from 6:00 pm to 9:00pm. The event is free to members, but tickets must be picked up at the SLWLA office.
- Children's Christmas Party with Santa on Sunday, December 9 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.
- American Band Stand Revival - a 1950s-style party at the Community Center on Saturday, February 9.

Other Business

In other business during the Tuesday, November 13 meeting of the SLWLA Board of Directors:

- Secretary Sessler noted that approved minutes of the last Board meeting are available on the SLWLA website.
- Sessler reported that the nominating committee has "three excellent candidates" to stand for election in March. They will be presented to the Board at its December 11 Work Session.
- Manager Mendeance reported that irrigation systems at the Lakeway entrance and Johnson Point have been winterized and turned off. The restrooms at Johnson Point have been winterized and closed for the season and a Port-a-Jon placed at the Point.

• New swings have been ordered for Johnson Point, (See "Westside," p. 20)

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- **Sandhills Winery Black Friday Holiday Party** – 10 am - 7 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *The Oranges* 7:30 pm. \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

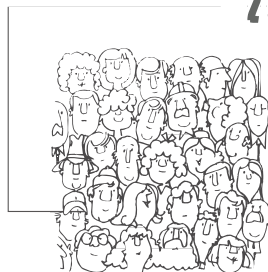
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- **Elliott's Provision Co. Free Cooking Demo** – 12 pm - 2 pm. *Soups and Sandwiches*, making leftovers from your holiday meal. 905 Linden Road Pinehurst, (910) 255-0665.
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *The Oranges* 2:30 & 7:30 pm. \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- **Jazz: Christmas in New York** – 7 pm, in The Cardinal Ballroom, The Carolina Hotel. The Carolina Philharmonic is delighted to present the Joshua Wolff and jazz diva vocalist Hilary Gardner. Put a touch of New York sparkle in your holidays. General Admission \$20, Students \$10. Cash bar available. www.shop.carolinaphil.org or (910) 687 4746.
- **Turkey Shoot** - Come to Alec Creek Farm in Jackson Springs for a Turkey Shoot held every Saturday night at 7 pm, (weather permitting). Win a turkey, ham, slab of bacon or cash. All proceeds benefit Sandhills Animal Rescue League. Alec Creek Farm, 396 Thomas Rd, Jackson Springs. 910-974-4468 or 910-638-1921.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- **Belford Baptist Church Friends & Family Day** – 9 am. Join in the fellowship service. 925 Windblow Rd, Jackson Springs.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *The Oranges* 2:30 & 7:30 pm. \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight *Jonathan Byrd*, – *Sonia Opens*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Group leader Rachel Carr.
- **Moore County Land Use Plan** – 6 to 8:30 pm, Steering Committee work session. Held at Moore County Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, West End, 910-215-0900. Public welcome.
- **Sandhills Natural History Society** – 7 pm, meeting at Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines. "The

Effects of Fire in Fort Bragg." Join Marcus Lashley and Morgan Elfelt for a presentation about their ongoing research at Fort Bragg. Lashley will discuss the effects of fire on fruit production and forage availability, and Elfelt will enlighten everyone on the topic of coyotes. Visitors Welcome! 910-692-2167 for

more information or visit online at www.sandhillsnature.org

- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *The Oranges* 7:30 pm. \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- **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.
- **Women Of Seven Lakes** – 4 pm, Happy Hour at the Sandhills Winery. Light snacks will be provided and beverages will be avail-

able for purchase. Join your fellow members for a casual gathering and bring a friend.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- **Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Lunch Bunch** – 12 pm, All single seniors are invited to attend, at the Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Fellowship Hall. There is no cost, reservations would be appreciated. Transportation will be provided if needed. Following lunch the Second Childhood Musical Group will provide entertainment. Reservations for lunch and transportation, call Fran Stark 673-5493.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **The Role of a Hospitalist** – 3 to 4 pm, Dr. Jennifer Bruno will be at the Senior Enrichment Center give a presentation to educate everyone on the role of a Hospitalist. Dr. Bruno received her medical degree from Creighton University School of Medicine and has been the Assistant Director of the Hospitalist Program at FirstHealth Moore

Regional Hospital since 2005. Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.

- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Welcome Home Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Bible Study. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead this session in the WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- **The Village Chapel of Pinehurst** – 10 - 10:30 am, new weekly prayer service with Communion, in the Sanctuary, followed by a Bible study led by the Rev. Dr. John Jacobs from 10:45-noon in the Youth Room (all materials are provided). Village Chapel located on the Village Green, 10 Azalea Road, Pinehurst.
- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship and devotion and a meal at \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** –

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1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *A Late Quartet*, 7:30 pm, Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- **Temple Theatre** – *A Christmas Carol*, (showing through December 16). An original musical adaptation of the Dickens' Classic, that is sure to delight the entire family. Tickets: \$23 Adults, \$13 Full time students with ID, \$19 Groups of 10+, Lee County Educators and Active Military. Temple Theatre, 120 Carthage Street, Sanford. Box Office 919-774-4155 www.templeshows.com

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

- **Creative Christmas Table** – 11 am to 4 pm, join Moore County Extension & Community Association (ECA) for their 8th annual Creative Christmas Table at Chapel Hall, The Village Chapel of Pinehurst. Admission is \$5 per person at the door. Proceeds from this event will be distributed to local charities. For more information, call Moore County Agriculture Center at 910-947-3188.

- **Metropolitan Opera at the Sunrise** – 1 pm, Moazrt's Clemenza Di Tito. Tickets \$25. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *A Late Quartet*, 7:30 pm, Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- **Turkey Shoot** - Come to Alec Creek Farm in Jackson Springs for a Turkey Shoot held every Saturday night at 7 pm. Proceeds benefit Sandhills Animal Rescue League abandoned pets. Alec Creek Farm, 396 Thomas Road, Jackson Springs. 910-974-4468 or 910-638-1921.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **The Bryant House and McLendon Cabin** – 1 pm to 4 pm, hosting a Christmas Open House. Both homes will be decorated for Christmas with live music and refreshments. Join in for a festive gathering. Directions can be found at www.moorehistory.com
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight *The Waymores*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen,

www.theroosterswife.org (910) 944-7502.

- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *A Late Quartet*, 2:30 pm & 7:30 pm, Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Moore County Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 966** – meeting, 7 pm, at Westside Park Community Center, Seven Lakes West. Membership open to all Vietnam-era veterans who served honorably, associate membership is open to anyone who has an interest in supporting the activities of the organization. Visitors welcome. Contact Membership Chairman Laud Pitt (910) 673-5521.
- **Sunflix at the Sunrise** – *A Late Quartet*, 7:30 pm, Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Epis-

copal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Welcome Home Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Bible Study. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead this session. Meet in the WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

- **SUCCEED with Music Group** – from Sandhills Community College will be performing at the Senior Enrichment Center on, from 10 - 10:30 am. Call 215-0900 to reserve a seat. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.
- **Women of Seven Lakes** – 1 pm, meeting will be lunch at Pumpkin Creek Café. Join your fellow members for a casual gathering and bring a friend. Donations of toys, especially for children ages 6 to 12, are requested for God Sent Angels Mission for their Christmas Party for at-need children. For information call Laurie at 673-1121.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

- **Pearl Harbor Day**



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Aeromodelers

(Continued from front page)

fore, should not be allowed in a Voluntary Agricultural District [VAD]. Last week, the Moore County Board of Adjustment met in Closed Session before unanimously recommending that the Commissioners seek the appeal. In addition, the Board of Adjustment recommended the VAD ordinance should be revisited to ensure the interests of farmers are protected.

Commissioner Jimmy Melton recused himself³⁶ from discussing the case, as he owns property adjacent to both the Blackwell and

Auman properties.

Rulings, Appeals, and More Rulings

The Blackwells objection to the Aeromodelers use of the Auman property originally came to county attention as a noise ordinance complaint in early 2011, not long after the Blackwells purchased their undeveloped tract. The Planning Staff brought the matter before the Planning Board, to determine whether the County's Zoning Ordinance needed to be revised to more precisely define recreational uses of property.

But the Planning Board determined no ordinance revision was necessary, and instead indicated that it was within the discretion of the Planning Director, acting as Zoning Administrator, to determine whether the Aeromodelers use of the property was authorized under the Zoning Ordinance.

Moore County's Planning

Director at the time was Joey Raczkowski, who determined that the Aeromodelers were a club, and that clubs were permitted on the Auman property under the ordinance.

The Blackwells challenged that decision before the Board of Adjustment in two hearings held in July and November 2011, but that panel upheld Raczkowski's decision.

The couple then appealed the case to Superior Court, where Judge Webb, rather than focusing on the Zoning Ordinance, determined that the Aeromodelers use was a non-farming use of the land, which violated the VAD Ordinance. Webb pointed to wording in the VAD Ordinance that said it trumped other Moore County ordinances, including the Zoning Ordinance.

'Unintended consequences'

The question before the Commissioners on Tuesday was whether to appeal Judge

Webb's ruling. An added wrinkle to the case is the fact that Auman removed the parcel of land used by the Aeromodelers from the Voluntary Agricultural District several months ago. However, Webb's decision was based on the conditions present when the Blackwells filed their appeal.

"There was never any intention to restrict farmers with the VAD," said Commissioner Tim Lea. "But, if this use is outside farming operations, then I can understand why it was called into question. But, since the land has been removed from the VAD, we have a totally different situation."

Lea expressed concern about any potential negative impact an appeal might have on the VAD Ordinance, and also questioned whether, given the removal of the property from the VAD, the appeal would then fall back to a challenge to the county's Zoning Ordinance.

Attorney Jon Maxwell

responded that the case could go in a number of directions once it is placed on the Court of Appeals docket. But he cautioned the Commissioners that, if left unchallenged, Webb's decision could have a far greater impact on other properties placed in the VAD. Anticipating a concern about mounting legal costs, Maxwell said the costs of the appeal would include printing and incidentals, with legal counsel provided by county staff as part of their regular duties.

He explained that the purpose of a Voluntary Agriculture District designation is to publicly recognize a property as a farm, and to warn owners or potential owners of surrounding properties of potential noise, dust, chemical use, and other impacts of farming.

County Attorney Brenda White noted that while a VAD designation indicates that farming activities will take place on a property, the VAD Ordinance does not have a

(See "Aeromodelers," p. 21)

Westside

(Continued from page 17)

and new mulch ordered for the West Side Park playground, Mendence said. Resident Morris Madonia is repairing the swimming pool umbrellas at minimal cost to the Association.

- The Board approved the recombination of lots 4014 and 5012, as well as lots 4041 and 4040.

- Gene Opdyke was appointed to the Architectural Review Board.

- ARC Director Blue reported that six construction projects are underway, as well as forty-five "small projects."

- At the request of Legal Director Stevens, the Board, on second reading, amended the bylaws and rules and regulations to set penalties for infractions at "the maximum amount permitted by applicable law" rather than specifying a set fine. Stevens noted that this brings the Association into compliance with the NC Planned Community Act.

- Director Cockman said his committee had received bids on alternatives for the Lake Auman Dam gates, which need a new security approach in order to be in compliance with the County Fire Ordinance. Once the committee has studied the options, they will make a recommendation to the Board.

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Aeromodelers

(Continued from page 20)

table of uses that prohibits specific uses.

"It was not intended to be prohibitive," White said, offering an example of a farmer installing a pool on their property and then allowing a youth group to use the facility. She noted that many VAD properties are forested, and leased by their owners to hunting clubs. "There are a lot of questions that could be raised."

Commissioner Nick Picerno expressed similar concerns about the impact of Judge Webb's ruling on farmers, but also extended an olive branch to the Blackwells, stating that he understands their issue as well.

"It was never our intent to prohibit farmers from any other use of their land," Picerno explained. "This is an unintended consequence. I feel for the Blackwells; but, at the same time, these guys [Aeromodelers] are on somebody's property who owns it and says it is okay for them to do it."

Aeromodelers and Watts Auman weigh in

Speaking on behalf of the Seven Lakes Aeromodelers, Bob Urie offered appreciation to the Commissioners for the many hours of staff time con-

tributed by various offices in Moore County involved in the case.

He described the club as a "group of old guys out to have a little fun and enjoy ourselves, thanks to the hospitality of our good friend, Watts Auman."

Urie said they have been flying their remote control planes on Auman's property since 2010 and have made every effort to be good neighbors. He said the combined experience of the Seven Lakes Aeromodelers ranges into hundreds of years of flying experience.

Speaking to *The Times* following the earlier Board of Adjustment meeting, Club Treasurer Bob Thorne explained that they follow Academy of Model Aeronautics [AMA] safety guidelines whenever they fly; but that, currently, they are only flying indoors at the National Guard Armory in Southern Pines.

"We just decided it would be better if we didn't fly out there [on the Auman property] until things were settled one way or another," Thorne said. "We're trying to do things the right way."

However, he expressed great concern over the impact that Judge Webb's ruling may have on the future of the club, and other recre-

ational activities on agricultural land.

"Any place we might go in Moore is farmland — and probably in a VAD — so, from that viewpoint, we're not sure where we could go," Thorne said.

Also speaking to *The Times* following the Board of Adjustment meeting, Watts Auman expressed frustration at the ongoing battle over what he views as a harmless hobby.

"I enjoy watching them play with their airplanes," he said. "This whole thing is so uncalled for. These are men who live in Seven Lakes, Foxfire, and Pinehurst. Most of them have a background in airplanes, some are veterans, and many are retired engineers," he said. "They are professional people who are my friends."

Auman said, when the Blackwell's challenged the VAD use, he voluntarily moved the portion of his property leased by the Aeromodelers out of that designation.

Blackwell's position

While the Blackwells fight to have the Aeromodelers moved off Auman's land has raged for nearly two years, the Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, was the first time the concern has

been brought before the Moore County Board of Commissioners, and Chairman Larry Caddell was looking for some clarity.

"Is the noise the problem? Is the property value?" he asked the Blackwells. "What brought all this about?"



Elizabeth Blackwell explained that, when she and her husband Samuel purchased the property in January 2010, they were not aware of the VAD on Auman's adjacent property until they were well into the process — nor were they aware that the Aeromodelers regularly flew remote control planes on the neighboring tract.

"We bought ten acres in the woods," she said. "We do not want to live at an airport."

However, Blackwell said her more immediate issue was that she feels they have been intentionally kept in the dark. She said they were not informed of the recent Board of Adjustment meeting when their case was discussed; and they had similarly not been informed that the County Commissioners would be discussing whether to appeal Judge Webb's decision. She said they were present only because they had done their own research and come across notice of the Special Meeting.

Blackwell argued that, when Auman parceled off the leased section from the VAD, it was done with a handwritten note that did not legally define the tract

(See "Aeromodelers," p. 26)

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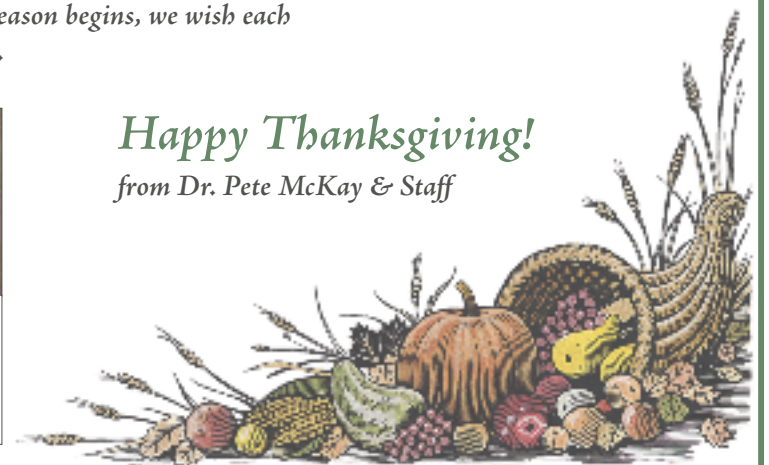
A Message of Thanks at Thanksgiving . . .

Thanksgiving is one of our favorite holidays because it gives us a chance to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy — including the friendship of our patients. We appreciate your loyal support and thank you for your confidence in our practice. As this Holiday Season begins, we wish each one of you peace and happiness.



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Happy Thanksgiving!
from Dr. Pete McKay & Staff



OPINION

Shop Local – shop with your neighbors

Over the years I have served as a board member for several organizations, helped start at nonprofit, run my own business, started another business here in Seven Lakes, and volunteered for many different causes.

Last year, I joined the Seven Lakes Business Guild and found myself among one of the most generously spirited groups I have been privileged to be a part of. Seven Lakes business owners have a sense of humor and a commitment to the town of Seven Lakes that I think would be hard to duplicate anywhere else.

I listened a lot when I first joined the Guild and heard stories of hard times, perseverance, and triumphs. I watched businesses hold tight in 2012 — and, unfortunately, watched some fade

away.

Being part of the Guild has shown me one critical piece of the business puzzle that is simply beyond what a local entrepreneur can control — The Customer. Customers must choose to support local businesses.

As a nation, we watched the news coverage of the elections, fended off robo calls, listened to all the challenges coming for our country and economy . . . and, then, on November 7, local business owners got up and went back to work.

Part of the love and devotion of a private business owner is the 24/7 work ethic — something that, hopefully, our customers recognize. Offering customer service not seen online or in mass retailers, local owners list cell

phone numbers on their shop doors “in case of emergency needs” and recognize their customers by name. Local merchants take pride in calling Seven Lakes their community.

That begs the question:

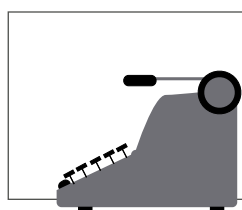
“Do customers realize the power they have to keep local businesses in their

neighborhood?” When customers choose to shop at a big box retailer, pick up their prescription at a national chain, and then dine at another national chain, all those dollars leave Seven Lakes — and, most times, those dollars leave Moore County.

Imagine instead, that same customer chooses to shop with the merchants in Seven Lakes, picks up their prescription in Seven Lakes, and then dines in Seven Lakes.

Your Turn

Karen Milligan
President
7 Lakes Business Guild



That choice to “Shop Local” has kept a local business going and provided jobs for our neighbors.

Imagine the fate of a dollar that you spend at a local Seven Lakes business. That local business owner or their employee uses that dollar to pick up their prescription at

the local Seven Lakes pharmacy. The local pharmacist stops at a Seven Lakes merchant to purchase a gift for a special occasion. That local merchant then takes their family to a Seven Lakes eatery to enjoy a meal, and that local restaurant owner donates to a local charity that provides back packs of food for local school children in need.

Wow! The power behind your choice to shop in your small town is so beautiful.

This holiday season, all the shops and service providers who are so proud to serve you here in Seven Lakes hope that you will remember the importance of your choice to shop local and the appreciation we have for you when you choose a Seven Lakes business.

It's the end of the world as we know it . . .

As much as I love a good disaster movie, especially when it involves the fury of Mother Nature versus pseudo-scientists, I am usually a skeptic when it comes to apocalyptic predictions. But today's headlines gave me

good reason to rethink my life.

Well, maybe not my life. I guess it was more like a chance to reassess what I keep in my kitchen cabinets.

You see, it is common knowledge that we only have

a few mere weeks left on this fragile little planet — at least according to the Mayans — and now I know why.

It's not the calendar. Blame the cupcakes!

Forget any notions of rugged little cockroaches scurrying around ruins or those cups of dried Ramen noodles that would surely be impervious to all manner of nuclear radiation. Forget about the recent Presidential campaign — if only we could — and the cruel irony of sending bottled water to a Superstorm Sandy flood zone.

The end of 2012 will be recorded in history books not because our global society has survived long enough to complete an ancient star

chart but, instead, as ‘The Last Days of the Twinkies.’

Horrible images of shelves being cleared in panic filled my computer news feed as people began hoarding boxes of DingDongs. I thought watching hundreds of Long

though if they start talking about closing down the Snyder's plant, I might have an issue.

Luckily, my beloved sourdough is safe, so far anyway, so I simply brushed away a few crumbs and finished reading about the Great Twinkies Extinction with only passing regret.

Plus those pretzels made me thirsty, so I also had a frosty beverage. I had *Armageddon* cued up on video, so I decided it would be best to stay home and mourn in peace.

I figure, with an average shelf-life of a modified Aztec calendar day — you know, fifteen generations in dog years — that tomorrow is as good as any other doomsday over the next millennial to stop and pay my final respects at the empty cupcake shelf.

Godspeed, Twinkies. You will be missed.

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

Islanders line up for gasoline was bad last week, but this was worse. It was pandemonium in the snack cake section, as frightened consumers feared for what is to come in a Hostess-free world.

Personally, I'm more of a salty snack kind-of-gal, so this hullabaloo over HoHos was an aisle away from my usual grazing grounds:

Why an 'interfaith' service?

Question: Why is your church, The Chapel in the Pines, holding a service where Jews and Buddhists, Christians and Humanists will worship together? Don't you think this is forbidden in the Bible, which forbids the worship of other gods?

Answer: By the time my answer is published, the seventh annual InterFaith Service of Thanksgiving will be history. I hope that you attended, but, assuming that you did not, allow me to tell you what took place.

We began the service with the words from the Hebrew scriptures, Psalm 133: "How very good it is when kindred live together in unity." In a world of religious wars, we

gathered together and expressed our gratitude for a country that welcomes all people of faith — and people of no faith at all.

We then prayed prayers of thanksgiving, prayers of Native Americans, Christians, and Jews. We sang a beautiful song from the Buddhist tradition, "Breathing In and Breathing Out" — a song that expresses our thanksgiving for life itself. An Interfaith choir representing all our congregations sang the wonderful anthem by Pepper Choplin: "I Bring a Heart of Thanks."

Emily Whittle from the Community of Mindful Living in the Pines shared with us Thanksgiving Reflections from

the Buddhist Tradition, and Brent Bissette from the Congregational Church led us in a litany of gratitude for the diversity of American Culture and a group of "old time acoustic musicians" from McDonalds Chapel

Presbyterian Church sang some truly American music. Then, to the tune of "Finlandia," we sang together a hymn to remind us that, in the same way that we give thanks for our country, other nations

are equally as proud and thankful for their lands.

We closed our service with

wished each other peace, *shalom*. We all brought items for the Coalition for Human Care, and we gathered after the service for food and fellowship.

Does this sound like idolatry? No one was converted to a religion different from his or her own, but all of us left with a new appreciation for each other's traditions.

I am sorry you were not there, maybe, next year! Happy Thanksgiving!

Don Welch, is the minister of the Chapel in the Pines, he welcomes your comments and questions at: dwelch1@nc.rr.com



Ask the
'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

a time of silent mediation that allowed each in his or her own way and tradition to express gratitude to God, by whatever name is used in the faith tradition of which they are apart. We then

Blue Christmas Service

Christmas can be a painful time for some people. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died, or it may be a time that has always been difficult.

The constant refrain on the radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost or have never had.

The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation — all these can

make people feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating and spending.

For these reasons and more, The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines will host a special "Blue Christmas Worship service with communion on Friday, December 21 at 5:00 pm.

Come out and join in prayers, Scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn and for those who struggle — and that God's Word comes to shine light into darkness. Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Fran Stark 673-5493.

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Thanksgiving — a time for family

My absolute favorite time of the year is Thanksgiving.

Since I was a little boy, my entire family has come together to celebrate Thanksgiving. Having had four sons, my parents decided many years ago that once we boys were married, our wives would want to spend Christmas with their parents and that we, as husbands, should give them that opportunity.

So, having claimed Thanksgiving, my brothers and I

make an annual pilgrimage with our wives and children to Pennsylvania to celebrate with our huge family. We have multiple generations and all come together for turkey, football, euchre (a card game) and family.

Our celebration has changed over the years, as our family grows into the fourth generation. Each of us has had to miss the event occasionally due to different circumstances, but this year

almost everyone will make it home. My family has been blessed to be able to continue this tradition for more than thirty years and unfortunately, this may be the last.

As families grow and people move further away, it becomes increasingly difficult to keep this tradition.

It is a sad time as we realize that long-standing customs must come to an end, but we will celebrate this Thanksgiving with our usual enthusiasm. Every one of the sixty plus people who attend will stand up and give thanks for something in their lives. Some will be comical, while others will be serious. It will be an emotional time, especially as we remember those who have passed away and are sorely missed.

People will argue politics and religion, but we will always rally around the Pittsburgh Steelers!

Tradition is such an important element in family dynam-

and you must invest in it.

Above all, we must be thankful. This is the time of year when we should realize how blessed we are.

We as a society spend too much time focused on what we don't have, rather than how blessed we are. That is very dangerous. In Romans 1, Paul said that because the people were not thankful, God gave them to a reprobate mind. Paul seems to indicate that when we start focusing on the negative, it changes us for the worse. Later in Philippians, he reminds us of this again when he tells us that we are to focus on whatsoever things are true, lovely, of good report, if there is any praise, and he goes on that we should think on these things. Our minds naturally run to the negative, so we must train ourselves to look for the positive.

This Thanksgiving, we must remember how blessed we truly are.



Bound by Grace

Rev. Chris Hrabosky

FPOA Christmas Party

Come and join friends and neighbors for the annual Foxfire Property Owners Adult Christmas Party at the Foxfire Club House on Sunday, December 2, at 6:30. Seating is limited to 110, please sign up early.

Festivities will include: Food, Assorted hot and cold appetizers, Desserts supplied by FPOA officers and Board Members, a Cash Bar, and Music by Beckie Pahner.

Bring a nonperishable food item to be donated to the West End Methodist

Food Pantry or an unwrapped child's toy to be donated to Toys for Tots.

For your donation you will receive a ticket for a chance to win one of twelve hand painted Foxfire Christmas ornaments.

Cost is \$9 per person for FPOA members and \$12 per person for nonmembers and guests, payable at the door. RSVP to Sue Durham at sdurham15@gmail.com or by phone at 910-420-2209, by November 26 or sign up in the Member's Room at the Club House.

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Thanks from Veterans for celebration

Dear Editor:

We feel it is our duty to express a personal thank you to Moore County for making this Veterans' Day one that seems to have brought so much more meaning to all veterans who have served, those who made the supreme sacrifice, and the families who lost loved ones. In these

times of uncertainty, we came together to find a common bond to recognize all those who kept our country free and continue to seek our freedom.

At the Moore County Memorial, as we walked the grounds, there were people helping people, shaking hands, saying, "Thank You"

— and most of all, Veterans groups coming together and helping one another.

I wish to recognize the Moore County Veteran Services, Jim Pedersen and Cynthia Brewer, New Century Middle School (Program to honor veterans), American Heritage Girls (flag retirement program), Union Pines

NJROTC commanded by Phil Enkema (provided color guard), Aberdeen Post 72 (motorcycle rally benefit), Pinehurst Post 350 (support), Carthage Post 12 (support), Marine Corp League (Support), DAV Chapter 83, Southern Pines Post 7318 (food), Col. Peter Dotto (Ret USMC)(speaker), members of the Moore County Commissioners, membership of

the Moore County Monument Committee, and, most of all You the veterans and those who support you by being there to remember this special day.

Let us always remember: "Freedom is not Free. God Bless Our Nation."

Charles (Chuck) Spelman
VVA Chapter 966

'Pro-choice' position finds no support in Holy Scripture

Dear Editor:

With the recent article about Pro-Choice or Pro-Life, Don Welch seems to consider himself above the age old wisdom that ministers stay clear of politics, at least openly. He supposedly writes a column providing religious perspective on topics of interest to readers. This article and his position are political statements having nothing to do with religion . . . in fact, as far from it as one can get.

It doesn't take a Biblical scholar to determine that there is no support for pro-choice in the Bible — in fact quite the opposite. Lacking that, he rolls out Albert Schweitzer as support. Albert Schweitzer?

What happened to God, Jesus Christ and the Bible as his guides? The answer is obvious . . . they don't support his position.

Recognizing his lack of credible support, he further

attempts a linkage to child healthcare, gun control, world hunger . . . you name it, in a desperate attempt to strike a sympathetic chord with readers somehow.

Is abortion the answer to these? Of course not.

I'd invite him to tell my eight month pregnant daughter in London or any other pregnant woman that the living, breathing baby inside them is not a life until it surfaces.

Prove him wrong? That's a classic line from a desperate and cornered liberal.

The medical evidence that unborn children are living beings is irrefutable, but you cannot prove anything to a liberal like Welch, because they hate facts and ignore them.

He should apologize to this community and to his congregation for using his sacred positions as pastor and trusted writer on Christian values to advance his political agenda.

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Thanks from McMahons

Dear Community:

Bill and I want to thank all our friends and neighbors for their kindness to us after my accident, all the gourmet food, get well

cards and phone calls. It's really comforting to know that we live among such caring people.

Mary McMahon
Seven Lakes

Moore Philharmonic Concert

The Moore Philharmonic Orchestra, which helps prepare Moore County students for the world's stages, is pleased to announce its eighth concert season.

The first concert will be the annual holiday concert on December 9 at the Sunrise Theater (250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines).

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'Pro-choice?' Turn to Bible for answers

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Rev. Welch's opinion on whether he is pro-choice or pro-life. I enjoy reading his opinions and on most occasions agree with him. At the end of the article, he states he is pro-life, the ideal life we would choose for all.

But in reality he sounds pro-choice.

We live in a very secular

society where the individual is the center of life and not our Creator. Our Country was founded on Christian principles, one of them being the Ten Commandments, which many of us ignore. We've allowed them to disappear from our lives when convenient. This is my opinion. I'm not judging. We are not perfect.

As a Christian, I am

opposed to abortion. Ask any mother who has miscarried if it weren't a baby she lost (Not a mass of cells — the fetal heart beats at three weeks.)

In the Bible, which I believe is inspired by God, our Creator and Savior, Psalm 139, verse 13: "You created every part of me; you put me together in my mother's womb." and verse 15: "When

my bones were being formed, carefully put together in my mother's womb, when I was growing there in secret, you knew that I was there — you saw me before I was born." (*Good News Bible: The American Bible Society: William H. Sadlier Inc. Publisher*)

When does life begin?

"Adults" should be responsible for their choices and actions, and not do what

feels good at the moment. (Which is easier said than done.) Abortions are often used as a form of birth control. There are many other options.

If the individual valued Christian principles and not the secular, maybe our country wouldn't be in such dire straits.

Mary B. Hauck
Seven Lakes West

Aeromodelers

(Continued from page 21)

and, she said, there are only limited and specific reasons that a property can be removed from a VAD.

"Flying airplanes does not qualify," she challenged.

"We keep hearing that you are trying not to restrict farmers, but we do not feel the VAD applies to personal use," Blackwell said. "What we have is a third-party application, a lease, to engage in non-farming activity."

She also said the various Boards in Moore County do not seem to be in agreement or able to articulate the purpose of a VAD. Blackwell defined that purpose as to protect farming — and argued that it is one-sided.

"Neighbors cannot complain about noise, dust, chemicals . . . but we are finding that we are not allowed to complain about non-farming activity as well,"

she said. "We have no rights whatsoever in how this has been conducted in this county."

Blackwell argued that the privileges of the Aeromodeler club and Auman are growing.

"It is not a safe operation. It is not a pleasant operation. And we don't want to live next door to it," she said.

Commissioners take action

Noting that he also had purchased a large rural tract, Chairman Larry Caddell chastised Blackwell that "things don't always work out" and seemed to lose patience with her lengthy address when her comments veered into challenging the Commissioners decision to appeal as a waste of taxpayers dollars.

Caddell politely asked Blackwell to return to her seat while the Board consid-

ered action.

Commissioner Lea said he understood Blackwell's point, but cautioned that Judge Webb's decision had a far-ranging impact that was an appropriate matter for the courts.

"This is not just us passing the buck," Lea said.

Commissioner Nick Picerno echoed those concerns, "The problem is the VAD was written in a way that it could be open to different interpretations . . . By saying only farm use, it makes it very restrictive."

Lea agreed with that assessment, but said there is a fine line when protecting

land, and that line that must be guarded.

"We all live here because we like our quality of life," Lea said. "If we don't put in zoning to protect what we have . . . You can't just do away with regulations and

expect people to do what is right," he cautioned, noting how major metropolitan areas were once farmland too.

"The VAD was never intended to cause what we are dealing with," Lea concluded.



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Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

erly outfitted, the vehicle may be used for emergency calls as well.

New community website

Noting that one of the primary objectives of the Long Range Planning Committee is to improve communication, Councilman McCue offered appreciation for the newly revamped Foxfire Village website.

"This is a great way to keep yourself informed about what is going on in the Village," he said.

The new site went live nearly two weeks ago, and McCue urged residents to click on the email notification button which allows an account to opt in for various news and notifications including calendar events, meeting agendas, and minutes.

Mayor Erickson said he was very pleased with the new website and credited Village Clerk Lisa Kivett for her efforts on the project.

"It is really a very functional website the Village can use," he said.

Finance

As of October 31, the General Fund unrestricted accounts totaled \$809,582, with additional restricted accounts of \$7,703 in the Powell Bill fund and \$21,000 held in the Stonehills Pines account, reported Deputy Finance Officer Sharon Sanchez.

The Water Fund stood at \$297,059 in an unrestricted account; with an additional \$135,745 held in escrow for a new well.

Bank loan payments made in July 2012 included \$26,192 from the General Fund toward the Village Green Park loan, and \$41,144 from the Water Fund for new water lines and water department improvements.

In April 2013, Woodland Circle extension project loan payments due include \$173,526 from the General Fund and \$14,904 from the Water Fund.

Streets and drainage

Repair of damaged road

edges and potholes is underway, reported Councilman Vic Koos, though he noted inclement weather has slowed production of asphalt. Patching work is being completed with unused funds in the streets account.

"Mowing was only done as needed this year, so we have a little bit leftover from those weeks when mowing wasn't necessary," he explained.

Koos said if there is still

funding once the road edges and potholes are repaired, he will address crack filling work. He also reported that a sinkhole at Woodland Circle has been addressed, and the leaking underground pipe causing the problem has been sealed.

Speaking from the floor, a resident asked about drainage on Sunset Lane, near the golf course.

Koos responded that he is

familiar with the area, and promised he would take another look to see if there was something more that can be done. He cautioned the resident that, oftentimes, the problem has been caused by pine straw that has been landscaped onto the right-of-way.

"The Village could remove that pine straw, but I don't like to do that because people like the way it looks," he said.

"But when the straw backs up the drains; we will go out and discuss the issue with residents; and, possibly, will remove it," said Koos.

Annexations approved

By unanimous consent, the Council extended the corporate limits to encompass two properties that petitioned for voluntary annexation into Foxfire Village.

(Continued on page 28)

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Nutcracker

(Continued from page 5)

sional and most advanced dancers interact and work with students and performers of all ages."

Hasty respects and trusts the Taylors' instruction. "When they help me they know what they are talking about," she said. "They are

reliable."

"Reliable" is an unexpected compliment from a teenager. Yet, it is one that she and Sedrick Gillespie both share. Sedrick grew up between Eagle Springs and West End. At the age of twelve, he knew he needed to dance. But it was a long ride from Eagle Springs to Southern Pines for dance lessons.

"When my mom or my aunt couldn't bring me to dance," said Gillespie, "I knew I could rely on Gary or Rita to pick me up when they came down 211."

Gillespie, now 22, credits his mother and aunt's encouragement for making possible his career and takes satisfaction in earning a living dancing. He instructs at Taylor Dance four days a week and performs in eight productions a year. His favorite production is *Angels in our Midst*, choreographed by Gary Taylor.

"I liked the concept of the piece Guardian Angel," said Gillespie, "that angels move faster than the speed of light in every moment."

It would take a guardian angel to keep up with Gillespie, Hasty, and Taylor Dance

during preparation for Nutcracker. No one knows better than the Taylors the work and expense required. The dancers, directors, instructors, costumers, and choreographers work for months preparing for one of the most popular classical ballets in existence. With over 1000 costume pieces and a \$150,000 set, the Nutcracker is a mammoth work, that requires untold numbers of hours to create.

The set and props for Taylor's production of The Nutcracker were designed and created by the renowned set designer Howard C. Jones. After meetings with the Artistic Director, Gary and Howard regarding the designs for the set, an extraordinary work of art emerged. The entire process took three years to complete. The final result is one of the most beautiful Nutcracker sets to be found anywhere.

The production itself runs about an hour and a half, but the hours required to mount the production are endless. An entire technical crew is required to run the show and create the magical

moments on stage. A technical design team consists of a lighting designer, production manager, stage manager, technical director, as well as a master electrician, master carpenter, load-in/load-out crew, plus stage hands — all focused on running the show and making sure all the elements happen on time and cue.

When the cast takes its final bow for the last show of the season, everyone prepares for the task of packing up, cleaning, repairing, and cataloging for next year's performance.

The end result is a professional ballet that could rival metropolitan venues. It is the hard work and devotion of Gary and Rita Taylor that creates a sense of family on

stage, a sense of wonderment in the audience and a magical holiday tradition for Moore County.

This year's Nutcracker performances are Friday, November 23, at 7:30 pm; Saturday, November 24, at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm; and Sunday, November 25, at 2:00 pm. The show goes up at the Robert E. Lee Auditorium at 262D Pinehurst Avenue in Southern Pines.

Tickets may be purchased by reservation at (910) 695-1320, at the Country Bookshop in Southern Pines, or at the door. Prices are \$22 for adults and \$15 for students. A special discounted price will be extended for the Saturday matinee only with \$10 for military and \$15 for general admission.

Foxfire

(Continued from page 27)

Both properties are located in the Grande Pines subdivision and had sought annexation for the primary purpose of municipal water access.

Mayor Erickson said new water lines were installed by the community's developer and were inspected by Foxfire Water Department staff.

Council work sessions

Approving a request by Councilman McCue, the Council shifted future work session start times from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

The next Work Session is scheduled for Thursday, November 29.



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Seven Lakes Times
November 23, 2012

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – serving Seven Lakes, Foxfire, and Pinehurst w/lawn maintenance & more for residential and commercial customers. Year round service. Mowing, weed eating, picking up debris, blowing. Shrub pruning, limb & tree removal and hauling away. Seeding/sod lawns. Leaf & straw removal. Haul and spread pine straw, bark, soil, gravel and mulch. Aerate, de-thatch, and edge lawns. Weeding of flower beds, planting shrubs. Re-surface gravel driveways. Blow roofs and clean gutters. Pressure washing homes, decks, concrete walks, driveways, & boats. Install driveway curbing and sprinkler systems. Garden tilling. Other odd jobs around the house? You need it done! We will do it! Call John 673-7320 or mobile telephone 910-690-6491.

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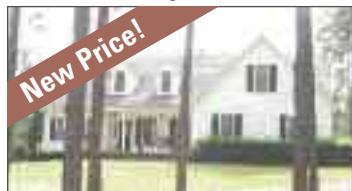
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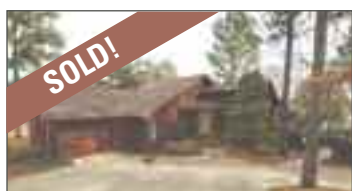
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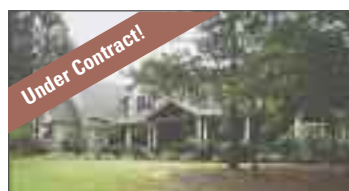
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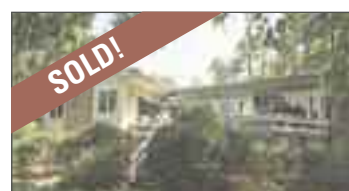
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