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Board of Commissioners5 In memory of7

Opinion 18 Classifieds 30

Volume 28 Number 10

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

March 22, 2013

Fellingham honorees



Ronnie & Betty Milligan are the 2013 recipients of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association's Joe Fellingham Award for community service. They were honored in particular for their work on the beautification of Lakeway Mall.

Vets Memorial question moves to Commissioners

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



The Times

PO Box 468

West End, NC 27376

three and onehalf acres of County-owned property adja-

Veteran's Memorial will wind The fate of up back on the table of the Moore County Board of Commissioners, the subject of a Work Session in May or June that will feature two com-

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cent to the Moore County peting landscape designs for an expanded Memorial Park.

> The Veterans' Memorial Advisory Committee voted unanimously, in a Wednesday, March 13 meeting, to recommend both designs to the Commissioners, with the proviso that the joint Work Session will offer ample opportunity for public input.

Some members of the Advisory Committee have complained that neither public comment nor expert testimony have been allowed during its proceedings. Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno, supporting the motion to move both plans to a Work Session, said that future meeting would include

(See "Memorial," p. 26)

West Side holds Annual Meeting

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



From fire hydrants to culverts, from dam repairs to a new mailhouse, over

the past four years, the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] has invested nearly \$2.6 million in community improvements. Speaking during the Association's Sunday, March 17 Annual Meeting, outgoing President Mick Herdrich concluded a review of the past year with a look back at four years of investments in the community.

• In 2010, the \$580,000 remediation of the Lake Auman Dam accounted for

the lion's share of \$693,000 in capital improvements.

- The \$242,000 spent in 2011 included \$123,000 for culvert repairs and \$46,000 to install new piezometers to monitor the health of the dam.
- In 2012, major project funding totaled \$722,000, including \$249,000 for repairs to the Lakeway Mall pond dam and \$194,000 for culvert repairs.
- \$923,000 in 2013 projectsincluded \$353,000 for the new mailhouse, plus \$300,000 for repairs to pond dam #3.

Herdrich noted that some of these repairs were planned — like the mailhouse — while others — like pond dam #3

(See "West Side," p. 28)

Boarding proposed at Northside stables

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



There is no room for horsing around at the Seven Lakes Stables.

Stable Manager Kate Pennington has worked hard to determine the needs of the current herd and riders, and now she hopes to generate revenue to support the stables operation by boarding horses for private

At the Monday, March 11 Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Work Session, Pennington presented an in-depth proposal for offering boarding services.

"Currently, we have eight horses and two ponies," Pennington said. "At the end of April, we will have seven

horses and two ponies. I think we should board horses. We would have a stall for every horse, and we could maintain our operations."

Equine Separate but Equal

Modifications would need to be made to keep the boarded horses separate from the SLLA herd and residents, Pennington said.

"We would need to add a couple of gates and a fence line," she explained. "We should really have our pastures segregated anyway. That is how our pastures are already set up."

The existing pasture shelters are sub-par and need to be rebuilt for the existing herd, she added.

"The ones out there right (See "SLLA," p. 13)

Planning Board looks at solar farm zoning

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



A proposal to include solar farms in the Moore County Zoning Ordinance was on

the Thursday, March 7 agenda of the Moore County Planning Board, and it came just in the nick of time.

Three industrial-scale solar energy production facilities are in the works for Moore County — two near the Montgomery County line and another on NC Highway 24/27 near Robbins. These solar farms use row-upon-

through an inverter and sold to power companies like Progress Energy or Randolph Electric Membership Corporation.

But, as Planner Jeremy Sparrow pointed out in introducing a proposed text

row of photovoltaic cells

stretched across dozens of

acres of pastureland, cap-

turing sunlight to make elec-

tricity, which is passed

Sparrow pointed out in introducing a proposed text amendment, the County's Zoning Ordinance doesn't currently provide for the development of solar collector facilities.

Three Solar Farms Planned

Much as a new hospital in North Carolina must have the blessing of a state agency before expanding to add more beds, industrial scale energy producers must secure a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the NC Utilities Commission [NCUC] before getting into the power generation business.

Three companies planning solar farms in Moore County have filed the necessary paperwork with the Commission

Samarcand Solar Farm, LLC is planning a 4.65 megawatt [MW] collection facility on a portion of a 200-acre tract on Samarcand Road, north of NC Highway 211. A filing with the NCUC indicates the project will cost \$13.25 million and will have a design life of at least 25 years. The electricity will be sold to Progress Energy.

Spicewood Solar Farm, LLC is planning a similar facility nearby, on two tracts of land the lie between NC Highway 211 and the Perdue chicken feed plant, currently being used to grow turf grass. Spicewood's NCUC filing indicates that the 4.65 MW solar farm will occupy approximately 36 acres of the 47 acre parcel. Both the Samarcand and Spicewood facilities are working with solar provider Argand Energy Solutions of Charlotte.

Carthage Farm, LLC, working with Strata Solar of Chapel Hill, is planning a 7.0 MW solar farm on a 99 acre tract near the intersection of NC Highway 24/27

and Mount Carmel Road, Southeast of Robbins. They plan to sell power to the NC Electric Membership Corporations.

Sparrow told Planning Board members that the increased interest in solar power generating facilities is due in part to a law that the NC General Assembly adopted in 2007, requiring that electric public utilities increase their use of renewable energy from 3 percent of the power sold at retail to 12.5 percent by 2021. By

(See "Planning," p. 24)



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Thu, Mar 28* Fri, Apr 12 Fri, Apr 26 Fri, May 10 Thu, May 23* Fri, Jun 7 Fri, Jun 21 Fri, Jul 5 Fri, Jul 19 Fri, Aug 2 Fri, Aug 16 Fri, Aug 30 Fri, Sep 13 Fri, Sep 27 Fri, Oct 11 Fri, Oct 25 Fri, Nov 8 Thu, Nov 21* Fri, Dec 6 Thu, Dec 19*	Fri, Apr 5 Fri, Apr 19 Fri, May 3 Fri, May 17 Fri, May 31 Fri, Jun 14 Fri, Jun 28 Fri, Jul 12 Fri, Jul 26 Fri, Aug 9 Fri, Aug 23 Fri, Sep 6 Fri, Sep 20 Fri, Oct 4 Fri, Oct 18 Fri, Nov 1 Fri, Nov 15 Fri, Nov 29 Fri, Dec 13 Fri, Dec 27
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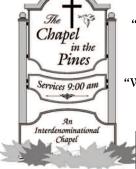
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NEWS March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 3

Council schedules hearings on big issues

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



The Foxfire Village Council wants public input on three big issues the rezoning of

Grand Pines, Foxtail Circle's unfinished foundations, and allowing for larger signage on commercial lots. The Council discussed the timing of those hearing during their Tuesday, March 12 regular meeting.

Grande Pines Rezoning

Over the past several months, the Council has discussed the best way to bring consistency to the zoning within the Grande Pines development, some of which has been annexed by the Village and some of which lies within the Village's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction [ETJ]. During the Council's last work session, Councilman Mick McCue suggested that all Grande Pines lots be zoned Equestrian, even though some are too small to allow for horses.

Before any zoning changes can be made, state law requires proper notification of public hearings.

"It is time to call a public hearing and get input from the residents about rezoning a section of Grand Pines.' Mayor George Erickson said. "I talked with Lisa [Kivett, Village Clerk] about this. It would be nice to do it at the next meeting in April."

Proceed with Caution

Despite the Mayor's desire for a speedy hearing, it appeared that the notifications and legal steps required might push the hearing off until May. Kivett carefully outlined for the Council the steps in calling a public hear-

"There are a few things that we are required to do," she said. "We have to run the legal advertisement two times. All the property owners must be notified by mail. All properties must be posted for public hearings in advance. There are over twenty properties and there are only twelve signs. We will need to get some signs printed."

If that wasn't enough, there are time restrictions in running the advertisements.

"I will need to get my ad in tomorrow," Kivett explained. "But I also need to make sure my wording is right. If we have public hearing in May it would provide us a little bit more time. I would rather have it done right."

Both Erickson and Councilman Steve Durham agreed that it was better to be prudent. Repercussions for failure to correctly inform the public could result in penalties or possible lawsuits.

'When we annexed the extra terrestrial jurisdiction [ETJ] up by Highway 211, two or three years ago, we had to take signs all over place," Erickson remembered.

"It is not annexation. It is rezoning," Councilwoman Leslie Frusco reminded Erickson. "It is rezoning properties within the village. We just need to make sure it is consistent in terms of the area. We have identified six properties that fit in the same general scheme of things, that don't fit within village but are in the ETJ. It makes sense to rezone Equestrian, so that we have a cohesive zoning in the village."

The board agreed that Kivett would expedite the process if possible with the understanding that it might be necessary to delay the public hearing until the May meeting. Kivett told *The Times* on Tuesday that this public hearing will indeed be held during the regular Council Meeting in May.

Foxtail Circle Foundations

A public hearing is also necessary to address the unfinished foundations in Foxtail Circle. The proposed ordinance would set standards for the completion of construction — and, in the case of Foxtail Circle — give owner Ron Jackson six months to complete construction or remove the foundations.

"I met with attorney [Michael Brough] concerning Ron Jackson's properties," Erickson said. "He drafted an ordinance that will need a public hearing. We can have it in April. In summary, once we approve this — and we can do it that night if we chose to — the clock starts ticking and it is about a six month period. If he doesn't get something done, then the ordinance allows us to move forward and do something."

Village Clerk Lisa Kivett told The Times on Tuesday that a public hearing on the ordinance that will deal with unfinished construction will be held during the Council's regular meeting on April 9.

Antiquated Sign Ordinance

In February, a real estate agent asked to post larger For Sale signs on commercial properties in the Village. The Council reviewed the Village's

dated sign ordinance and determined that an update may be appropriate.

Councilman McCue was asked to research and make recommendations concerning the ordinance. At the March Council meeting, Erickson asked McCue if he could accelerate his process.

Standards for public notification requirements again created a time crunch for holding a public hearing on the new ordinance at the Council's April meeting.

"We would have to have the ordinance written in two weeks," Kivett said. "We would also have to have that draft available for inspection ten days prior to the public hearing. I would suggest the rest of council to go through it as a first draft, to see if there are any adjustments or questions. He [McCue] has the next couple of days to draft this.'

"By the end of this week (See "Foxfire," p. 25)





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West Pine Middle scores big at debate meet

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

There was no beating around the bush as Moore County middle school students got straight to the point at the County Wide Debate Competition sponsored by The English Speaking Union [ESU] on Tuesday, March 5. The seven competing Moore County public and private middle schools included; Highfalls, Crains Creek, West Pine, Elise, New Century, Southern Middle, and Sandhills Classical Christian School.

A cold, dreary day did not dampen the students' enthusiasm. West Pine Middle School students showed up prepared, polished and enthusiastic. Most impressive was that they showed up in large numbers; West Pine has forty-five students in debate. Twenty-two debaters and six timekeepers were selected for the day's competition.

"This is the first time we have had equal representation of all three grade levels," said Barbara Levin, West Pine Academically Gifted [AG] instructor and debate coach. "It is a good balance. The older students mentor the younger."

Levin's seventh grade daughter Kareena Levin personifies her mother's positive outlook. "The chance to participate is an awesome experience," said Kareena. "It makes you feel good to know that you have worked hard and did your best." Kareena ticks off some of her other extracurricular activities including Battle of the Books, Beta Club, Art Olympics, Band Club, dance, and honors band.

Many of the students not only recognize the value of a higher education, but are already considering what universities they hope to attend. UNC-bound West Pine eighth grade student Emma Smits wants to go into medicine. "Gaining experience is more important than winning," she said. "The experience we received today will help up do better next year. It is just a really nice opportunity."

Experience is power for Anire Egbe. How good is Anire at debating? Just ask his mother.

"It helps me win arguments with my mom," said Anire. "It is fun, and it also looks good on a college application."

During the awards ceremony the West Pine Students

sat together, quietly listening to the speakers and discussing their day. They cheered loudly when fellow West Pine students eighth grader Rosie Rose and seventh grader Megan Petero took sixth place.

It was West Pine seventh grader Connor Jenkins' first tournament. Jenkins is articulate, intelligent, serious, and well prepared. He rolled his eyes when asked if he was wearing a new suit and said, "That's off the record."

He credits his father — a local attorney and "huge" Wake Forest supporter — for inspiring him. "I attended debate camp last summer," Jenkins said. "I also worked for the last three weeks preparing my argument for this debate."

He lets lose a big smile as he and West Pine eighth grader Emma Taylor are announced for fifth place.

Prepared and pleased to go home with their participatory medals and sixth and (See "Debate," p. 11)

WPMS debate team members Emory Bradley, Caroline Brewton, Caroline O'Connor, and Karenna Levin.

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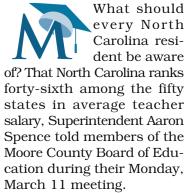
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NEWS March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 5

MCS looks for more funding from County

by Ellen Marcus Times Reporter



Teacher salaries have been frozen since 2009 — and 18% of state-funded teachers are frozen at the bottom of the pay scale, Spence said. Given increases in the cost of living over that period, the average teacher has, in effect, taken a \$4,000 pay cut.

Citizens can take action by contacting their state senator and representative and requesting a five percent increase in pay for educators. "It is not enough, but it is a start," Spence said.

Spence presents budget

Turning to the proposed MCS budget for 2013-2014, Spence told the Board that a budget is more than a bunch of numbers. It provides the means for furthering MCS' Core Beliefs.

"The first thing we look at is our Core Beliefs, and allow that to guide our budget," Spence said. "The success of every child is our priori-

Spence said great strides have been made during the last year to eliminate combination classes; provide teacher assistants for kindergarten and first grades; place instructional coaches in schools; increase literacy; provide support for students who are performing below grade level; and establish a comprehensive plan for closing the achievement gap.

In order to achieve those goals, it was necessary to address the loss of 176 positions due to budget cuts in 2009 and 2011. During the 2012-13 school year, 63 positions were filled, including 51 in the classroom, nine in classroom support, and three in central support.

The MCS budget includes they need to teach, including everything from enhancing school safety to a new GPS system for the transportation department. Also within the budget is funding to make sure instructors have what

necessary materials in math and science.

"We need to provide not only instructional support and professional support, but also material support,"

said Spence.

Federal & state funding flat

MCS received revenue flows from the County, the State, and the Federal governments. Projections of federal revenues

FY2013-2014 are not encour-

MCS expects to receive the same \$6.5 million in federal funding next year — the same as the current year. However,

(See "School Board," p. 12)

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Wayne Vest named Moore County Manager

by Greg Hankins Times Editor



Wayne Vest was named County Manager during the Tuesday, March 19 Reg-

ular Meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners

Vest, a Moore County native who joined the county staff in the land records department in 1998, rose through the ranks to the post of Tax Administrator. He was named Interim County Manager in December.

"As we look back at the job that Wayne's has done, it speaks well that we have this calibre person to promote within the system," Commissioner Jimmy Melton said.

"It's a great day for Moore County," Commissioner Larry Caddell added.

Vest's appointment was announced after a closed session in which Commissioners presumably nailed down the details of his contract, which includes a \$115,000 annual salary.

"I want to thank the Board for your confidence in me," Vest said, accepting the appointment. "I look forward to continue to serve the citizens of Moore County — and intend to do so with honesty and integrity."

County moves employee health plan

The Commissioners voted 4-0 to move administration of the County's employee health plan to First Carolina Care, a health insurance company owned by FirstHealth of the Carolinas. [Commissioner Craig Kennedy was absent from Tuesday's meeting.]

The County self-insures — that is, it has established a fund out of which health insurance claims are paid and hires a third-party processor to handle the paperwork and provide stoploss insurance. The current administrator is UMR, a large, national third-party processor affiliated with the insurer United Healthcare.

Mark Browder, a consultant who advises the County on health care benefits, explained that the contract from First Carolina Care will provide \$315,000 in savings on the cost of administration and stop-loss insurance. The provider network will not change for employees; however, additional discounts will be provided when employees use FirstHealth facilities. Those discounts could save the county an additional \$200,000 or more annual-

The county spends \$7 mil-

lion or more each year on employee health insurance. Browder explained that, by self-insuring, if claims are low, the County can build a surplus that can then be used to defray the cost of administrative fees. In addition, self-insurance allows the County to avoid federal and state taxes on insurance that are expected to rise in the next few years.

First Carolina Care has been pursuing the County's business for a number of years. Recognizing that, Commissioner Melton said, "We missed the boat a couple of times in the past, so we're glad to be working with our local company, FirstHealth."

Fire Service Report Previewed

Ryan Peach, of the consulting firm VFIS, presented top line recommendations from a just-concluded comprehensive study of the County's fire and emergency services. He noted that the results and recommendations were

preliminary, promising to deliver a full report by month's end.

Among the thirty-five recommendations the consultants made were:

- Implementing a single county-wide tax for fire services, rather than the current system, which sets a different rate for each fire district.
- Changing the boundaries of six of the districts.
- Developing countywide standards for response time and a countywide set of standard operating guidelines.
- Creating a capital fund for replacement of vehicles and maintenance of facilities.
- Confining insurance billing for EMS calls to Moore County EMS, rather than allowing rescue squads to bill for those services.

In addition, Peach provided recommendations for equipment purchases and facility upgrades for specific fire departments. Chairman Nick Picerno said the Commissioners would take up the recommendations in an all-day "critical issues summit" planned for April

2012 Election reviewed

Moore County Elections Director Glenda Clendenin provided the Commissioners with an overview of the 2012 General Election, and brought with her dozens of precinct workers, who were thanked for their service by the Board.

Clendenin said turnout for the 2012 election in Moore County was 72.50 percent of registered voters, down a bit from the 75.91 percent turnout in 2008. Moore County had the seventh highest turnout in the state.

Of the 64,323 voters who cast a ballot, 24,625 did so during the 15-day one-stop early voting period.762 voters also registered to vote at one stop sites.

On Election Day, the County's 26 polling places were (See "County," p. 10)



Soup and Packaged Dinner Calendar for April

	Monday	Tuesday	We dnesday	Thursday	Friday
1		2 Tomato Basil Soup ♥	3 Chicken Brunswick Stew	4 Beef Vegetable Soup ♥	5 New England Clam Chowder
		Baked Spaghetti Dinner ♥	Herb-Roasted Turkey Dinner	Sesame Salmon Dinner ♥	Beef Stroganoff Dinner
8	CLOSED	9 Lentil Soup ♥	10 Curried Chicken Soup	11 Potato Leek Soup	12 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo
	CLOSED New	Salisbury Steak Dinner	Two-Bean Enchiladas Dinner	Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	Swiss Steak Dinner
15	Hours!	16 White Bean Chicken Chili ♥	17 Vegetable Soup ♥	18 Beef Barley Soup ♥	19 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥
	Tuesday -	Turkey Meatloaf Dinner ♥	Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	Shrimp Creole Dinner ♥	Smothered Pork Chops Dinner
22	Friday 11:00 - 6:30 pm	23 Mushroom Bisque	24 Black Bean Soup ♥	25 Chicken Vegetable Alphabet Soup	26 Shrimp & Corn Chowder
	1	Chicken Paprikash Dinner	Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	Crab Cakes Dinner	Chinese Pepper Steak Dinner ♥
29		30 Tuscan White Bean Soup ♥	May 1 Asparagus Vichysoisse	May 2 Chicken Dumpling Soup	May 3 New England Clam Chowder
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NEWS March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times**

In memory of .

Curtis Larry Vaughn, 68 his church, he volunteered of West End, died Monday, March 18 at his residence. Mr. Vaughn was born in Forsyth County, son to the late Arville Curtis Vaughn and Sarah Louise (Webster) Vaughn.

Visitation was held Wednesday March 20 at the Boles Funeral Home, Seven Lakes.

Funeral services will be at 2 pm, Thursday, March 2 at Fairview Baptist Church, West End with the Rev. Donnie Gillis officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Mr. Vaughn was an employee of Morrison Correctional Facility for over 38 years in the maintenance department. He was also a founding member and volunteer of the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department for over 25 years. At

scaping and yard upkeep. Mr. Vaughn was preceded

in death by his son, Larry Curtis Vaughn, Jr. and his sister, Jeannie Cole.

for many years with the land-

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Mildred E. Vaughn; sons, Tommy Thomas Vaughn of West End, and Jeffrey Vaughn of Robbins; daughters, Penny Vaughn of West End, and Angela Seawell of Highfalls; his sister, Faye Ritter of West End; eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren also survive.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is serving the

died at his home on March 15, after a three year battle with cancer.

He was born in Lumberton. Mr. Davis was in the Coast Guard for four years and then was a salesman for the remainder of his working life.

He is survived by his wife of forty-four years, Betty Crawford Davis; daughter Christi Brumbles and husband MIchael of Seven Lakes; son Phillip and daugther-inlaw Teresa of Greensboro; son Hunter and daughterin-law Joy of Fort Hood, TX; and son Richard of Aberdeen; his father Roy Davis and six grandchildren Danielle, Kasey, Shay, Kate, Nathan and Tori.

A celebration of his life was **Edwin Wayne Davis**, 65, held on Tuesday, March 19,

at Deep Creek Baptist Church, Pinehurst.

Plesase make a memorial donation in Edwin Davis's name to your favorite char-

Harold Wayne Owens, 90 of Seven Lakes, died Monday, March 11, at his residence.

Mr. Owens moved to Seven Lakes thirty years ago from Maryland. He joined the US Navy in 1939 and served his country proudly. He served on the USS Maryland-Battleship and later received the Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal. He was an active member of the West End United Methodist Church and volunteered his time with the Food Bank.

A memorial service was held Friday, March 15, at

West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong officiate. Internment followed at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Mr. Owens was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred G. Owens; his sons, Roger W. Owens, Gary A. Owens, three brothers and three sis-

Survivors include six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, two daughter-inlaws, Lyla Owens and Tracy Owens; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations may be made to: West End United Methodist Church, PO Box 276 West End NC 27376.

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory, of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

WEPC Men's Group

West End Presbyterian Church is organizing a new men's group for the church called Presbyterian Men.

The Presbyterian Men met for the first time on February 9 and plan to gather the first Sunday of each month in the church's activities building, the Crawford Center. The men met a second time on Sunday, March 3, over breakfast.

Among the group's main purposes will be service projects, not only for the church, but for homebound parishioners as well as local communities such as West End and Seven Lakes.

The group also will enjoy fellowship and hold fellowship events as well. Other activities will include devotions and Bible Study.

For additional details, please call Lawton Baker, the group's organizer, at 400-5369.

West End Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA). WEPC, Knox Lane, one block west of Highway 211, West End.



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MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2013 AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE WEST END FIRE STATION 4203 NC HWY 73 WEST END, NC 27376 THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO NOMINATE AND ELECT TWO (2) DISTRICT RESIDENTS TO THREE YEAR TERMS TO THE WEST END FIRE AND RESCUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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NEWS 8 **Seven Lakes Times** March 22, 2013

Peace Poster Winners



Seven Lakes Lions Club President Bill Seldomridge; Runner-up Karenna Levin; Runner-up Phi Nguyen; West Pine Middle School Art Teacher Christine Padgett; poster Winner Jaci Vannatter, and SL Lions program administrator John While.

The Lions Club of Seven Lakes presented the West Pine Middle School winners of the Peace Poster Award with a certificate and a cash award.

The peace poster is a Lions International Club program that encourages the youth of the world to express in art the need for peace in the world. Local Lions club members present to middle school art teachers a packet containing the information about

Basic Skills for the Family Caregiver

The Chapel in the Pines will offer a three week class in "Basic Skills for the Family Caregiver" on Mondays, April 8, 15 and 22 at 3:30 pm each day.

Lynne Drinkwater, community educator for St. Joseph of the Pines will be the presenter; along with Deanna Heck, St. Joseph of the Pines, homecare coordinator and registered nurse.

They will provide basic skills and tips on daily caregiving along with teaching the techniques in proper transferring of a patient.

There is no cost to attend. To register, contact Fran Stark, 673-5493.

the program. Each teacher then challenges the students to present their ideas and work to put their ideas into a form of art.

Each year, Lions clubs around the world proudly sponsor the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This art contest for kids encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace. For 25 years, more than four million children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest. The grand winner is acknowledge and given an award. Awards are also given to the top three candidates in our local area. You can see some of the art of the

peace poster program on youtube, at Peace Posters.

EMS Chicken Dinner

Seven Lakes Emergency Medical Services, Inc. will hold their annual Chicken Dinner Fundraiser on Friday, April 5. The meal will be served from 11:30 am -2:00 pm and 4:30 pm -7:00 pm.

The dinner will consist of a choice of chicken breast or drumstick & thigh and include coleslaw, baked beans, roll, desert, and beverage.

You can dine at the EMS building while visiting with your friends and neighbors or purchase take-out dinners. The price is only \$8 per dinner.



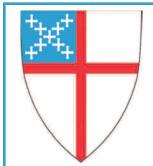
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SCHEDULE OF HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY MAUNDY THURSDAY GOOD FRIDAY EASTER MORNING EASTER MORNING March 28 Liturgy of the Palms Holy & Holy Communion

7:00 p.m.

March 29 Liturgy for Good Friday

March 31 Sunrise Service Sequoia Point

7:00 a.m.

Holy Communion St. Mary Magdalene 9:30 a.m.

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Exercises w/Educational Kinesiology! Rest & Read Program & Prizes for All Ages! Kids Bible-Blip Chat, Drama & Games! Scheduled "Two-Theater" Movie Time!

Tuition Details!

EXTENDED HOURS: for Parents 7:30am - 6:00 pm! Registration: \$50/Family (non-refundable) Tuition Registrants: \$100/wk Mon-Fri or \$25/day Non-Registrants: \$115/wk Mon-Fri or \$30/day Sibling Discount. Reserve Only the Dates You Need! Non-Registrants/Drop-Ins Not Guaranteed a Spot. Kids Bring Lunch and Snacks.

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Sky-Lighted ~3000 sq ft Open Rec Room! Game Rm Play: Foosball, Air Hockey, Basketball, Ping Pong, Pool, & More! Kid Zones for All Ages of Free Play! 2 Living Rm Lounge Areas Just Like Home! Play Station, Game Cube, Computer Games! Materials Screened. No Internet/Cable.

673-6789

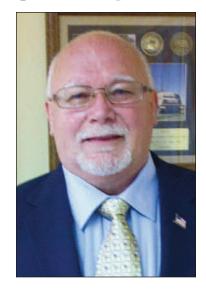
NEWS March 22, 2013 Seven Lakes Times 9

Keith Engels joins the Whelan Realty Team

Keith Engels has joined Whelan Realty, LLC in Seven Lakes.

Engels retired from the US Army in 1991, after 20 years working with defense contractors.

"My last defense company brought us here," Engels said, explaining how he his wife Janet found Seven Lakes. "What a welcoming area, with great people, long beautiful springs, and mild winters. When families visit Seven Lakes there is something for everyone; golf, boating, water sports, horseback



riding, biking, hiking, pottery shopping, a great zoo, within reasonable driving distance to ocean beaches, sporting events, international airports and big cities . . . or just relax, enjoy the sunshine and the company of family and friends."

Engels worked as a real estate agent in Maryland prior to Operation Desert Storm.

So, when owner and agent John Whelan offered him an opportunity to return to Real Estate, he was happy to join the Whelan Team.

1895

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104 Sunset Way, SLN

This well-maintained all brick home has location, quality construction and maintenance-free living plus large rooms throughout with split bedroom plan and 2-car garage. Beautifully updated kitchen with granite countertops and brand new refrigerator. Tile flooring in bathrooms and kitchen and Pergo laminate in Great room and entry. Large 10 X 22 Carolina Room with outside entrance overlooking fenced back yard (MLS# 148527).



104 Sweetbriar Ct, SLNorth

Lot 21 Sec Lake Longleaf
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with plenty of privacy near the front
gate of 7LN. All brick home has
large screened porch with decks
overlooking the water, dock and
small beach. All wood floors except
for tile in the baths, kitchen and laundry room. 3 Bedrooms and 4 full
baths. Full walk-out basement with

workshop, office or bedroom, full bath and unfinished family room with wood stove. Walk up attic wired for two additional rooms. Priced below tax value for a quick sale. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac. Easy to show.

Call Ann Benton \$299,000

111 Douglas Drive - Seven Lakes West

103 Dennis Circle – Seven Lakes West. Lot 4274R

147 Otter Drive, Seven Lakes West - Lot 4173

Nice wooded building lot located across the street from beautiful Lake Auman! The lot has been septic approved, and is in a neighborhood of attractive homes. It is only a short drive to the front and Hwy 73 gates. Seven Lakes West has a 1,000 acre lake that has a beach/swimming area, recreation center, boat access, good fishing, and is one of the few lakes in the area where gasoline motors are permitted. This is a deal, priced well below tax value!!!

Call Pete Garner PRICE REDUCTION!\$15,000

124 Vanore Rd – Lot 4209, Seven Lakes West Across the street from the Lake. Deep lot with a slope towards the road. Many nice trees.

Milligan certified in Mokume Gane

In September 2012, Karen Simmons-Milligan of Karen Simmons Designs was invited to study Mokume Gane with Master Metal Clay artist, Jackie Truty, in Chicago.

Mokume Gane is the ancient Japanese art of burling metals together to create unique and fascinating patterns. Upon completing the course work in Chicago, Simmons came back to her home studio to work on the second series of jewelry projects. She sent pendants to Chicago and passed her jury submission. Those same pieces were then forwarded to Art Clay World Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan.

In February of 2013, Simmons finished and received her rare Mokume Gane Certification from Art Clay World. This certification is currently held by less than 50 Metal Clay teachers in North America.

Karen Simmons Designs offers finished jewelry and jewelry classes at The Studio located at 150-C Grant Street in Seven Lakes Village. Contact by phone 910-673-0842 or on line at www.karensimmonsdesigns.com



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- We Sell All of Moore County -

County

(Continued from page 6) staffed by 246 precinct officials.

Clendenin thanked the Sherif's Department, Property Management Department, and IT Department for assistance provided during the election.

Data provided with Clendenin's presentation showed that voter turnout in Seven Lakes was 78 percent, among the highest in the county, and turnout in West End was above average, at 75 percent.

Board urged to promote voter participation

NAACP President O'Linda Gillis and member Maurice Holland Jr. urged the Commissioners to oppose efforts by some state legislators to impose restrictions that will discourage voter participation, including requiring photo IDs at the polls.

Recalling the sacrifices of the civil rights era, Holland asked the Board "to consider a resolution to make it easier for people to vote, to expand voting, and not to put up obstacles like photo ID."

Noting that the NC Constitution requires that "All elections shall be free," Holland said voters who do not have driver's licenses would incur costs when obtaining a photo ID — or the birth certificate required to obtain one.

Noting that North Carolina at one time "was one of the worst in terms of voter registration," Gillis said it was now "one of the best," and asked the Commissioners to oppose legislation that would take a step backwards. "We ask that we go forward together," she said.

Saying that she would "like to rebut the two previous ones," Freida Powers of Pinehurst said that an advertisement for the NAACP's national convention noted that attendees must bring photo ID to be admitted. [In fact, that requirement applied only to reporters covering a speech by US Attorney General Eric Holder during the NAACP convention in July. –GH.]

(See "County," p. 11)

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112 PRIMROSE CT 2 BR / 2 BA Dogwood Lake \$110,000



115 PINEWOOD Marvelous Sequoia Waterfront \$350,000



104 PINEWOOD COURT Lake Sequoia Waterfront \$329,000



114 HASTINGS RD Fabulous 3BR/2BA Golf Front \$189,900



111 SANDHAM CT 3BR / 2 BA Townhouse \$100,000



118 DARTMOOR LANE Golf Front • 3BR / 2.5 BA \$185,000



121 BERKSHIRE COURT Golf Front on 6th Fairway \$169,500



208 FIRETREE LANE Lake Sequoia Water View \$179,000



123 SANDHAM CT 3 BR / 2 BA Move In Ready! \$164,500



119 SHAGBARK CT 7Lks North Townhouse \$125,000



149 SUNSET WAY Cozy 3BR / 2BA \$139,900



116 WINSFORD CIRCLE All Brick - Golf Front \$219,995



160 SIMMONS DR Lake Auman Waterfront \$550,000







— WATER FRONT — Lake Auman Waterfronts Lots #3502 and #3503 - \$249,000 each

> — WATER VIEW — Lake Auman View -Lot #4148 - \$38,000

— WATER VIEW — Lake Auman View -Lot #4070 - \$39,000

— GOLF FRONT — Lot #2352R - \$35,000 Lot #6146 - \$59,500 Lot #2399 - \$23,500 — INTERIOR — LOT #797 - \$12,000

LOT #2475 - \$13,500 LOT #5433 -\$15,000 LOT#2550 - \$26,000 LOT #5323 - \$19,900 LOT #1052 - \$19,900

LOT #2552 - \$22,900

— INTERIOR — LOT #4047 - \$30,000 LOT #220/215 - \$12,000

- MORGAN WOOD -9.40 Acres - Lot 18 - \$169,000

CAROLINA EQUESTRIAN LOT #27B1 - \$5,000

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208 Firetree - Under Contract 155 Hastings - Under Contract 123 Sandham - New Listing 119 Shagbark - New Listing 112 Primrose - New Listing Lot #220/215 - New Listing NEWS March 22, 2013 Seven Lakes Times 11

BOC

Other Business

In other business during the Board of Commissioners Tuesday, March 19 meeting:

• The Board approved a number of budget amendments, including the transfer of more than \$4 million from the general fund balance to the capital reserve fund. That total represents savings against budgeted expenses from the previous fiscal year. The County's financial policy requires that any fund balance exceeding fifteen percent

of budgeted expenses be transferred to the capital reserve.

- At the request of Public Works Director Randy Gould, the Commissioners accepted a \$1 million low-interest loan from the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the replacement of a sewer lift station.
- The Commissioners approved a \$116,802 change order to a contract with Wharton-Smith for the upgrade and expansion of

the Addor Water Pollution Control Plant. The change covers the installation of new ductile iron aeration piping to replace leaking pipes.

- A request for new lift station monitoring equipment was tabled at Gould's request, pending the gathering of further information.
- The Board approved a \$6,412 change order to a contract with Terry's Plumbing for the Little River lift station to reflect increased cost of materials but also,

at the advice of their consulting engineer, withheld \$27,000 of the final payment because the work was not completed on time. The Little River lift station is part of a project that will carry waste water from sewers in Vass to the County's Addor plant, allowing the decommissioning of the out-of-date Vass wastewater treatment plant.

• The Commissioners reappointed Leah Brennan, Mary Meindl, Jane Robinson, and Judith Trevarrow to the Nurs-

ing and Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee; appointed Donna Blue to the Moore County Board of Health; and appointed Brenda Burt and Clare Ruggles to the RSVP Advisory Council.

• Chairman Picerno was appointed the County's representative to the Triangle J Council of Governments at his request. Picerno noted that he had been a frequent critic of County spending on (See "County," p. 12)

Debate

(Continued from page 4)

fifth place awards, the West Pine debaters relaxed. They cheered on as other teams from Southern Middle and New Century placed.

West Pine eighth grader Victoria Martin is following in her mentor Mike Spizer's footsteps. Martin and Spizer attended middle school together up until this year. Spizer is now a high school freshman. "I had a great mentor and role model for this," said Martin. "Mike is on the Pinecrest Debate Team this year, and he really inspired me."

A great coach, supportive team, and inspiring mentors laid the foundation for Martin and her teammate, seventh grader Greg Lyne, to take first place. "I am in a state of shock," said Martin. "This is just an amazing honor. I didn't think that I did that well. I actually thought we lost."

Lyne was as surprised as Martin. "I couldn't believe it," Lyne said. "This is my first time doing this. I was really fortunate to get matched up with Victoria Martin. We just had a great team and great coach, Ms. Levin." When asked what he would like to be, Lyne confidently replied that UNC is his first choice, and he will be a politician.

This marks the second year in a row that West Pine Middle School has placed first in the countywide tournament. "When the Pinecrest debate program is so strong, it inspires younger students," said Coach Levin. "It is built-in motivation. The sky is the limit."

Addressing the debaters at the end of the day, Moore County Schools Superintendent Aaron Spence said: "It's a wonderful life lesson that will prepare you for public speaking skills and sharpen your mind. It is also a great lead-in to high school debate programs."

In the end it comes down to composure — something every competing student attempted to maintain. At the end, students, who had kept it all in all day, finally had the chance to let it all out.

"Be loud, be brief, be confident, and be cool," were words of advice from volunteer judge and ESU member George Hillard. Hillard, a

retired Army Reserve Commander with a second career in Corporative Training Measures should know. His job was teaching adults how to be effective communicators.

In Moore County they don't have to wait until they are adults, thanks to the ESU volunteers and coordinator Sally Bold Frick, a supportive community, and "great" teachers.



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School Board

(Continued from page 7)

federal budget cuts related to sequestration could result in a \$400,000 to \$500,000 reduction for Moore County Schools. And "federal stimulus money is no longer there," Spence said, referring to additional federal funds provided to school districts as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in 2009 and 2010.

On the state funding front, "we are projecting a slight increase in state funding in Career Technical Education (CTE) and for textbooks," Spence said. MCS expects to receive \$66.1 million in state funding this year, and \$66.4 million next year.

Increase in County funding requested

For the last three years, MCS has not requested an increase in funding from Moore County, holding the local budget contribution steady at \$25.5 million. But this year, Spence recommends that the Board of Education request and additional \$750,000 from the Board of Commissioners, in order to fund Phase II of MCS' 1:1 Initiative, which aims to put a digital device in the hands of every student.

Phase 1 of the initiative

County

(Continued from page 11) dues to the organization,

and said he wanted "to go to this to see if this is something that can really help Moore County."

• The Board reappointed Ralph Harris to the Planning Board, but then quickly rescinded that action when reminded by Planning Director Debra Ensminger of a new policy for screening Planning Board applicants. Ensminger explained that Planning Director Robert Hayter had suggested that he, Ensminger, and a member of the Board of Commissioners should interview prospective Planning Board members and then make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

provided laptops to every teacher and student at Pinckney Academy and iPads to students and teachers at Carthage Elementary. This Spring, all teachers in the MCS system will receive laptops, and digital devices will be rolled out in middle schools in North Moore.

Phase II, scheduled for the 2013-14 school year, will put digital devices in the hands of students at Cranes Creek Middle, New Century Middle, Union Pines High School, and North Moore High School. Phase III, in the following year, will provide devices for students in southern Moore County schools, and Phase IV, in 2015-2016, will complete the rollout of digital devices in all elementary schools.

Explaining why elementary schools would be last in line to receive devices, Spence said: "We need to go from the top down, so that students always have a device once they have started with a device."

Each phase will require additional staffing of facilitators and technical positions, including one technician for every 1500 devices. MCS serves nearly 13,000 students.

Once all students are equipped with digital devices, the district projects a four-year "refresh" interval, meaning that one-quarter of approximately 14,000 devices will need to be replaced each year. That is expected to cost a little over \$3 million, and MCS projections envision Moore County picking up \$2 million of that cost.

Spence was quick to make clear that laptops and tablets are not an end in themselves. "It's not about the device they have in their hand," Spence said. "It is about learning with the resource that they have in their hand."

Tenure for Teachers Unlikely

There will most likely be no tenure for teachers reported School Board Member Kathy Farren. Farren, who also serves as a director on the NC School Boards Association (NCSBA) received updates regarding tenure Association's March meeting

"Last Fall, the NCSBA lobbied the legislature, on our behalf, regarding upcoming bills," Farren said. "We then voted as a board to grandfather in all teachers already in the pipeline for tenure. It has become fairly apparent that it is not going to happen."

The NCSBA directors also discussed a proposed bill that would allow county commissioners to take control of school property. "We have already sent a resolution opposing it," said Farren.

"They asked us to bring our board to Raleigh and to visit and speak with our legislators," Farren said. "It makes a much bigger impression if you show up in Raleigh on their turf."

Student environmental effort praised

The March Student Growing to Greatness award was presented to Aayushi Patel, a Pinecrest senior, who has served for two years as the President of the Student Environmental Association. Over the last two years she has collected more than 31,000 chip bags for the TerraCycle Company's Chip Bag Recycling Competition.

Collecting chip bags has apparently become the cool thing to do. "It has become almost a county wide endeavor," said Libby Carter, Certified Staff at Pinecrest High School.

Patel's future might be in the bag with her more than (See "School Board." p. 13)





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NEWS March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 13

SLLA Work Session

(Continued from front page) now, they are much too narrow," Pennington said. New shelters would be relativity inexpensive to build, requiring four posts, painted plywood siding and a tin roof.

Horses Need Fresh Air

Referencing state requirements for stables Pennington said: "Shelters are included for inclement weather. Under North Carolina law, you do not have to provide shelter for a pastured horse."

"If we have fence line set up, then I can have the horses outside," she explained. "The horses will be locked up in their paddock outside

— where horses should be. Most horse owners want their horses outside. Every horse would have its own stall, so that they can be packed up in it for the night."

"In our hospital paddock, next to barn, there is a runin shed, and that can be used as a stall for the ponies," said Pennington. "It was originally built to be a pony stall. Ponies should not be indoors ever, except in extreme weather. And we have a stall for

Potential Boarders

Six residents within Seven Lakes North, South, and West, have expressed interest

in boarding their horses at the stables, Pennington reported. Board Member Bob Racine questioned whether North and South would be given priority over the West.

In most stables, "it is first come, first serve," said Pennington. "I have only contacted the North, South, and West communities. Six people have expressed interest. I think we should start with boarding two, and see if this works. It's an experiment. I personally think that it will be successful and think we should try it and see."

Start Small

"I think it would be good

to raise some revenue," said board member Steve Ritter. "I like what you said about trying it small and seeing what happens. That seems to be a reasonable approach. You are currently generating attendance numbers, and I think that is very good. It will give us a better idea of usage. I am not sure prior to you, that we felt the numbers were as accurate as they

"We made a fairly significant change to the guest passes," Ritter noted, referring to recent price increases for guest use of the stables. "I

am wondering what size of a herd we are really going to need to service the people."

"By the Fall, we will have seen our biggest numbers," said Pennington. "The Summer will determine if this new fee structure will have any effect on the number of riders. Due to safety, I only take five people on a trail ride at once. When we take out kids below ten years of age, we only have four."

Liability of Boarding Horses

SLLA Manager Ray Sohl questioned the liability that (See "SLLA," p. 14)

School Board

(Continued from page 12)

perfect GPA of 4.49. In her spare times she participates in other extracurricular activities including the Duke Walkathon and Kick for Kenya Shoe Drive. Patel plans include medical school and she has applied to both Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill.

National Champions

Libby Carter was recognized for leading the Pinecrest Debate team to its third National Championship. In February Pinecrest Debaters Elaine Kearney and Alex Snyder took first at the National Debate Tournament at Harvard University. Sam Lewis and Nick Temple placed sixth.

Carter credits her students

for keeping calm under pressure. "You can not imagine what it takes to get to the point that these four did," Carter said. "Equate it to the March Madness Preliminary. The stress that goes into it is mental and physical, rushing from one round to next. I enjoying going along with them and seeing them come out on top."

The debaters proudly showed off their silver cups. "We couldn't have done it without Ms. Carter and our teammates," Snyder said.

The Pinecrest Debate Team is also helping to mentor the middle school debaters. High school students helped during the recent countywide middle school debate competition.

"Congratulations to all the middle school students, who worked hard and did a great job," said board member Laura Lang. "I also want to thank the Pinecrest Debate Club, who attended the debate and helped mentor. That's the way we keep growing."







SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page13) would be risked by boarding horses.

"No matter how many signs posted or waivers signed, any incident of negligence, and we are left open," he said. Pennington said the risk of accidents would be greatly reduced by keeping the SLLA herd separate from the boarded horses.

"We as a board need to do our due diligence," said Meyer. "I am seeing for the first time a boarding agreement. We have to go through, dotting the i's and crossing the t's." Meyer suggested having the SLLA attorney look over the proposed boarding agreement.

Board Members appeared to agree that Pennington's proposal has potential.

"In general, I am in favor of raising revenue to offset some of the cost," Meyer said. "I am also in favor of taking a look at this from a revenue perspective. Kate has thought this through. But I am not ready to approve this. I think we ought to proceed, but we are not ready to vote for anything.'

The Board voted to table the discussion pending further research and review.

Prancing Horse

The use of the SLLA Stables by the Prancing Horse organization has drawn a number of interested spectators, including Board members. "It is fun to watch," said

Prancing Horse provides therapeutic riding opportunities for children with special needs and disabilities, providing positive outreach for SLLA while generating revenue.

"I am very proud to say that we have six horses and two ponies that are Prancing Horse qualified," Pennington said. "Helping special needs children and giving them the chance to ride a horse is awesome. When I came here, it took me a good four months to learn the horses' personalities. The horses we have now are all good guys and are very versatile. Our horses have been desensitized. I did everything possible to desensitize them."

Summer Riding Camp

The SLLA riding camp for children is a real bargain. "We are well below other camp's prices," Pennington said. "I looked at five camps in the area. The cheapest camp I found was \$300. These fees are extremely cheap for what we are doing.'

Pennington requested increasing the camp tuition from \$50 to \$75. "The reason I wanted to increase it is so we can do more crafts," she explained. "I would love to be able to offer more crafts and activities when the temperatures reach above 100 degrees."

"I would support increasing the cost of the camp," Director Racine said. The Board voted to take the fee increase to a vote at the next Open Meeting.

Code of Ethics

Community Manager Sohl recommended updating the Board's Code of Ethics. "These are basic and good tools for the board," Sohl

Most of the points suggested by Sohl could be considered common sense provisions — for example, that no board member could receive money related to Board action or act unilaterally without the consent of other Board members. [Neither The Times nor landowners attending the Work Session were provided with copies of the recommended code.]

Director Ritter agreed he was in favor of operating under a code of conduct, but

worried that several of the suggested provisions were too restrictive. Citing one recommended proscription, Ritter read, "A Board Member or his or her family shall not engage in writing or speechmaking that defames another Board Member."

"Its one thing, if this refers to me," said Ritter. "But I have a hard time in restricting what a spouse can say."

(See "SLLA," p. 15)

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NEWS March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 15

SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 14)

Racine agreed with Ritter: 'I don't want to tell my wife she can't say anything."

The board discussed the wording and made several suggestions to Sohl. "It will be on the agenda for the April work session," Director Meyer said. "We will have time to fine tune this a little bit.

One Bad Apple

The SLLA office has received numerous complaints regarding extended parking of recreational vehicles [RVs] at residences.

"It is a leading complaint in the office," said Sohl. The most common abuse is when a resident removes his RV just long enough to restart the amount of time it can be parked in his driveway and then brings it back in.

"This is aimed primarily at one person," said Racine. "He comes in, parks, and leaves his RV there for more than 72 hours."

Sohl suggested a stricter ordinance for RVs that would set a 30-day waiting period between instances of parking an RV at a residence.

Resident Jerry Johnson said that he often took shorter trips, and expressed concern with the proposed rule. "It says you can load it, but cannot bring it back until after thirty days. What if I am only gone a week?" he asked.

Racine agreed that Johnson had made a valid point, and the Board decided that the language of the proposed rule needed cleaning up.

"We certainly can wordsmith and change it," said Sohl. "But I think that it does need to move forward."

Island at North Mailhouse

Vehicles have repeatedly driven into the split rail fence that divides through traffic from those stopping at the Northside mailhouse, Sohl reported. He recommended replacing the fence with a small four-foot-wide island with a raised center that would be planted with lowmaintenance shrubbery.

"I do think there is some urgency to this," said Sohl.

"It has become a safety issue. The split rail fence has been hit several times. I think we need to go ahead and move forward on this project.

The island not only would improve the appearance of the area, but would most likely reduce the number of accidents, said Ritter. The Board agreed to expedite construction by conducting an electronic vote once a contract is secured. The cost of the construction is not to exceed

Heading off Liability

Sohl consulted with SLLA's insurance broker to ask if additional coverage would be needed for transporting employees to offsite swim meets.

"He did say it could be an issue," Sohl said. "He also said we should consider a sexual harassment package."

Sohl recommended adding additional coverage to the insurance policy in April.

Pool Repairs

Due to the time sensitive nature of pool repairs, Sohl suggested an electronic vote should be taken regarding work on the pool. The work is extensive and would include replacing the coping tile around the perimeter with monolith concrete as a better solution than brick. Additional work will include replacing the wall tile, as well as repairing the pool tank and the deck.

"I don't want to push this into April," said Sohl. "After repairs the pool needs to be inspected. I want to allow plenty of time to make this happen."

The Board unanimously approved holding an electronic vote once bids are available.

Project Updates

In other project-related discussion during the March 11 Work Session the SLLA Board:

• Heard that a new \$1,000

pump will be purchased to have on hand as a backup to be used for Ramapo and Little J when neces-

Heard that the pumping of Lake Sequoia into Lake Echo has proceeded as scheduled. Once Lake Echo and Sequoia are equalized,

attention will be given to Lakes Ramapo and Timber. The pumping from Sequoia to Echo will not exceed the scheduled two-week peri-

Directors Bob Darr and Chuck Leach were absent from the meeting.

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Larry Lyon, Pastor; Chip Pope, Associate Pastor

673-4341 West End Presbyterian Church is located on Knox Lane in West End, one block west of Highway 211



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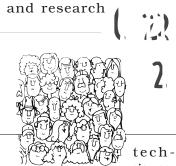
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SATURDAY, MARCH 23

- Weymouth Woods Palustris Festival – 8 am to 5:00 PM (All Day) Do you enjoy a challenge? Stop by the park office and pick up instructions for a nature scavenger hunt, geocache style. Bring your GPS and be prepared to
- Weymouth Woods Palustris Festival – 8 am, Bird Walk: Two-mile hike. Meet at the park office.
- Weymouth Woods Palustris Festival - 10 am. Wildflower Hike: Wildlife Biologist Alicia Jackson will lead a hike. Meet at the park office.
- Moore County Historical **Association Palustris Events** – 10 am to 4 pm, a display may be seen at the Shaw House at the corner of Broad St. and Morganton Rd., Southern Pines. Children's book writer Nancy Brewer will give a talk at the Garner House 11 am, 1 pm & 3 pm. Special a toy exhibit of 1940s World War II era toys. \$5 admission, children under 12 free. (910) 692-2051 Moore County Historical.
- Weymouth Woods Palustris Festival - 11:30 am, Old Growth Hike. Meet the oldest known longleaf in the world! Meet at the park office and car pool four miles to the Boyd Tract.
- Weymouth Woods Palustris Festival - 1 pm, Old Growth Hike. Meet at the

park office and car pool four miles to Boyd Tract.

Weymouth Woods Palustris Festival - 2:30 pm, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. Join Brady Beck, biologist with the NC Wildlife Resource Commission, for an overview of the ecology



niques.

Meet at Visitor Center Auditorium. 910-692-2167.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- Palm Sunday
- Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines - 9 am, Palm Sunday service. Processional will be a liturgical dance by the children to Heysanna, Hosanna; Chapel Choir will provide music. 581 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church - 9:30 am, Palm Sunday Liturgy. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- West End Presbyterian Church - 11 am, Passion/Palm Sunday worship. Service remembers both Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as well as the events that followed it that led Jesus to the cross. WEPC, Knox Lane, one block west of Highway 211,

West End.

- Moore County Concert **Band** – performance, 2 pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst. Public invited. Free. 910-235-5229 www.moorecountyband.com
- **Seven Lakes Landowners** Association Annual Meeting - 3 pm, Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Fellowship Hall, 581 Seven Lakes

Drive, Seven Lakes. Signup for meeting 2:30 pm.

- Weymouth Center 4 -5 pm, Party for the Pine. Festive refreshments will be served. Hike to see the longleaf matriarch. One mile. Hiking on sandy trails that have roots and uneven surfaces. 910-692-2167.
- The Rooster's Wife -6:45pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight: Frank Solivan and Dirty Kitchen. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

- Weight Watchers Meeting - 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Monday Night Services** at WEUMC - Fellowship Meal at 6 pm followed by Worship Service at 7 pm.

Come as you are. West End United Methodist Church, 4015 Highway 73, West End. 673-1371.

Sandhills Natural History Society - 7 pm, at Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines. "The First Carolinians:" Join Nick Radko from UNC Pembroke to learn all about the original discoverers of the Southeast. He'll discuss the Paleoindians. Visitors welcome. 910-692-2167 www.sandhillsnature.org

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- First Day of Passover
- 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.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

- West End United Methodist Church - 12:00 noon, Holy Week Worship Service. WEUMC, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.
- **Belford Baptist Church** annual youth spring revival through Friday March 29, 6 pm each night. Elder Sherri Allgood of True Life Ministries, Biscoe will be the guest speaker. Everyone welcome. 925 Windblow Rd, Jackson Springs. Kay Ashman 974-7501 or 315-4867.

- Rosary at Chapel in the **Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150.
- Seven Lakes Monday Art **Group Show** – 7 to 9 pm, new show in the Art Gallery at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church building. The public is cordially invited to the opening reception. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- Welcome Home Bible Study - 7 pm, Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead this session. Meet in the West End United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

- Maundy Thursday
- 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 \$5.
- Gallery at Seven Lakes -1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- Back Health Program 4 pm, Karen Backall, PT, with Appalachian Physical Therapy will speak on "Oh, My 215-0900 to reserve a seat. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.
- Sandhills Winery Wine **Tasting** - 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

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- Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Maundy Thursday, a Seder dinner at 6 pm. Significance of the Seder meal will be explained by Jeff and Ellen Marcus from Temple Beth Shalom. Limited number of tickets available to the public. Cost is \$9 for adults; no charge for children. 673-2156 for information. 581 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes.
- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 7 pm, Maundy Thursday Liturgy. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- West End Presbyterian Church – 7 pm, Maundy worship service. Service includes the Lord's Supper and will conclude with a stripping of the sanctuary. WEPC, Knox Lane, one block west off NC 211.
- West End United Methodist Church 7 pm, Maundy Thursday Service, congregation will gather for Holy Communion and be given the opportunity to participate in Foot Washing as Jesus did with his disciples. WEUMC, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

- Good Friday
- Elberta Masonic Lodge annual BBQ or Fried

- Chicken Dinner on. On Highway 73, West End.
- West End United Methodist Church – 12 noon, Good Friday Service of Tenebrae. WEUMC, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.
- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 12 noon, Good Friday Liturgy, Stations of the Cross Devotion follows. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes.
- West End Presbyterian Church – 7 pm, Good Friday worship service. This special service includes the Solemn Reproaches of the Cross and ends in silence. WEPC, Knox Lane, one block west of Highway 211, West End.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

• Eagle Springs Baptist Church Easter Egg Hunt – 9:30 am to 11:30 am, join in for a great morning of fun. 460 Eagle Springs Road, Eagle Springs. 919-538-3957.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

- Easter Sunday
- Methodist Church Sunrise Service at 6:45 am, at West End Cemetery, 7:30 am Breakfast at West End Baptist Church, and then join the church at 8:30 am

• West End United

- or 11:00 am Easter Services WEUMC, 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.
- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 7 am, Easter Sunrise Service at Lake Seguoia.
- McDonalds Chapel Easter Sunrise Service 7 am, Service held outdoors in the cemetery. Easter Sunrise Service features a flowering of the cross, and a covered dish breakfast after the service. Everyone invited. McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen (out Linden Road from Pinehurst). Jill McCloy at 692-5094.
- Eagle Springs Baptist Church – 7:30 am, Easter sunrise service, followed by breakfast. Easter service begins at 10 am. 460 Eagle Springs Road, Eagle Springs. 919-538-3957.
- Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines – 9 am Easter Sunday service, with special music by the Chapel Choir. 581 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 9:30 am, Easter Liturgy at the church building with traditional seasonal music. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.

- West End Presbyterian Church – 11 am, Easter Sunday worship with joyful Easter hymns. An Easter egg hunt for the young children will begin around 10 am. Everybody is invited to bring along spring flowers to decorate the cross in front of the church, a tradition at West End Presbyterian. WEPC, Knox Lane, one block west of Highway 211, West End.
- McDonalds Chapel 11 am, worship service Easter. McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church, 1374 Foxfire Road (out Linden Road from Pinehurst). Jill McCloy at 692-5094.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

- Day of Reflection Elder Ministry for Seniors, 10:30 am to 11 am, check-in; 11 am to 2:30 pm, program. Closing mass at 2:30 pm. Presented by Monseigneur Mo West, "Growing in Age and Grace" Free, but registration required. Light lunch provided. Register with Trudy Hintz at 910-400-5034 or Sandra Breakfield 704-370-3220. Held at Our Lady of the Americas Catholic Church, Biscoe
- Women of Seven Lakes 2 pm, at the Chapel in the

- Pines Joralemon Hall. Dora Lancaster will speak on "Behind the Veil: Life in Saudi Arabia," sharing her experiences living in this desert kingdom.
- Ruth Pauley Lecture Series – 7:30 pm, Dana Beach will offer a view of "Coastal Conservation" Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College Pinehurst. Free to the public. 910-245-3132.

<u>Friday, april 5</u>

• SL EMS Chicken Dinner Fundraiser – served from 11:00 am, and until they run out of chicken. \$8 per plate. 50/50 raffle this year. Seven Lakes Fire Station, Seven Lakes Drive.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

- McLendon Hills Neighborhood Yard Sale 7:00 am 12:00 pm. More than 50 residents have combined their treasures for the ultimate yard sale. Shop until you drop.
- West End Presbyterian Yard Sale 8 am to 1 pm, in the church's activities building, the Crawford Center. Proceeds from the yard sale will help pay to send a mission team to Chetumal, Mexico this Summer.





Seven Lakes Times March 22, 2013

OPINION

This never would have worked for O'Keefe

This, however, works fine ible energy and questionable for me. In fact, I kind of like

"This" is the way we receive our United States Postal Service mail in Seven Lakes. It is on my mind of late, because, on the West Side, we have a fancy new mailhouse. I always have loved new things. Make it shiny, and make it new, and I am happy.

Back to O'Keefe, however. O'Keefe was an Irish terrier, a dog my Dad purchased to enjoy during his retirement. Dad died six months into his retirement, however, leaving a still very young O'Keefe for my Mom to raise.

O'Keefe was crazy. Actually, she was C-R-A-Z-Y.

O'Keefe was so high energy she didn't bounce off walls: she routinely collided with walls. She didn't approach life with vigor; she approached life with an incredjudgment previously only reserved for middle school males.

O'Keefe would have many highlights in the course of a single day, but maybe nothing ever was better than the mailman approaching our house

From the -Lyon's Den Larry Lyon

to drop letters through the slot in the front door. The slot would open, the mail would be stuck through it. and O'Keefe would go totally vertical, flying at the door and hitting it every single time with all four feet at once.

For O'Keefe, life was never

always be glad to see that all ten of his fingers were still there after encountering O'Keefe's mail slot.

For us Seven Lakes residents, however, our mail delivery is a slightly calmer experience. Our mailhouses

are meccas. They

are destinations on our daily journeys. The mailhouse is a place you go, a place to see your neigh-

bor, a place to buy a raffle ticket, and a place to study the community bulletin board on what club meets next.

Picking up the daily collection of catalogues, credit card offerings, and bills is only secondary. Most of my mail now goes straight from the mailbox to the recycling my house, where it rests for never more than seven days.

Then. I take it all to the new recycling monster at the dumpster, except I am not paid 44 cents (or whatever is the price of a stamp these days) for each envelope I drop into the jaws of the new recycling monster.

On the West Side, our new mailhouse is a shining beacon on a ridge. It looks grand; it smells even better (can we not market the smell of a new building or new car?). It is totally high tech, with two flat screen televisions that scroll community announcements. Some day, I am going to take along a lawn chair and sit at the mailhouse for a while to watch the television, to make sure I know exactly when the pancakes will be for sale.

I like it, too, because the parking lot is roomier and

For the mailman, he would center scrap paper tub at less of a traffic challenge than the old one that sat between the roads leading in and out of the subdivision. I came close to probably killing about a pedestrian a year at the old mailhouse site; I myself was almost hit nearly twice a year. Those of us who survived the old mailhouse site are completely appreciative that our very lives, not to mention our vehicles, are now far less vulnerable targets at the new mailhouse.

> And the mail carriers themselves? They are even more grateful they don't have to deal with the O'Keefes of the world.

Seven Lakes resident Larru Luon is a former newspaper editor and columnist. He now serves as the pastor of West End Presbyterian Church in West End. His column is in no way theological.

Don't jeopardize the beauty of Seven Lakes

Dear Editor:

For two months, I have been reading articles submitted by Fred Young in which he expresses his concerns about the future of Seven Lakes. Although I have no title like "President Emeritus" to put after my name,

my wife and I do have a combined 57 years experience as teacher and assistant principal in the public high schools of North Carolina.

After serving the public for so many years and having lived in the city where we worked, we were ready for

some privacy. When we moved to Seven Lakes, we thought we had died and gone to heaven.

Living behind the gates of Seven Lakes has been a dream-come-true for us. We residents of Seven Lakes obviously respect our forests, our lakes, and our neighborhood streets. By incorporating and removing our gates, we expose our forests, our lakes, and our neighborhood streets to an uncaring public which has no vested interest in our serenity and our beauty.

Removal of the gates would be an open invitation to some people to come cruise and race up and down our streets day and night with their stereos blasting. If readers want to see what our streets would soon look like, please take a slow drive from Seven Lakes to West End. Take an inventory of the beer cans,

the water bottles, and the fast food wrappers littering NC Highway 211. That's what the public thinks of our streets!

I am not interested in Mr. Young's "substantial speed bump" to replace our gates; I am not interested in his fancy drawings of the business district, as long as they are tied to incorporation; I am not interested in his color photographs of the gates that he proposes to remove.

What I am interested in is

our privacy, our serenity, our cleanliness, and our beauty. All these things we already have because of the gates.

I do not care how much it costs annually to operate the crossbars. I enjoy living in this beautiful, pristine, serene, and private neighborhood, and I'm willing to pay the price. Please do not jeopardize the beauty of living in Seven Lakes.

> Bob Hancock Seven Lakes West

AKES LIMES

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Letters to the Your letters welcome!

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most all we receive. You will need to sign your

letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached. We recommend that your letter not exceed 300 words.

OPINION March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 19

I'm gay . . . and feel called to the ministry

Question: I have known the future. Do you know any that I am gay since I was 13 years old. Last year, at age 19, I told my parents, who are strong Christians. To my surprise, they accepted me and told me that they had known about my sexual orientation for several years. My problem became the church our family attends. When my farther told the pastor about me, the pastor told me that homosexuality is a sin condemned in the Bible; and, that if I didn't repent and change, I was going to hell. He sent me to a counselor who tried to change me. It was a horrible experience. I have left the church, but my parents have remained. I consider myself a Christian and even feel that God may be leading me into the ministry, where I can help people like me in

churches that will accept me?

Response: I have great sympathy for your situation and great admiration for your parent's acceptance of your you are not.

Rev. Don Welch

There is strong evidence that "change-counseling" does not actually change gay and lesbian people into heterosexuals, and there is a lot of evidence that the guilt and

condemnation it generates in the

> counselees is extremely harmful psychologically and spiritually. I pray that you escaped this without

scars. The fact that you are looking for an accepting church is a good sign.

I am acquainted with many gay and lesbian ministers, and I encourage you to listen carefully to the possibility that God is calling you into ministry. I also know of sev-

eral churches in your area that would welcome you and support you in your search.

The leading denominations in the affirmation of gender equality are The United Church of Christ (Congregational) and the Episcopal Church in America. More recently, The Presbyterian Church USA and the Evangelical Lutheran Church have begun ordaining gays and lesbians as ministers. I would recommend that you look in these directions for a church home. Make an appointment with the minister and openly discuss your own life's journey and the possibility of that congregation's acceptance and support.

I wish I could recommend my own denomination, The United Methodist Churches, but in recent years the Methodists have continued to affirm gays and lesbians as persons of worth in the sight of God, but deny them ordination and forbid clergy to bless same sex unions or marriages.

Although I am joined by hundreds, perhaps thousands of United Methodist clergy, who oppose this policy, the denomination itself appears to be strengthening its opposition to change and chooses to remain on the wrong side of history and the wrong side of the Gospel.

Never forget that you are loved and accepted by God just as you are. and that Jesus does not hesitate to call you as a disciple.

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

you must leave.

remain with their church even if you rightfully feel that You are a child of God and

sexual orientation. I urge you

to honor their wishes to

God created you and accepts you as you are. Don't believe

anyone who tells you that

New Show from Monday Art Group

The Seven Lakes Monday Art Group will open a new show in the Art Gallery at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church building on Wednesday, March 27.

The public is cordially invited to the opening reception, to be held from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Afterward, the Gallery will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 pm to 4 pm for six weeks.

The group has done something different for this show: Members - Seven Lakes artists Ann Bright, Carol Burgess, Roy Harter, Jane Morrelli, Helen Pardue, Andrea Schmidt, Magda Sonderfan, and Sue Thomas - -

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have each rendered interpretations of four photographs by local photographer Laurie Odiorne.

watercolor, acrylic/oil, pencil, and colored pencil, and the works reflect the variety of the individual artists' per-Media include oil pastel, ceptions and renditions.

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20 **Seven Lakes Times** March 22, 2013 **OPINION**

'The Bible' – The TV show, that is

The History Channel has tainly understandable, since the presentation. We have recently begun a miniseries entitled, "The Bible," which has sparked some interesting dialogue among people.

I have read of those who think that this program is blasphemy and that people should completely avoid watching it. Others believe this is a fantastic way to learn the Bible stories. I have heard people in the grocery store talking about the Bible; and I was excited at first, until I realized that they were talking about the TV show.

Whatever the case, people are talking about it!

I must admit that I have been recording the series and that I have watched every episode with my two sons. We have enjoyed it very much and been pleasantly surprised, in general, with the first two episodes. Unfortunately, there are many things that are covered in the real Bible that have been omitted from the shows. This is cerit is only a five part minis-



Some artistic liberties have been taken, such as the angels who rescued Lot from Sodom being portrayed as ninja angels. Samson is presented as African, not Jewish. Some events are presented in improper sequences as well; but overall, I believe the producers have done a good job presenting what they have covered.

At our house, we have taken on the series as a challenge, looking for what has been left out and seeing if there are any problems with quizzed each other about some of the things that were

not included in the presenta-

tion. One of my sons pulled out his Bible to check on something that was questionable.

We all had a good laugh at the ninja angels and started karate chopping each other as we shouted out "ninja angel!" Okay, maybe that is too much information, but we have really enjoyed it to this point.

People have asked me if they should watch the series or if they should allow their children to watch it. I think that, as with any media, parents should preview what their children will view, to make sure that it is appropriate. Once you have determined that it is appropriate for your children, watch the presentation with them. Encourage them to ask questions, and then go to the Bible with your family and discuss the things that were left out and the lessons that they should learn from the stories. Perhaps, you could even discuss how you would have portrayed it if you were making the movie.

I think that any catalyst that sparks an interest in Americans to read the Bible is of some value. This miniseries may be a great way to start a conversation with

vour children about God and the Bible. Just don't base your theology on what they present on a television show. Read the Bible and see how God has moved in history. Talk about your faith with vour children. Enjoy the program for what it is and then use it as a tool to lead your children to the Bible.

The Bible is after all. God's love letter to mankind.

Chris Hrabosky is pastor at Seven Lakes Baptist Church. You may send him your question or comments at chrabosky@mac.com.



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OPINION March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 21

Seven Lakes is too divided to incorporate

Dear Editor:

Webster's Dictionary defines "incorporation" as: "to combine or join with something already formed; make part of another thing: include; embody."

Not to offend anyone, but some people in each existing

Seven Lakes community do not want others from the other community to invade their space. You would think that incorporation would be a good idea — and it would be, if everyone could just get along and work for a better "Greater Seven Lakes," but

that is not the case here. Until this mentality is overcome, there will never be an incorporated or united Seven Lakes.

In order for "true" incorporation to take place, you would have to eliminate both sets of landowners boards and do away with both sets of dues; elect a Mayor or Council or some other form of government and impose a fair tax on everyone, including the business district; share entrances and amenities and enjoy the freedom to travel within all areas.

Now, we all know that this will never happen!

A five cent property tax is the minimum tax required by the state. Foxfire has a thirty-five cent tax and they only have around 1,000 residents. That is seven times greater than the five cent tax proposed for Seven Lakes, with about 5,000 residents.

A 24/7/365 police department will require several officers, plus a chief, clerical staff, police vehicles, and a headquarters. You have to pay for uniforms, equipment, training, and liability insurance. This alone could never be funded on the proposed five cent tax.

Or do you keep both boards, continue to charge each community their own separate dues, and then add on an additional thirty-five

cents in new taxes and elect a new form of government that will then have to contend with the two existing boards? More government, more taxes - just what we need.

Some of us have been through all this before. It wasn't good then and it isn't good now. So, let's put an end to this debate and actually try to be good neighbors. Let's get along like we should and behave like adults.

As long as there are separate communities with separate gates, amenities, and agendas, incorporation will never happen.

> Mike Pusillo Seven Lakes South

Protect the lakes

Dear Editor:

With all the attention focused on losing our gates and gaining some sort of preconceived business and suburban utopia, I feel driven to report on what we may be overlooking in this argument, our most precious commodity: our lakes.

I love the fact that I can pack a picnic, take the kids to the beach, and feel like we practically own the lake. With virtually no one in sight, we are free to frolic and play in peace and security, with little threat of crowds or the litter and destruction that generally accompanies public access.

I fear that in losing our gates, we are placing our lakes on a sacrificial alter of sorts, all for the promise of a beautifully rendered architectural suggestion.

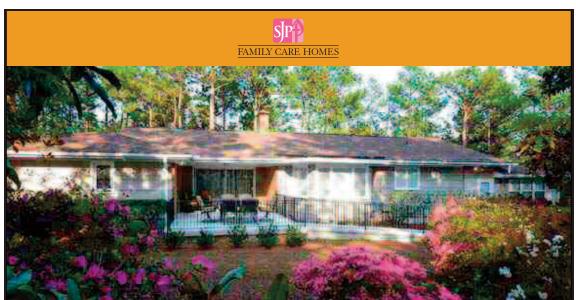
And it is just that: a sug-

gestion. Once the gates come down, there is no promise that our business village will ultimately be transformed into a chic and modern commercial establishment.

But what is certainly a guarantee is that our lakes will be inundated with throngs of people who do not live in our neighborhoods and have no vested interest in the conservation and preservation of our most prized asset.

The peace and serenity we now enjoy at our precious lakes is sure to become a distant memory, should we be forced to tolerate an influx of unrestricted access which threatens to destroy the very thing that attracted many of us to this neighborhood in the first place.

> Jenelle Mick Seven Lakes North



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JOHN COLE'S

PLUMBING DESSIONALS

22 Seven Lakes Times March 22, 2013 OPINION

Future of 7 Lakes: Frequently Asked Questions

This is the fourth in a series of articles on the future of Seven Lakes by Westsider Fred Young, President Emeritus of Elon University and Chair of VIF International Education. He and his wife, Phyllis, built their first house in Seven Lakes North in 1978 and moved to Seven Lakes West in 2006. Contact him at youngf@mindspring.com.

Article 6:

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Moore County provide police services, zoning, and building codes, and NCDENR drainage rules?

Yes, Seven Lakes is under county zoning, building, and other codes. The results are self-evident. These standards are not adequate if Seven Lakes is to become one of the premier residential developments in the Southeast.

Would Seven Lakes be getting back all the sales tax money since NC is in poor financial straits?

The sales tax money has been there for each of the past 80 years; the sales tax law has been in place since 1933. In 2011, sales tax revenue was approximately \$6 billion, which was shared between the State, 100 counties, and 553 cities. While the rate has been adjusted a few times, the law itself has never been questioned because it is such a large proportion of state revenue and is shared by so many levels of government.

are not adequate if Seven Could an incorporated Seven Lakes is to become one of Lakes have an ABC Store?

Yes, and collect a portion of the taxes. Last year, Aberdeen received \$50,629 in ABC store revenues.

What will incorporation do for me?

Seven Lakes will provide a business district and community entrance that you will be proud of, that your guests will want to visit, that will provide restaurants and other businesses that will make your life more convenient and improve your lifestyle.

Your roads will be repaved; your security will be improved.

Your costs will be reduced about \$300 annually.

Your property values could increase 25% - 50% and the sales time may be reduced.

How will incorporation save money for me and the Seven Lakes community?

Retaining the approximately \$1,600,000 annually in sales tax and other revenues that we currently forfeit will pay for most of the town government services.

The town will maintain and repave roads and provide

security, thus reducing the landowner association expenditures about \$300 per member. At the discretion of the landowners association boards, these funds can be used to reduce member fees, build reserves, mitigate future increases, or provide additional services.

(See "FAQ," p. 23)



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More analysis needed

Dear Editor:

Fred Young's most recent article on the future of Seven Lakes has a nice spreadsheet and a professional looking, quantitative analysis of the financial situation, marred only by the absence of one minor detail: How in the world are we going to pay for everything he and others have proposed with a tax of only five cents per hundred?

He doesn't explain that: for all the talk about the money we are "throwing away," and the income side of the equation (By the way, how was the \$1.6 million calculated?), a complete analysis needs to discuss the cost side as well. How did he come up with a five cent tax rate anyway? That is only the minimum tax allowed by the state. No other community in the area has a tax rate close to that.

I am also concerned that Mr. Young is double-counting his \$1.6 million: You can't claim additional income *and* operational savings on road maintenance. We will have an additional source of income, but we still pay for the roads, not the state,

county, or NCDOT. And the cost to us of bringing the roads up to standard or of providing continuing maintenance, as we do currently, is the same whether we do it through the landowners associations or through a new incorporated entity.

I think these are the two most important questions that need to be addressed, but there are other gaps in his series. For example, in his first article he notes that some realtors will no longer send prospective clients copies of *The Seven Lakes Times* because of the constant squabbling. Does he really believe that adding a new layer of bureaucracy will reduce the squabbling?

The key issue is that without a reasonably detailed breakdown of the source(s) of the increased revenues as well as the cost of doing everything that is being proposed, it is impossible to evaluate the financial efficacy of incorporation. Let's understand all the facts, not just those supporting one side of the issue.

> Mike Shapiro Seven Lakes West



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OPINION March 22, 2013 Seven Lakes Times 23

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FAQ

(Continued from page 22)

Why should I spend my money to improve downtown and pave roads in other developments?

Because incorporation will improve your community, your style of life, and your property values.

Because developing and maintaining an attractive downtown area is key to attracting new residents to the Seven Lakes area.

Because incorporation will cost little or nothing and will actually save money for most land owners and the community.

It would be to your advantage for your money to be used to pave roads in Seven Lakes. The sales taxes that you are currently paying and forfeiting are being used to pave the streets in Foxfire, Pinehurst, Carthage, et al.

Will non-residents be able to put their boats in our lakes?

Pickett's

No. Lakes and other amenities are and will remain privately owned. The landowners associations may have to beef up security at the boat ramps and provide a patrol to ensure that non-member boats are not in the lakes. These steps are already being done effectively on the West and to a lesser degree on North.

It is certainly more economical to provide security at the lakes during daylight hours in the summer than to operate gates at the entrances 24/7/365 at a cost of over \$400,000 per year, plus forfeiting \$1,600,000 in sales tax revenue.

Pinehurst and Whispering Pines have lakes, swimming pools, and tennis courts and experience no significant problems with security.

Having a Police Department on hand to arrest and prosecute trespassers will greatly improve security for landowner amenities.

PICKUP AND

The Seven Lakes roads are not up to state standards. Would the state or county assume maintenance of those roads?

The roads will be the responsibility of the town and do not have to meet state standards.

Why are you critical of Seven Lakes? Does it hurt the community, create division, and damage real estate sales?

The intention of these articles is not to hurt the community, but to help it.

They are not intended to create division, but to show what could be accomplished if we put aside our differences and come together as one united community.

These articles will not hurt the community nearly as much as ignoring our problems and failing to correct

Clearly, Seven Lakes has many wonderful assets: space, variety of housing, community facilities, amenities, and the magnificent lakes.

Despite these advantages, we are an aging community, and our real estate values and sales are lagging.

Our most visible characteristics are West End, the business district, and our roads, all of which make a negative impression. Few visitors see the beautiful amenities, the houses, and the lakes.

While we tend to become oblivious and complacent about these problems, other people notice them. Note this comment from a Pinehurst realtor:

"I rarely take prospects to Seven Lakes anymore. By the time I drive them through West End, which looks like a war zone, tour the unappealing Business District, and ride over the patched roads, I could not sell the Taj Mahal."

With our great assets, if we can unify and incorporate and solve these problems Seven Lakes can rather quickly become one of the most magnificent residential communities in the region.



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NEWS 24 **Seven Lakes Times** March 22, 2013

Planning

(Continued from page 2) 2018, 0.2% of power sold to retail customers must come from solar sources.

There are also attractive federal and state subsidies for the producers of solar and other renewable ener-

More information required

Sparrow's proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance would allow solar farms as a conditional use in industrial and business zoning districts, as well as in the Rural Agricultural [RA] district.

He proposed a 50-foot setback from adjoining residential property, a 25 foot maximum height for the collectors (which are often mounted on poles), a six-foot perimeter fence, and vegetative screening from adjacent residential properties and public rights

In addition, the recommended text amendments would require a performance bond or letter of credit to ensure that the equipment is removed by the operator once it has outlived its useful

Planning Board members expressed appreciation for the research and recommendations, but wanted significantly more information about solar farms before moving to approve the proposed text amendment.

that does this for a business come speak to the basics?' Chairman Robert Hayter asked. "How do they select a site? How far from the grid do they have to be? The point

is not for or against solar arrays, but making sure that what we do in terms of an ordinance is what's best for Moore County."

Board member Les Murray suggested that some members of the Board might visit a solar farm, and Ensminger said the planning staff could arrange a site visit for the entire Board. She also indicated that Argand Energy Solutions had expressed an interest in meeting with the Board.

"Lets have as much expertise and dialog as possible at the next meeting," Hayter said, referring to the April 4 Planning Board meeting. He asked Ensminger to identify nearby solar farms that Board members could visit on their own time.

Road Addressing Ordinance Approved

In other business during its March 7 meeting, the Planning Board approved a "Road Name and Addressing Ordinance," which will be forwarded onto the Board of Commissioners with a recommendation for approval.

Director Ensminger explained that the road naming and addressing function had shifted from the Planning Department to the GIS Department several years ago, but the ordinance itself had not been updated since 2000.

The new ordinance lays out standards for naming roads, changing road names, and assigning street num-

Two points of the proposed language met with resistance from Planning Board members, who amended the ordinance before forwarding it on to the Commissioners.

First, Chairman Hayter noted that the proposed ordinance would require that road names "use common spelling found in a standard dictionary."

"There is no such thing as a standard dictionary," he argued, suggesting that the ordinance name a specific dictionary, so that land planners (like Hayter) and developers would know which reference to use.

On a motion from Les Murray, the Board agreed to specify the latest edition of Webster's Dictionary as the authority for spellings.

Hayter and Murray — as well as other Board members strongly objected to a clause in the proposed ordinance that said "Proper names of individuals or businesses are to be avoided."

GIS Programmer Rachel Wall explained that the department had recently dealt

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with a case in which a road had been named after one family that lived along it, but their property had been bought by another family. And now the new family wanted the road changed to their name.

But Hayer and others pointed out that naming highways, roads, and streets after people is so common as to be routine. Ultimately, the Board voted to strike that provision in the ordinance.

Finally, at Hayter's urging, (See "Planning," p. 25)





NEWS March 22, 2013 Seven Lakes Times 25

Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

there will be a draft in everybody's box at the Village Office," McCue said. "The amendments will go further than just the size of commercial signs. There are other inconsistencies. This will regulate those to the degree that we can."

Unlike the rezoning of Grande Pines, the sign ordinance poses a tight but doable time line. "The goal is to get this all done so we can have public hearing in April and move this forward," Erickson said.

Village Clerk Kivett told *The Times* on Tuesday that a public hearing on the sign ordinance will be held during the Council's regular meeting on April 9.

Public input on the budget

Developing and approving a FY 2013-2014 budget poses yet another deadline for the Council. Several council members will be traveling during the Spring holidays. After much consulting of calendars, the Council finally settled on a date and called a work session to discuss "purely budget issues" on Tuesday, April 30 at 6:30 pm.

In order to maximize citizen involvement in the budget process, Erickson called for Citizen Participation Workshops on Tuesday, May 7 and Wednesday, May 15 at 6:30 pm in the Village Hall. The Coucnil will hold a work session on the budget on Thursday, May 23, and the final public hearing on the budget will be on Tuesday,

June 11 at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

Bill would curb town powers

During the Triangle J Executive Committee meeting Mayor Erickson learned that Senate Bill 139 before the General Assembly "would reduce a municipalities' design and aesthetic control. This would diminish the ability of cities and neighborhoods to work with developers to buy in for aesthetics," reported Erickson. "We would have very limited control over it."

"The current zoning says you can't build two duplicate houses side by side. This would eliminate that. We could not place that restriction in zoning," said Erickson.

"Most of us came from the North Country. We call this tract housing up there. All houses look alike."

Erickson encouraged Council members to contact their legislators to oppose the bill. "If we want to pass a resolution, we can get something in writing, as well as make phone calls," said Erickson. The League of Municipalities will also oppose the bill, he added.

New Planning & Zoning Board Members

The council approved adding Mary Gilroy, Donald Boito, and Becky Pahner to the Foxfire Village Planning and Zoning Board. The Village still needs a member to represent the ETJ.

Planning

(Continued from page 24)

the Board attached a recommendation to its approval of the ordinance that encourages the Commissioners to communicate the importance of the ordinance to the political leaders of all eleven Moore County municipali-

Noting that the County names roads in the extraterritorial jurisdictions of the municipalities, but not inside the towns, Hayter said: "In my office we have had problems with that. There's not a smooth line in naming roads. You have to bring in

the county to get the road named."

"I want to be absolutely sure that an intergovernmental effort at the political level is an effort we go through," he added. "It needs to be talked out at the executive level. If there is any way to make it work more smoothly, I would want to make that effort."

Work Sessions Planned

Planning Director Ensminger told the Board that she would like to schedule work sessions as part of the regular Board meeting whenever major text amendments — like the solar farm amendment — are to be proposed. The Board would have a work session on a major amendment one month and, perhaps, vote on it the following month.

Looking forward to the April 4 meeting, the staff will plan to present a straightforward text amendment on group homes, Ensminger said, and then hold a work session on solar farms.

In May, the Board will have a work session on a proposed revision to the sign ordinance.

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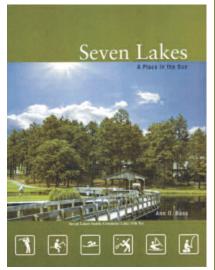
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Memorial

(Continued from front page)
not only an opportunity for
public comment, but a
chance for dialogue between
those who attend.

'Plan B' presented

The March 13 meeting began with a brief presentation of a reduced footprint design for a 1.5 acre park surrounding the existing Memorial, which is tucked into a corner of the former Carriage Oaks Shopping Center at the intersection of NC Highway 15/501 and NC Highway 24/27 in Carthage.

This "Plan B," designed by Moore County Planner Jeremy Rust, included restrooms, an areas for food preparation, and a small amphitheater. Rust was asked to prepare the plan after a few members of the Committee commissioned Southern Pines-based Landscape Architect Vince Zucchino to develop "Plan A," a design that includes a much larger amphitheater and larger open areas, consuming all 3.5 acres of the property that lies between the Memorial and a Hardee's restaurant.

In October of 2011, a representative of Bojangles' Restaurants offered to purchase 1.5 acres adjacent to

Hardee's as the site of a new restaurant. When that offer — and subsequent County efforts to negotiate a price — became public in May of 2012, the news generated significant outcry among Veteran's groups concerned about the environment around the Memorial, leading the Commissioners to form the Advisory Committee to study the issue.

"Both these plans are concepts of how we can protect the Memorial," Commissioner Jimmy Melton told members of the Advisory Committee during their March 13 meeting, "and how much we can protect the Memorial. It's going to be up to the Commissioners to decide."

Comparison offered

Committee member Carolyn Mealing presented a detailed comparison of the two Memorial Park designs, that she worked with Carla Johnson, Ruby Hendricks, and Joann Atkins to prepare. Their seven page, point-bypoint comparison evidenced a strong preference for the larger park envisioned in Plan A.

Among their key points were:

• The smaller footprint of Plan B would leave room for another fast food restaurant to be constructed on adjacent property, failing to "protect the sanctity and purpose of the Memorial."

- The Plan B amphitheater seats only 75-80, while Veterans' events held at the Memorial average 250-300. Plan A's amphitheater can accommodate 250 or more.
- The stage envisioned in the Plan B amphitheater blocks the view of the central portion of the Memorial — the section devoted to those killed or missing in action.
- Handicapped parking, cooking areas, and space for picnicking are all significantly compromised in the Plan B design.

In addition, Mealing said the Veterans' Memorial Committee had already received substantial pledges that could be used to fund the construction of the larger 3.5 acre park — funding that, she implied, would not be available for the smaller footprint design.

Finally, in response to comments in earlier meetings that suggested commercial development of a portion of the property would be an important source of tax revenue for the Town of Carthage, Mealing used the tax value of the Hardee's restaurant to suggest a similar adjacent restaurant would likely bring in less than \$2,000 in annual property tax revenue.

Mealing asks to table

After hearing Mealing's presentation, Melton again suggested moving both Plan A and Plan B to the Commissioners for a decision. Committee Member Raymond Doby made a motion to that effect.

Mealing asked that the motion be tabled, so that committee members could study the information she had just presented and, perhaps, decide to recommend only Plan A to the Commissioners.

"I think we have gone as far as we can," Melton said, suggesting that both designs could be presented to the Commissioners in a Work Session that would allow public input. Mealing agreed, with the proviso that expert testimony would be allowed.

"Public comment the way it is normally handled is going to be a problem," Commissioner Picerno said. "That will just create a platform for political statements, which, in my opinion, is what this has been turned into." He also suggested that members of the Advisory Committee should participate in a joint Work Session with the Commissioners.

Ultimately, the Committee unanimously approved forwarding both plans to the Commissioners for consideration in a joint Work Session with ample opportunity for public comment and expert testimony.

As he has in each of the Advisory Committee meetings, Picerno reminded his fellow Committee Members that "the Veteran's Memorial is protected," referring to a vote by the Board of Commissioners that, in effect, took the adjacent property off the market until the Advisory Committee completed its work. "We don't have an urgency," Picerno said. "What the Veterans requested has been done."

A difficult time to decide

After the meeting, Picerno explained to *The Times* that uncertainty surrounding the County's plans for meeting

(See "Memorial," p. 28)



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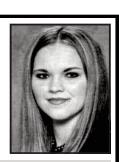
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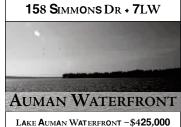


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West Side

(Continued from front page)

— were the result of poor original construction by the developer.

"This time, these things were done right," Herdrich said, "and they won't have to be done again."

Looking forward, he said major projects planned for the coming year include

Memorial

(Continued for page 26)

its future needs for office space make this a difficult time to come to a decision about the land adjacent to the Memorial.

The Commissioners recently received a comprehensive study of its space needs, prepared by an outside consultant, but have not had time to use that study to create a long range plan.

The Sheriff's Department, Public Safety Department, and 911 Call Center are all moving to the new Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center, which will free up a significant amount of office space that could be used by other departments. A few years ago, the County had architects design a new administration building, but the Commissioners tabled those plans during the controversy over the building of the Public Safety Building and Detention Center.

The Memorial sits in a corner of the former Carriage Oaks Shopping Center, which currently houses the County's Department of Social Services, as well as Planning and Inspections Departments. Depending on how the County decides to resolve its future need for space, that property may continue in government hands, or it may be sold to commercial interests, a choice that would could place the Memorial adjacent to a busy shopping center.

It would be easier to make a decision about the land adjacent to the Memorial, Picerno said, if the future of Carriage Oaks weren't surrounded by such a large number of unknowns. reconfiguring the front entranceway and exploring the possibility of building walking trails around West Side Park.

Milligans win Fellingham Award

Betty and Ronnie Milligan were named the 2013 recipients of the Fellingham Community Service Award during the Annual Meeting.

Making the presentation, former Fellingham Award recipient Bud Sales explained that the award was established to recognize Association members who made a "significant contribution to the community over a sustained period of time." The Milligan's contribution is on daily display to all who use the front entrance and enjoy the land-scaping on Lakeway Mall.

The Milligans moved to Seven Lakes West in 2001, Sales said, and immediately volunteered to serve on the beautification committee. Betty Milligan became chair of that committee in 2003; and, in 2005, along with Roger Brooke, she approached the Board with a request for \$40,000 in funding to landscape Lakeway

Mall.

Noting that the entire SLWLA budget was roughly \$300,000 at the time, Sales said the Board managed to come up with \$3,000, while the Milligans raised \$20,000 from private contributions. After hiring a landscape architect to develop a long range plan for the mall area, the Milligans put their backs into the project, laying irrigation pipe, planting, mulching, pruning, and weeding.

When the Community Center was finished, the Milligans spearheaded the planting of roses around the building. And, picking up on an idea forwarded by former resident Ruth Van Lehn, they pushed for the recent project to clean up the face of the lower Lakeway pond dam, providing residents and visitors entering the community a view of Lake Auman from Lakeway Drive.

"This is really a big surprise, but one that we will cherish," Betty Milligan said, accepting the award. "We love our community here, and we want it to be the best it can be. Lakeway Drive is our front door and we want it to be the best that we can be. She credited the work of "many"

volunteers as well as supporting Boards."

Distinguishing himself as first among those volunteers, Ronnie Milligan said, to the amusement of the crowd, "Betty is the one who deserves this award. I only did what I was told to do."

Budget approved, Directors elected

Westsiders vote each year on the budget proposed by the Board for the coming fiscal year. A budget is considered approved unless a majority of all members vote against it.

President Herdrich announced that 549 members had cast votes for the FY 2013-2014 budget — 339 in favor, and 210 opposed.

Secretary Jane Sessler announced the election of three new Board members: Brian Benjamin, Dale Erickson, and Chuck Watkins. She did not reveal vote totals. Sessler, Herdrich, and Treasurer Don Freiert are retiring from the Board.

Director Jack Stevens told *The Times* that the Board will elect officers during its next regular meeting, on

(See "West Side," p. 29)

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NEWS March 22, 2013 **Seven Lakes Times** 29

West Side

(Continued from page 28) Tuesday, March 26.

The Nominating Committee for FY 2013-2014 will include Jane Sessler, Ed Silberhorn, Jim Ballew, Kathy Kirst, Pat Land, Ron Shepard, and Ron Sickenberger.

Year in review

In addition to highlighting investments the Association has made in major capital projects over the last four years, President Herdrich provided a review of key accomplishments during the past twelve months.

The Board has accomplished many of the goals it set for itself at the beginning of the year, Herdrich said, including:

- Completing a road management plan.
- Forming an Amenities Committee to focus on upgrades throughout the community.
- Continuing to transfer dayto-day responsibilities to Community Association Services [CAS] staff members.
- Completing the mailhouse.
- Developing plans for reconfiguring the front entranceway.

Herdrich then reported on accomplishments in each Director's area of responsi-

Architectural Review issued permits for eleven new houses of major modifications, as well as 178 smaller projects. The permitting process was streamlined, and a number of policies were clarified.

The Events Committee offered a wide range of community events, including concerts and picnics, as well as classes in self defense and gun safety.

Lake & Dam selected a dam engineer to replace the retiring Dr. Dan Marks, completed a survey of the Lake Auman Fishery, and began updating the Lake Auman master plan. A new gate was installed at the boat and trailer storage area, and work on road and drainage issues at Johnson Point is underway.

Legal Affairs worked to limit use of the Association's outside attorney by relying on members of the Legal Affairs Committee and CAS legal counsel, as well as by developing templates for contracts in order to minimize attorney review.

Infrastructure completed a major remediation of Carriage Park Pond Dam #3, selected a consultant to prepare a comprehensive road repaving plan, completed a maintenance building, and installed fire hydrants.

Communications continued development of the SLWLA website, which has reached 880 registered users. Weekly emails are sent to those who have signed up and have become a preferred means of Association communications. The SLWLA Handbook is now available online, saving the cost of printing and distribution, and ensuring that members have ready access to an upto-date copy of the rules and regulations.

Safety & Security switched security vendors to US Securities and added a professional roving patrol. New security cameras were installed at the gates. Association members responded rapidly to news that Moore County had, without warning, changed the protocol for handling emergency medical calls within Seven Lakes West, leading the County to reverse that decision, at least temporarily.

The Finance Committee updated the ten-year financial projections, implemented new quarterly financial reports, and completed a reserve analysis and capital expenditure tracking.

Volunteers honored

As part of the printed agenda for the Annual Meeting, the Board listed the scores of volunteers that contribute time and effort on community projects.

Secretary Sessler praised those "who contribute their time and expertise to keep Seven Lakes West a community that is moving forward."

She noted that many members serve on more than one committee, and many serve year-after-year.

"Some have referred to this Board as a clique," Sessler said. "If it is a clique, it is a ridiculously large clique, with plenty of diversity, extending across a number of years."

Sessler closed her remarks by noting that the Board would be looking for new volunteers in the coming year.

Other Business

In other business during the SLWLA Annual Meeting:

- · Betsy Mikula was applauded for her dozen years of service as the editor of the Westside Newsletter and the originator of the SLWLA website. Mikula has announced that the March edition of the newsletter will be the final issue.
- Builder Bill Reaves thanked the Westside community for allowing him to build the new mailhouse, noting that the project created a large number of jobs.

- During Member Comments, Gayle Mace expressed dismay that her lot number was not allocated a box in the new mailhouse. President Herdrich explained that Westsiders who had no box in the old mailhouse would not be able to have a box number corresponding to their lot number in the new mailhouse.
- George Reynolds asked about the clear cutting of a large acreage that lies outside of Longleaf Drive, in the Anchor Point area. Director Stevens said he had responded to questions concerning the timber cutting in the comments section of the SLWLA website.

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