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Volume 21 Number 9

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

March 3, 2006

School building plan presented

Twelve years. Six new schools. \$144 million.

That was the bottom line delivered to the Moore County Board of Education Monday night, February 27 — the result of months of data-gathering, public input sessions, and strategic planning by the School Board's Facilities Planning Committee.

Bruce Cunningham headed up the committee; Deputy Superintendent Larry Upchurch handled the presentation Monday night.

The "Facilities Master Plan" looks twelve years into the future and tries to accommodate the needs of a rapidly growing student population in three phases. In addition to recommending just under \$100 million for the construction of a new high school, two new middle schools, and three new elementary schools, the plan calls for upgrades and modernization for nearly every campus in the Moore County system.

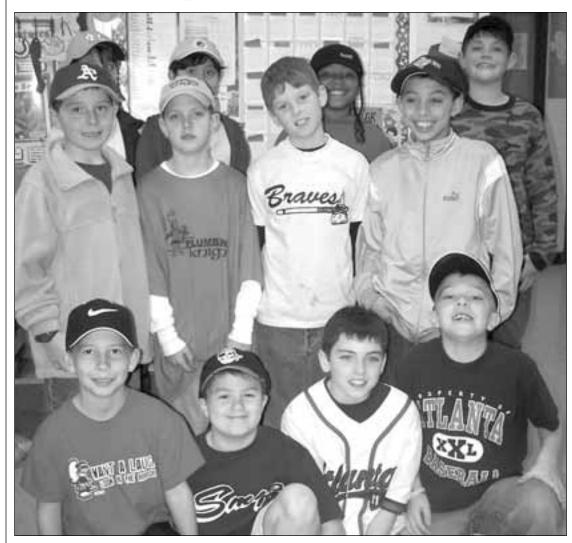
A good deal of the new construction envisioned by the plan will impact the Seven Lakes, West End, and Foxfire area. A new middle school and two new elementary schools are planned for Area 3, which feeds Pinecrest High School and includes the southwestern third of the county.

The School Board has scheduled meetings at each of Moore County's public high schools to provide the public with information about the plan. the meetings will be held: Tuesday, March 7, at 6:30 pm at Union Pines High School; Thursday, March 9, at 6:30 pm at North Moore High School; and Monday, March 13, at 6:30 pm at Pinecrest High School.

Upchurch told *The Times* that the Moore County system has a current enrollment of 11,794 students, 30 students too many for the systemwide capacity of 11,762. Enrollment is projected to grow to 12,463 by the 2009 school year, and to 13,960 by 2014. In his presentation, Upchurch cautioned the board that those projections will keep changing as time goes on, and

(See "Schools," p. 29)

Batter up!



Mrs. Lisa Gorenflo's fourth-graders at West End Elementary School recently studied the famous baseball player, Lou Gehrig. (Please see story on page 2.)

Scotti's right to serve questioned, affirmed

Questions raised about Director Jackie Scotti's right to serve on the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors — and to run for re-election — are addressed in a letter from President Jack Fathauer delivered to *The Times* on Wednesday morning.

Northsider Mary Hudson questioned Scotti's eligibility during the association's February 22 general meeting, alleging that Scotti was delinquent in payment of SLLA dues.

Hudson said she was told by SLLA staff that Scotti's 2005/2006 dues remained unpaid as of January 4 of this year.

Fathauer's letter to *The Times*, states that the Board of Directors of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association "has determined that Director [Jackie] Scotti meets the requirements of a member in "good standing" and is therefore entitled to run for re-election to the board." [See the full text of the letter elsewhere on this page.]

Scotti herself addressed the issues during the SLLA Candidates' Night on March 1.

"I have paid a lot of money to two different lawyers to make sure that I am a landowner in good standing and a homeowner in good standing," Scotti told the members in attendance.

After the meeting she told *The Times* that she had worked with legal counsel to resolve any questions about her eligibility and was ready to put those

President Fathauer's Letter

The following is the full text of a letter from SLLA President Jack Fathauer to The Times, dated March 1, affirming Jackie Scotti's eligibility to serve on the Board of Directors:

The Board of Director of the Seven Lakes Landowners' Association, Inc., having reviewed the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Restrictive Covenants and accepted Board practices, document of public record, and after discussions with the Board's counsel, has determined that Director Scotti meets the requirements of a member in "Good Standing" and is therefore entitled to run for re-election to the Board of Directors of the Landowners Association. Director Scotti is a Owner and Member as defined

(See "Fathauer's," p. 28)

(See "Scotti," p. 28)

Page 2 Seven Lakes Times March 3, 2006 NEWS

Auxiliary hosts SLLA Candidates' Night

Seventy-five or so Seven Lakers gathered on Wednesday night, March 1, to learn more about the five people running for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors at a Candidates' Night hosted by the Women's Auxiliary.

Virginia Roth served as moderator, conducting the meeting in the familiar League of Women Voters format.

Candidates were given four minutes to tell a bit about themselves, and to answer four questions that the Auxiliary had given them in advance.

One of those questions asked candidates what they felt were the most pressing issues facing Seven Lakes.

Dee Lombard listed three key issues: the absence of Company Police, under-training and underpaid security personnel, and an underfunded capital account.

Michael Florence saw the key issues as controlling SLLA health care expenditures, proactive maintenance of the dams, and

CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602, West End, NC 27376, faxed to 910-673-0210, or e-mailed to the times@ac.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
Mar. 17	Mar. 13
Mar. 31	Mar. 27
April 14	April 10
April 28	April 24
May 12	May 8
May 26	May 22
June 9	June 5
June 23	June 19
July 7	June 30*
July 21	July 17
August 4	July 31
August 18	August 14

moving quickly to begin repaving deteriorating community streets.

Steve Hudson said the board needs to form a committee to update the SLLA bylaws. Developing a long-range plan that looks ten or fifteen years into the future and developing a plan to deal with the expense of repaving were also on his list.

Jackie Scotti said that, lately, she had become one of the issues of concern, a reference to questions that had been raised about her eligibility to run for the board [See story on page 1.] Scotti said she had worked with legal counsel to make sure she is "in good standing as a landowner and a homeowner."

Scotti said the board needs to

work to repair some of the damage that has been done to the reputation of the community as a result of conflict among board members. Security will be a key area of concern after the Company Police are disbanded in April, Scotti said.

Ed Nuti's list of key concerns for the association included maintaining the infrastructure, keeping costs under control, dealing with the current vandalism problem, and responding to the the changing demographics of Seven Lakes.

[Additional questions and comments from the meeting will be available on The Times website at www.sevenlakestimes.net after Monday, March 6.]

Fourth-Graders Study Lou Gehrig

Mrs. Lisa Gorenflo's fourth grade reading classes at West End Elementary recently read a biography on the famous baseball player, Lou Gehrig.

Many learning objectives were included during the week. Some of objectives were learning about the characteristics of the biography genre, chronological order of events, and creation of timelines. The students enjoyed learning about one of America's greatest ball players. They made hanging mobiles with facts about Gehrig's life.

At the end of the week, the students were allowed to wear baseball caps, shirts and uniforms. Many of them even wore New York Yankee hats.

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Memorial Concert Series Begins at West End Presbyterian Church

The West End Presbyterian Church announces the first Memorial Concert of 2006 as they feature Jaeyoon Kim, tenor, Lisa Maxedon, soprano and Seung-Ah Kim, pianist on Sunday, March 12, at 7:30 pm in the Church Sanctuary.

The program will feature operatic arias by Mozart in celebration of his 200th birthday, songs from American musical theater and art songs in German, French, Russian and Korean. Both Dr. Maxedon and Mr. Kim are on the music faculty of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.



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NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 4 March 3, 2006

Company Police catch young vandals

Seven Lakes Company Police officers have identified the culprits responsible for a recent spate of petty offenses, including vandalism of stop signs and setting small fires in various locations around the community, Director Jeff Herman reported during the Wednesday, February 22 general meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA].

Herman said the individuals involved are juveniles, so there names are not being released to the public. Company police is working with the parents to develop suitable punishment, rather than referring the culprits to the juvenile justice system.

Community Standards. Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane said the Community Standards committee is currently working on fifteen cases. Beane has spoken with six of the landowners involved and all six have come into compliance. Nine violations are still pend-

Health Insurance. Herman said the SLLA board had voted in its Thursday, February 16 work session to modify the way in which association employees participate in the cost of their group health insurance plan.

Early last year, Herman explained, three board members voted to make two changes to the group plan. First, the association's contribution was capped at the then current plan rate of \$442 per employee per month. The employee would have to pick up any additional cost. Second, any new employees were required to pay one-third of the cost of the health insurance plan.

The newly-adopted SLLA plan will scrap these provisions and instead ask all employees to cover twenty percent of the monthly premium for their policy. That premium dropped to \$360 per employee per month when the board chose a higherdeductible insurance policy.

To help employees cover the costs of the policy and, if needed, to cover out-of-pocket medical expenses, the association will offer a healthcare savings account, which will allow employees to contribute pre-tax dollars out of their paycheck to a health-care fund. The SLLA will match these contributions, Herman said. Any money left in the employee's fund at the end of each year will revert to the asso-

The combination of lower insur-

ance premiums and asking

employees to cover more of the

policy costs and more of the

cost of medical treatment will

save the association \$35,000

in the coming year, Herman

Finance. Standing in for Direc-

tor John Paulson, Community Manager Dalton Fulcher reported that SLLA revenues to date total \$1,230,000, with dues 97.67 percent collected. Expenses are

> running below expectations, which should produce a surplus of more than \$120,000 this fiscal year. Adding that to existing reserves should

\$364,000.

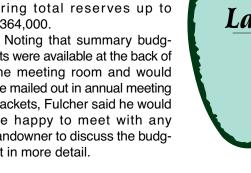
ets were available at the back of the meeting room and would be mailed out in annual meeting packets, Fulcher said he would be happy to meet with any landowner to discuss the budget in more detail.

Turning to the budget, Fulcher reported that no dues increase is proposed for the coming year. Revenues are expected to be down \$94,000 compared to the current fiscal year, largely on account of the loss of the contract to provide security services on the West Side. The loss of the contract will cut expenses by \$72,000, but some of those savings will be offset by the board's decision to restore three summer

(See "Board," p. 4)



bring total reserves up to







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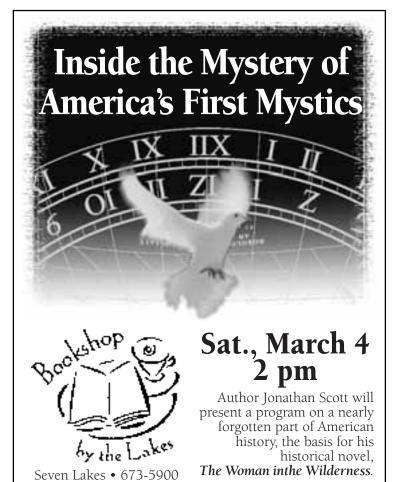
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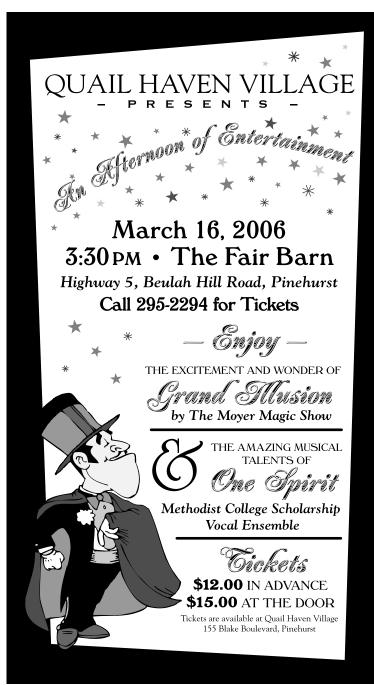
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NEWS March 3, 2006 Seven Lakes Times Page 5

Board passes new health insurance policy

(Continued from page 4) positions in maintenance.

Fulcher said the budget shows expenses down by \$37,000 overall; the end-of-year surplus is expected to total \$9,000.

Recreation. Reporting in the place of Director Jackie Scotti, Beane said the board had voted in its most recent work session to separate men's and women's facilities in the new Sequoia Point restroom, rather than a single unisex facility. Construction of a handrail to allow handicapped access to Lake Sequoia will be handled in-house.

The recreation committee expects to submit plans for a floating dock for the Lake Longleaf swimming area for the board's consideration in March.

Other projects in the planning stage include repairs to the tennis courts and renovations to the kiddie pool. Beane said a recent meeting of the Joint SLLA/SLWLA Recreation Committee suggested that both communities may want to have their own Fourth of July fireworks displays this year. He said the committee will be working with the fireworks vendor to see if a discount could be obtained in that case.

Beane said he will be prepar-

ing an article for *The Times* to help Westsiders better understand the opportunity they have to use the SLLA stables. He noted that SLWLA representatives had asked that the SLLA consider lowering the rates for Westsiders to use the stables.

Echo Dam. Director Don Truesdell reported that the association is still waiting for a report from engineers Hobbs & Upchurch that will provide specifications for the state-mandated repairs to Echo Dam. Truesdell said he hoped the report would be available by March 31. Costs for the repairs and associated engineering tasks are expected to total \$100,000.

Little Juniper. Truedell said he had provided Hobbs and Upchurch with photos, an engineering report, and other information relating to a potential seepage problem on the Little Juniper dam. The objective is to spot problems early, before they result in state-mandated repairs.

Roads. Truesdell said that he and Herman had met to discuss a strategy for repaving community roads and had agreed not to pursue a road surface study that Truesdell had previously recommended, moving instead

to develop a comprehensive plan for repaving the community's primary roadways, including Devonshire, Lancashire, Harwich, and Hastings on the South Side and Shenandoah, Edgewater, Firetree, and Cardinal on the North Side.

According to Truesdell those roads total 12.4 miles and will cost \$868,000 to repave. Not included in that total are two areas where deterioration is so bad the roads will have to be dug up and replaced: Firetree across Echo Dam and Devonshire near the Southside mailhouse. These two repairs are expected to cost more than \$20,000.

Truesdell said the board approved in its February 16 work session a motion by Herman to develop a long-range funding program for road repaving.

Public comment. Mary Hudson, first to speak in the public comment session, asked questions concerning Director Jackie Scotti's eligibility to serve on the board of directors, alleging that Scotti had not paid 2005-2006 dues on her property as of January 2006. [See related story. page 1.]

Board Candidate Dee Lombard expressed concern that the

board had voted to spend \$30,000 on new restrooms at Sequoia Point, when the existing restrooms have been the site of considerable vandalism.

Kermit Purvis said the new rules for public comment at the general sessions — which require that speakers sign up before the meeting and limit the total public comment segment of the meeting to 30 minutes — "get in the way of being as transparent as you want to be with people."

Hal Blake asked whether, once the tennis courts are repaired, it will be possible to keep skateboarders and others from misusing the courts. Fulcher acknowledged that is has been difficult to keep skateboarders off the courts.

Ron Erskine, who is familiar with the type of surface being contemplated for the courts, said it is unsuitable for skate-boarding and that a Charlotte tennis club that has installed this type of surface has not experienced problems with misuse of the courts.

Babysitting Classes Available

An American Red Cross Babysitting Class will be held on Saturday, April 1, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Chapter House, 244 SW Broad St., So.Pines. Participants can register up to March 30, please call 692-8571. The cost of the class is \$25.



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NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 6 March 3, 2006

Westside yard waste center to open soon

Seven Lakes West's new Yard Waste Transfer station is on schedule to open Saturday, March 11, at 1:00 pm, Director Ray MacKay told landowners during the Tuesday, February 28 general meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association.

The inauguration of the transfer station marks the end of the spring curbside yard waste pickup, MacKay reminded residents. For years the association has hired a contractor to make the rounds of the neighborhood, picking up branches pine cones and other debris that residents piled at the curb. This has been discontinued in favor of the new transfer site, which will be open year-round.

MacKay said the change should contribute to the appearance of the community, since the piling up of debris on the curb and the collection itself often stretched over four months of each year.

Residents who prefer not to use the transfer site will need to contract with landscape contractors to haul away their yard waste, MacKay said.

Other infrastructure projects are also moving forward, MacKay reported:

- Smoothing of gravel in the new boat and trailer storage yard, and the construction on roadways leading to the site, is about 50% percent complete. The next step will be marking out the storage bays.
- The installation of a drainage channel in the Lakeway Drive mall is nearly complete and the beautification committee has already begun preliminary landscaping work.

MacKay said he is hard at work planning for the first phase of the repaving of the Lakeway Drive exit roadway. Curbing will be install and the roadway overlayed this summer. The size of the project and safety considerations will require the closing of the exit roadway from June 12 through August 18, MacKay said, noting that this was scheduled for a time when public schools are not in session.

Annual Meeting. SLWLA President Jim Meikle opened the meeting with a reminder that the annual meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Sunday March 19 at the West Side Park Community Center.

Three candidates will be elected to the board of directors at the meeting and Meikle encouraged residents to familiarize themselves with the candidates and

Seven Lakes Forum. Meikle

said he had attended both of

the first two meetings of The

West Side Landowners

Meeting

Seven Lakes Forum, a new group that hosts monthly presentations and roundtable discussions at the Community Center. Topics at those meeting included religious diversity in America and its impact on the

schools and a session on the human brain. Both sessions were "Extremely interesting, very enlightening, and very enjoyable," Meikle said.

He introduced Don Welch, who, along with Bill Mamel, formed the Forum. Welch said the goal of the group is to create a place where people can meet to have frank discussion of important topics, come at them from their various perspectives, and still walk out friends.

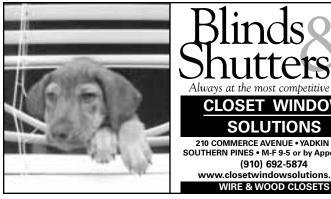
Noting that the group initially billed itself as a forum for "civil and intellectual discussion," Welch said they became concerned that some potential participants may have shied away from "intellectual."

"So now it's just 'The Forum.' You don't have to be an intellectual, though we do require civil-

The group meets on the third Thursday morning of each month. It's next meeting will feature a presentation by attorney Linda Tableman on imminent domain, a topic of recent Supreme Court decisions. The April meeting will focus on China's role in the

Manager's Report. Westside Manager Tony Robertson clarified the insurance status of boats, trailers, and recreational vehicles stored in the SLWLA storage lot. The association carries liability insurance that covers these items - but would only cover damage to them if the association were proven liable or negligent. He recommended that members using the lot make

(See "Westside," p. 9)



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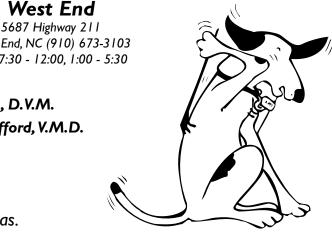
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Seven Lakes Dancers take contest honors

dents and instructors have a lot to be smiling about after this past weekend.

The Junior and Senior Competition Troupes attended Applause Dance Competition in Lenoir, NC on February 25. The Troupes combined brought seventeen girls and seven dances to the competition.

Paige Spivey was the first to compete with a Lyrical solo entitled "Broken" where she received a gold award. Kelly Fritz, also

The Seven Lakes Dance stu- competed with a Lyrical solo entitled "Skin" which received a gold award. To wrap up solo competitors, Brittni Adams competed with a hip hop solo entitled "Run It" that received a high silver award.

> In the duet/trio divisions. Lauren Tierney and Abbie Ovbey competed with a hip hop duet entitled "Mixin It up" which received a gold award. In the same division, Lauren Tierney and Paige Spivey performed a lyrical duet entitled "Jesus Take

the Wheel" which received a and LeAnn Garrison. high gold award.

In the small group division:

Senior Troupe members Brittany Cullifer, Paige Spivey, Briftini Adams, Stephanie Guminey, Lauren Seawell, Abbie Ovbey, and Katie Ohara performed a small group tap dance entitled "Crazy."

The Troupe was awarded high gold and captured a third place overall title for all Senior small groups.

Junior Troupe members Katie Kearns, Samantha Matthews, Emily Dean, Erin Dean, Briana Goodwin, Sydney Turner, Roxanne Batson, and Brittany Keyser performed a small group tap dance entitled "Footloose."

The Junior Troupe was awarded high gold and captured a first place Overall title for all Junior small groups.

All Troupe members are students at Seven Lakes Dance. under the direction and instruction of co-teachers Marcie Miller

The groups end of the year recital is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 20 at Aberdeen Elementary School Auditorium. Currently, all classes are full, however, if you are interested in next years classes, please call Marcie Miller at 295-6942.

Members of the Troupe are pictured below:

Front: Emily Dean, Sydney Turner, Katie Kearns, Samantha Matthews, Erin Dean, Roxanne Batson, Brittany Keyser

Back: LeAnn Garrison (Instructor), Brittany Cullifer, Katie Ohara, Paige Spivey, Abbie Ovbey, Laren Tierney, Stephanie Guminey, Lauren Seawall, Marcie Miller (Instructor).

Not available for group photo: Brianna Goodwin, Kelly Fritz, Brittni Adams



Seven Lakes Junior and Senior Competition Dance Troupes.



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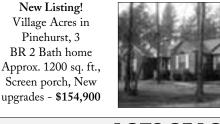


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NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 8 March 3, 2006

Village plans Foxfire Festival March 25

Mark the date of Saturday, March 25 to ensure you don't miss the big going-on in Foxfire Village! Whether your taste runs to classic cars, a little bite of homemade baked goods, finding a special treasure at a Vendor Fair, a fun bargain at a White Elephant sale, running a 5k or walking a 1 mile route, Foxfire is the place you'll want to be.

Beginning at 9:00 am, the Village will be transformed into a wonderland of fun and games for residents and visitors alike. There is no admission fee, so bring the whole family. There will be be something to interest everyone.

Spread out through assorted Village sites, (all within easy walking distance), you can start the day at the Vendor Fair, and be amazed at the variety of arts and crafts presented by local Carolina artists. You can continue your shopping revelry at the

Scottish Jumble, (White Ele- With tummies full, walk down phant Sale), full of wonderful finds and additions to your garden or home.

When you've worked up an appetite, stop by Talbert's for a great sandwich, or try Goldie's Gourmet for a different twist! to the Classic Car Expo and reacquaint yourself with the treasures of the past. If physical fitness is your calling, sign up early for the 5k run or one (1) mile run/walk, winding through the beautiful streets of the Village.

Foxfire has quite a day planned. Plan to be part of it and help make the First Foxfire Festival a rousing success.

For information and/or registration forms for the various events, please contact the follow-

Chairpersons: 673-6936 5K & 1 mile Race Information: 295-2427

Classic Car Expo: 673-1245 Vendor Information: 673-2004 Bake Sale

Donations: 673-3044

In memory of .

Robert W. "Bob" Allan, 74, of Seven Lakes, died Saturday. February 25 at his home.

Mr. Allen was the son of the late Clarence "Buck" and Hazel Allen. He served in the US Air Force. He worked for 30 year as an engineer with Ford Motor Company before retiring to Seven Lakes in 1987.

He enjoyed golf, fishing, and boating. He was a member and had served as President in the Men's Golf Association and the Aero Modelers Club. He was a volunteer at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital and a member of West End Presbyterian Church.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, March 12, at 2:00 pm at the West End Presbyterian Church.

The family will receive friends after the service in the fellow-

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother. Jack Allan.

Survivors include his wife Patricia "Pat" Allan; his daughters, Kathleen Allan of Royal Oak, MI and Susan Cole of Beverly Hills, MI; a stepson, Kevin Byrne of Grand Rapids, MI; a brother, Richard Allan of Lavonia, MI; and a sister, Jean Fritz of Longmont, CO. Five grandchildren also survive.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the West End Presbyterian Church, Mexico Mission Trip, P.O. Box 13, West End, NC 27376 or FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst. NC.

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory of Seven Lakes is assisting the family.



Volunteers get ready for the White Elephant Sale that is just one of the events planned for the Foxifre Festival, March 25.

Fling into Spring

Welcome spring with a dinner and dance on Friday, March 24 at 6:00 pm, at the West Community Center. Glenn Davis will DJ.

Seven Lakes Pizza Kitchen will cater the affair. BYOB and the dress is casual. The cost is \$15 per person.

Kool Kids will be available for child care services for this event. Call Shirley at 673-





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NEWS March 3, 2006 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 9

Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast is Saturday!

by Rollin Tomberlin

Club will hold their annual pan-

cake & sausage breakfast on cafeteria. Meals are served from The Seven Lakes Kiwanis this Saturday, March 4, at the West End Elementary School

7:00 until 11:00 am and the cost \$6 per person. Children age 6 and under are free.

Take-outs are readily available, if desired.

"The community really supports this fund-raising effort," said Fred Seufert, Chairman. "Last year we happily served 650 paid recipients and an unknown number of free children's meals. We are also grateful to the Seven Lakes business people who substantially contribute with their time, services, and advertising support to make our breakfast successful."

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis was chartered in 1983 and held its first pancake breakfast in 1984. This effort, along with sponsorship of the local twice-monthly bingo games at the North Clubhouse, are the major sources of income for the club.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. Internationally, it has been a major contributor to saving children's eyesight through its iodized salt programs worldwide.

Locally, Kiwanis is well-known for its many hours and monetary contributions to our schools and our community's needs.

Westside meeting

(Continued from page 6)

sure they have insured items stored there.

Robertson noted the presence of a flag on the third flagpole in front of the Community Center. The new flag bears the the SLWLA logo devleoped by Betsy Mikula.

Treasurer's report. Treasurer Lois Rocco provided printed financial summaries for those attending the meeting. Noting that it would be her last monthly meeting before leaving the board, Rocco said she had enjoyed working with the board. "I think we all have done a darned good job," she added.

Recreation. Noting that a recent wine-tasting event at the Community Center had attracted a sizable crowd, Director Betty Milligan encouraged residents to buy tickets for the March 24 "Fling into Spring" dinner dance. The casual affair will feature music by DJ Glenn

Davis. Tickets are \$15; seating is limited to 125.

Young Westside tennis players will be able to participate in the youth tennis lessons developed by the Seven Lakes Landowners Association recreation department this summer. Lessons will alternate week-toweek from the Westside to the Northside courts.

A Lion's Club presentation featuring a speaker from NASA is scheduled for March 23, Milligan said. Shag lessons continue weekly at the community center, the tennis and basketball courts are open, and work will soon begin on horseshoe pits.

Milligan encouraged residents to visit the SLWLA website for upto-date recreation schedules, and to call her with any suggestions for recreation program-

Public comment. There being no comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned.



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NEWS Page 10 **Seven Lakes Times** March 3, 2006

Methodists volunteer in Mississippi

by Rev. Bruce Allen

On Sunday, January 8, eight members from West End United Methodist Church drove thirteen hours to Gulfport, Mississippi to bring help and hope to the survivors of Hurricane Katrina. The team included church members: Bob and Angie Haan, Bob and Jennifer Forsman, Carol and Katie Roberts, Martha Server and the Rev. Bruce Allen. The group drove to Gulfport and stayed at Nugent United Methodist Church.

The church became our home base for six days, and from that home base we accomplished our purpose which was to bring hope and help to the people of Gulfport both with our presence and actions. We knew we would see devastation, but we also wanted to look for signs of hope.

Our groups primary task was to help clean out the home of an elderly couple who lived in Pearlington, Mississippi. We were told that the water surge was 51 feet high which obliterated the community of Pearlington. The home we worked on had been built by hand by the owner. He was a collector of fine wood and had trimmed his house with mahogany. The flood waters unceremoniously picked up his house, moved it fifty feet to the edge of his property and set it down again.

A coordinator for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) working in the area asked us to tear out the wet and molded drywall, remove the wet insulation, the screws in the framework, and to carefully remove the mahogany, which we did.

The owner then planned on having the house put back on its concrete pilings and he would then replace the wood. Soon after he met with us he showed evidence of hope by saying, "I built the house the first time; I'll build it again."

We also saw hope in the eyes of his wife. She seemed nervous as we arrived, but by the time we had finished cleaning out the house she had a smile on her face, and she made us a batch of cookies.

There were other signs of hope as well as volunteers came from all parts of America to make a difference in the area.

One day we were painting walls in the hallway of a of flooded church when a gentleman walked in asking if he could be of any assistance. He said he had driven from lowa to see if he could be of help. The next day he was working with a group of college students and he was going to call his wife to fly to meet him so that they might work together.

On Saturday morning, January 14, the we drove back to West End. The next day the mission team spoke to the congregation, thanking them for their financial support and their prayers, and sharing with them the thoughts that they had.

The highlight of the message came from Katie Roberts, a senior Christian Education major from Pfeiffer College. She said "It was later on in the week and I made the comment that I wasn't ready to go back into the 'real world."

"After I said those words, I realized that life does not get any more real that what we were experiencing in Mississippi and there in Gulfport was the 'real

"I just wasn't ready to reenter the world of 'what am I going to wear today' or 'how am I going to lose that extra ten pounds.'That is not real."

"You want to know what is real? Eight people unfamiliar with one another driving thirteen hours from home and forming a bond of love for one another and the people they were going to serve. That is real."

"The people in Mississippi we served who have to face daily the fact that their home they built by hand will have to be torn down and built back. That is

real. Real is seeing deliberate country from all religions and signs of faith and hope written on the side of what used to be a house."

"Real is people from all over the

denominations coming together for a common cause. That is real."

SL Computer Club meets March 14

The next meeting of the Seven Lakes Computer Club is Tuesday, March 14 at 3:00 pm, in the Game Room next to North Side Landowners' Office. Troy Hicks will present "Computer Health and Security."

Owning a computer today without the internet is like buying a car with no gas. It looks great, the stereo sounds good, and you can even play with all the neat gadgets while sitting in your driveway. You just can't go anywhere. Fill up the tank and off you go. But you have to know the rules of the road and some basic safety and vehicle maintenance rules or it won't be long before that new car is wrecked or running poorly.



West End Methodist Volunteers — [Front] Angie Haan, Carol Roberts, Martha Server. [Back] Bob Haan, Rev. Bruce Allen, Katy Roberts, Jennifer Forsman, Bob Forsman.



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Thursday, March 23rd at 5 pm

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NEWS March 3, 2006 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 11

Bookshop hosts author Saturday

Scott this Saturday, March 4 at mystics.

Bookshop by the Lakes hosts 2:00 pm for a presentation of Southern Pines author Jonathan his research into America's first

Preparing to write his historical novel The Woman in the Wilderness Scott did extensive research on the Western Pennsylvania sect of the same name founded by Johannes Kelpius. Slides of rare historical artifacts linked to the mystical group are a highlight of the presentation.

The event is free and open to the public. The bookshop is located in the heart of Seven Lakes Business Village. Call 673-5900 for more information.



Jonathan Scott

Power readers breakfast

Eight "Power Readers" from West End Elementary School recently enjoyed a delicious breakfast at Mac's Restaurant.

To be a "Power Reader" students need to earn at least 100 Accelerated Reader points. West End "Power Readers" are David McInnis, Grayson Hull, Nicholas Cobos, Duncan McDonald, Sam Lewis, Mary Kathryn Hurst, Adam Marchetti and Hannah Munro, have a total of 1464 AR points! They were accompanied by Principal Judith Douglas and Media Specialist Phoebe Sill.



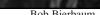
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NEWS Seven Lakes Times Page 12 March 3, 2006

Spaghetti dinner will raise mission funds

by Teresa Copper Director of Youth West End Presbyterian Church Youth and adults at the West

Twenty mission team members, including 16 high school youth, plan to install windows in the End Presbyterian Church are second story of the IXOYE Presplanning a mission trip to Chetu-

byterian Church, which is being constructed as a sanctuary with Sunday school classrooms. Chetumal is located on the Yucatan Peninsula, so the build-

ing will also be used as a hurricane shelter for residents of the neighborhood surrounding the church. To raise money for materials to complete their mission, The West End Presbyterian Church Mexico Mission Team will sponsor a spaghetti dinner and silent auction on Sunday, March 19. Dinner will be served from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. During

the dinner people may bid on the auction items. Auction items will have minimum bids from \$1 and up as items will be as varied as jewelry, toys, furniture, beach and mountain house rentals, and tennis lessons. Tickets for the All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti dinner are available at the church office and are \$10 adults/\$5 ages 10 and under.

Photo club meets March 13

by Jill Margeson, Publicity

The Sandhills Photography Club will meet on Monday, March 13, at 7:30 pm at Christ Fellowship Church on Midland Road and Pee Dee Road in Southern Pines

At this meeting members will submit photos of a still life for the second competition of 2006. The prints will be judged and critiqued by Mr. Don Zeilstra, a graphic arts artist and photographer for 33 years. He will look

at technical aspects such as lighting, exposure, and focus, as well as composition and subject matter.

mal, Mexico during June 22-30.

The Sandhills Photography Club has several competitions each year. The William Stoffel Award is given at the end of each year to those with the highest points achieved in the club competition for Class B, Beginners, and Class A, advanced. Past winning prints can be viewed on the club web site at www.sandhillsphotoclub.org.

Included at the website are the year's schedule of speakers, field trips, workshops, and future competitions.

The photography club encourages anyone interested in photography regardless of skill or experience to come to a meeting. The club meets on the second Monday each month. Contacts for more information:

Jill Margeson (Seven Lakes) 910-673-1497, or June White 910-692-6385.

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Westsiders turn out for candidates' night

The Seven Lakes West Candidates Night, sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary, attracted a crowd of 150 or more who were treated to a wide range of views on where the West Side needs to go and how it needs to get there.

Women's Auxiliary President Deanna Petrie kicked the meeting off with a spirited welcome and introduced moderator Carolyn Mealing, who conducted the meeting in the familiar League of Women Voters format. Candidates were given a number of questions in advance and were given a limited amount of time to speak to each question. Later in the evening, additional questions were taken from the landowners in attendance.

The six candidates, who are vying for three open board seats, began with a brief statement on their respective backgrounds material that has already been published in *The Times* and the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] newsletter. Then the moderator began with the questions.

Question 1. "What projects or issues need to be addressed in the near term, or in the next one to three years?"

Dave Carter said "the most compelling thing that I see" is that "there needs to be more of a continuity between the various factions of Seven Lakes. We should pool our resources to be one community. . . If we're seen as more of a contiguous community we will all benefit and will have a stronger voice." Carter noted that Seven Lakes is one of the largest communities in Moore County."

After agreeing with Carter that "If we joined our forces together we would have a much stronger community," Betty **Childers** said the traffic pattern at the Westside mailhouse needs to be addressed. "The situation at the post office is very dangerous." In addition, the community needs to begin to explore the possibility of adding a sewer system to the communty's infrastructure, Childers said. "Our county is taking in a lot of taxes from Seven Lakes. What are they doing for us in return?" Childers said reliance on septic systems would eventually threaten the water quality in Lake Auman.

Mary Anne Fewkes said that "planning is a necessity if we care about our community and want to have a control over its future." Noting that there is a difference between issues and projects, Fewkes offered lengthy lists of both based on her knowledge of the community and communication with other residents. Among issues in the one-tothree year planning horizon, she included a disaster plan, lake management, dam certification, lake patrol, water quality, septic management, fish habitat and population, the authority of North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission officers on Lake Auman, monitoring construction and watershed protection and drainage.

Projects that are "less pressing, but could enhance the quality of life in Seven Lakes West," include: Bike paths, nature walks, bluebird paths, small boat racks at Johnson Point for canoes and kayak, and mail delivery.

Member governance and compliance with rules and regulations are on-going issues made more critical by the growth in the Westside poluation, incumbent director Ray MacKay said. McKay agreed with Childers that the mailhouse traffic pattern needs to be addressed and noted that the mailhouse itself is deteriorat-

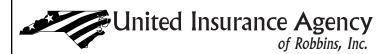
"All of this requires adequate funding to provide services and sustain infrastructure.' MacKav said. He noted that he was currently involved in the repaving of Lakeway Drive and the project to overhaul drainage in the Lakeway Drive Mall, as well as a project to improve the acoustics in the Great Room of the West Side Park Community Center.

Jo Nicholas said that she "came to this community because it was a gated community. I like the security and I'd like to see it beefed up to mean 'security." She said there had been too many reports recently of breakins and petty theft. She said she would like to see whether the quards provided by the new security company recently retained by the SLWLA could be trained to issue speeding tickets. Other shorter-term issues that need to be explored include road repaving, drainage near the dam, and expansion of the

number of community boat slips, Nicholas said.

"The condition of our roads is one of the pressing issues,' Blaine Rowland said, noting that the existing roadways do not appear to have been designed to take the current level of large truck traffic. "They can't take much more," Rowland said. "Security is another issue," Rowland said, "and not just at the two gates. I'm not convinced that the security we have

(See "Carter," p. 14)



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Carter: Which are the core amenities?

(Continued from page 13)

now is the security we really need." He also noted that the condition of the lake must be of continual concern. "Lake quality is being addressed, but we can't let it slide just because it looks good right now."

Question 2. "As the Seven Lakes West community grows, what is your opinion as to the best way to fund services and/or improvements that are needed to ensure a continuing quality of life?"

"I can assure you that funding services is an issue that the board deals with every year," Ray MacKay answered. "The board spends many, many hours reviewing the requests, reviewing what we have to take care of, and looking at what is the appropriate way to pay for each item."

"Member dues are 75 percent of our revenue. Depending on the issue, we must look at whether user fees, special assessments, donations, or other sources are best for a particular item. All these are part of what puts together our budget. We look at that every year."

"We cannot run a quality community without financial resources," Mary Anne Fewkes

said, noting that the community needs to define what items should be considered ameni-

Adding that it is sometimes possible to find savings in a budget she said that her ability to answer the question is limited "until I am on the board and can see the entire picture."

The question about how to fund projects doesn't have just one answer, Blaine Rowland said. "It depends on what the issue is at the time. Some things should be financed by those who use that service. If it impacts the whole community, then the whole community should fund it. There's not just one answer."

Betty Childers said that residents should probably expect to see a dues increase in the future. But, if a dues increase is shared equally, and helps to beautify the community and add to its resources that should help property values increase across the community as well, she said. "No one wants dues to go up, but it is likely to come up in the future," Childers said, insisting that any dues increase "should be spread out among everyone."

By contrast, Dave Carter said a dues increase may not be necessary in the near future,

because of the revenue boost for the association that comes when new homes are built on empty lots. In determining how to pay for new items, Carter said, it is important to decide what are "Core amenities." "Is a boat storage yard, or a playground, or a tennis court a core amenity?" Carter asked, noting that he believed the boat trailer storage lot should have been considered a core amenity. Use of a boat slip, on the other hand, is more optional, and should involve an additional user fee, Carter

"The community should decide what are our core amenties; anything else should involve a user fee."

Jo Nicholas agreed that a dues increase may not be necessary, but also noted that the community hasn't experienced a dues increase in tha past few years. "Inflation itself causes costs to go up," she noted. Nicholas suggested that the community might be able to identify grants that could be used to expand amenities or

Question 3. "What particular issue(s) do you feel should be

considered by the Long Range (5-10 years) Plan Steering Committee?"

"Sewage," Betty Childers answered. "That is something that we very definitely need to look a. In the long run septic is not exacltly whaty we need."

More land for recreation is another long range need, she continued. "We have a limited amount of land for recreation. Johnson Point is filling up. Maybe we should get some land and have a park. We want to make Seven Lakes the very best of the best. I have had several people to call me at home and ask me about this question. I don't have a boat, I don't live on the

lake. But the lake is something that everyone enjoy should be able to enjoy. I would like to see Seven Lakes West have an extra recreation area."

Noting that repaving the roads and maintaining the dam are both major expense items, Dave Carter agreed that the community needs more space for recreation. In addition, he noted that land in our part of the county doesn't perk particularly well. "I'm concerned about the quality of the lake," Carter said. "We have clear water, but we need to see what the habitat is like under the water."

"The quality of the lake has to (See "Fewkes," p. 18)

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6 Spinach & Broccoli Soup	7 Mushroom Bisque	8 Potato Leek Soup	9 Shrimp & Crab Bisque	10 White Bean Chicken Chili
Chicken Tetrazzini Dinner	Chicken Enchiladas	Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	Pork with Apples Dinner
13 Tomato Florentine Soup	14 Cream of Broccoli Soup	15 Chili	16 Split Pea with Ham Soup	17 Shrimp & Corn Soup
Meatloaf Dinner	Chicken Paprikash Dinner	Pork with Mustard Cream Sauce Dinner	Salmon with Ginger Vinaigrette Dinner	Baked Spaghetti Dinner
20 Curried Carrot Soup	21 Cabbage, Sausage, & Bean Soup	22 Chicken Dumpling Soup	23 American Meatball Soup	24 Manhattan Clam Chowder
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#196 - Double Lot - \$29,000 #453 - Under Contract - \$12,000 #2327 - Extra Large - \$14,900 #2475 - Really Nice - \$14,900 #5433 - Under Contract - \$18,000 #5455 - Near Gate - \$35,000

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MARCH 2006 ACTION

111 Brown Bark -Under Contract

Lot #5455 - New Listing Lot #2188 - Under Contract

103 Wildleaf - Under Contract Lot #453 - Under Contract

Lot #2352/2353 -**Under Contract**

127 Andrews - Under Contract Lot #3167 - Under Contract

121 Pleasant View

 Under Contract 104 Joseph's Point - New

Listing/Under Contract 108 Dorset - Under Contract

148 W. Devonshire

- Under Contract

113 Pineneedle

- Under Contract

Lot #2388 - New Listing







WHATS WHEN Page 16 **Seven Lakes Times** March 3, 2006

George McGovern will

Community College's

Owens Auditorium in

discuss "America: The Road

Ahead" Held in Sandhills

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

- · Master Gardeners Speak at Home & Garden Show at the Pinehurst Fair Barn. 3:00 pm - Helen Munro, Bluebirds. President of NC the Bluebird Society & editor of their publication, "Bluebird Notes." She is well known for her love of bluebirds. Her program will answer many of your questions and provide you with information in order to bring these colorful birds to your garden. At 4:30 pm Gloria Polakof, will present Children in the Garden. Polakof is a recent "transplant" from Hawaii and loves to bring her interest in gardening to the children. A great opportunity for parents and children to join in a fun program.
- **Lenten Friday Nite Fish** Fry at St. Anthony - (every Friday through April 7), 5:30-7:00 pm, 320 North Ashe St, Southern Pines. \$7 adults, \$4 ages 6-12; kids under 6, free. Proceeds supporting the Knights of Columbus Council 6528 and St Anthony's Parish.
- **North Carolina Clay: Past** and Present - on going exhibit. 10:00 to 4:00 pm daily. Seagrove, NC Pottery Center. 336-873-8430.
- War on Terror through December 2005. Favetteville. Airborne and Special Operations Museum. 866-547-0649.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

- **Kiwanis Club Pancake** Breakfast - 7:00 am -11:00 am at West End Elementary School Cafeteria. See any Kiwanian for tickets. Great food for a great cause.
- **Master Gardeners Speak** at Home & Garden Show at the Pinehurst Fair Barn. 10:30 am Ruth and Bob Stolting Honey Bees and their Love Affair with Flowers. This husband and wife team are owners of Oldefield Farm, a beautiful wildlife habitat near Pinehurst. They are beekeepers and sell their honey locally. At 3:30 pm Len Tufts and Alice Romans-Hess, presents "Composting for the Home Garden."
- Bookshop By The Lakes –

2:00 pm. Local Author Jonathan Scott will present a slideshow and presentation of his book, The Mystery of America's First Mystics. Scott will sign books after the program. Call 673-5900 for more information about the

<u>SUNDAY, MARCH 5</u>

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MONDAY, MARCH 6

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Pinehurst. Admission is free. For more information. call 910-245-3132. What's When Calendar

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<u>tuesday,</u>

· Sandhills Children's Center -2006 Kelly Cup Championship at Pinehurst No.

8. Sponsored by the Children's Center, Outback Steakhouse along w/Pinehurst Resort & Country Club. Entries\$150/player or \$750/team. Call Lisa Massei Kathy Desmond at 692-3323.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

· Shag Dance Lessons -West Side Community Center. Held each Thursday night for seven weeks. Instructors Bud Hunter and Nancy Donald. Cost is \$65/couple Beginners lessons: 6:30 - 7:30 pm.

Intermediates: 7:30-8:30 pm. For more information contact Paul Sowell or Candy Alderman at 673-8180.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

- Pinewood Derby Noon at West End Presbyterian Church Activity Center, hosted by CubScout Pack 98. Free admission. Pizza and hot dogs available.
- Wings at the Sunrise Theater, 7:30 pm. Silent film starring Clara Bow. The wonderful Silent film pianist David Drazin captures the excitement of Wings. Meet Mr. Drazin at the wine and cheese reception after the performance. Silent film star

Diana Cary will be at the screening and will have photographs and copies of her books on early Hollywood for sale. \$15 includes wine and cheese. \$8 for children 12 and under. Tickets available at Country Bookshop, Natures Own, Given Memorial Library and at the door. 250 NW Broad St, Southern Pines. 693-3611.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

West End Presbyterian Church - 7:30 pm, Memorial Concert Series, featuring Jaeyoon Kim, tenor, Lisa Maxedon, soprano and Seung-Ah Kim, pianist in the Church Sanctuary. The



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program will feature operatic arias by Mozart in celebration of his 200th birthday, songs from American musical theater and art songs in German, French, Russian and Korean. Both Dr. Maxedon and Mr. Kim are on the music faculty of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Free and open to the public.

MONDAY, MARCH 13

Club – 7:30 pm at Christ Fellowship Church, Midland Road and Pee Dee Road in Southern Pines. Members will submit photos of a still life for the second competition of 2006. The prints will be judged and critiqued by Mr. Don Zeilstra. For more information Jill Margeson 673-1497 or June White 692-6385.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

 Seven Lakes Computer Club – 3:00 pm, Game Room next to North Side Landowners' Office. Troy Hicks will present "Computer Health and Security". Visitors are always welcome.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

 Project Linus Workshop –
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THURSDAY, MARCH 16

- Seven Lakes Forum 9:00 am 11:00 am, on the upper level of the West Side Park Community Center. Linda Tableman, an attorney and former SLWLA Board member will present the topic entitled" Eminent Domain . . . Whose Property is it, Anyway?" on the recent Supreme Court decision Kelo vs. New London. Don Welch (673-6701) or Bill Mamel (673-8970).
- Project Linus Workshop 10:30 am 3:30 PM Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. If Wednesday workshops have been a conflict with your schedule, join us on Thursday. Bring sharp scissors for cutting fleece. No sewing necessary! Check us out. Bring a friend and drop in any time. Pack a lunch. Dessert and drinks will be furnished. If you have any questions call Pat Weber 673-1457.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 17

- · St. Patrick's Day
- Seven Lakes Country Club – St. Patrick's Day dinner/dance. Cocktails 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm. Bob Murphy Trio will entertain with Irish music and a singa-long. Members \$16.95; Nonmembers \$21.95. Reservations, 673-1100.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

 West End Presbyterian Church Mexico Mission Team dinner/silent auction – 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Spaghetti Dinner.\$10 adults, \$5 ages 10 and under. Call 673-4341 for dinner tickets.

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Classical Conversations

 7:00 pm, a Free parent information meeting.
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Fewkes: Long-range planning is crucial

(Continued from page 15)

be our main priority,: **Jo Nicholas** agreed. Among questions the Long Range Planning committee should be asking are: "Do we need to buy more land? Do we want to be a totally fenced communty? Do we need more traffic control measures?" Nicholas said

Blaine Rowland said he believed that the board had a Long Range Plan Committee but was not sure what items they were working on. "Roads are very important," Rowland said. Care for the lake and the dam are matters of on-going concern for the board. Ideally, a long range planning committee is made up of members of the community who bring ideas to the board, Rowland said.

"The primary reason for having a long range plan is to allow residents to anticipate and deal with changes taking place in the community," Mary Anne Fewkes said. "We need to work on lake planning and managing for rapid growth. We need safe boating, clean water, good fishing. We need to make sure the lake can be enjoyed by all. We may need more recreational facilities around lake."

Mary Anne Fewkes said the community needs a vision of what it wants to look like in 10 or 20 years. Noting that the county appears likely to launch a Small Area Planning process in the area around Seven Lakes, Fewkes said that it is important for the SLWLA long-range plan to dovetail into that planning process.

Noting that he is a member of the current Long Range Planning committee, **Ray MacKay** offered a list of issues that should be of concern over the next five to ten years, including community growth and its impact on Lake Auman, the impact of demographic changes, community access and security, mail delivery, adequate funding for longrange needs, and service from and influence with Moore County.

Question 4. "As a member of SLWLA, do you feel you are sufficiently informed as to the activities of your Board?"

Calling that a "tough question," Mary Anne Fewkes said

that communications from the board had improved significantly in the last five years, noting reports in *The Times*, the SLWLA newsletter, the web page, and the timely publicaion of minutes of board meetings.

"But that is not to say that communications cannot be improved,' Fewkes continued. "Some times residents have felt surprised."

Among the improvements that might be considered Fewkes listed more communication from the Lang Range Planning committee to residents, more information provided as part of the monthly general meetings, and opening board work sessions "to demystify the process." She suggested forming a study group to improve communications.

"If I'm not informed it's probably more my fault than anyone else's, **Blaine Rowland** said, noting that the newsletter, pub-

lic meetings, and minutes. "There probably is room for improvement, but that doesn't mean it's the board's fault if I'm not getting the information I need."

Noting that he had "been managing people a long time," **Dave Carter** said "No two people want to be communicated to in the same fashion. The board now gives us several ways to access the information. We can call board members about our areas of concern."

"No one likes a cloak of secrecy about committees that work in private," he added. The board should examine "when can we open them up, and when we have things that our attorney says we need to talk about in closed session."

He added that participation in committees and subcommittees shold be open to the membership. "If you have a passion to work on a committee, you should be able to."

"I can definitely say, 'Yes, I am getting what I need to be informed" **Jo Nicholas** said, mentioning *The Times*, the SLWLA website and newsletter, and the new sign at the community entrance. "There's always room for improvement. But in order to keep abreast of everything, we have to be involved. It's up to us to read the minutes, come to meetings, go to website."

The board communciates better than any time since 1988," Ray MacKay said, "and we have

worked very hard to make sure that we do."

The board 's activities are all published. We publish telephone numbers and email addresses of every board member in the newsletter and on the website. I know that we are accessible. At the member meetings, we answer all the questions that are asked. I feel if a member is not informed it is his or her own fault."

"I think the board is doing an excellent job of getting the information out to us," **Betty Childers**

(See "Nicholas," p. 20)

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Nicholas: Take a hard look at security

(Continued from page 18)

agreed. "One way to improve is to get more people at the board meetings. We need to get more folks there. If I don't come and don't know what is going on I shouldn't complain."

"I congratulate the board on what they are doing. They do an excellent job," she continued. "I would like to get to the point of having open board meetings where everyone could come and sit and listen."

Question 5. "What is your perception of the current security status of Seven Lakes West?"

"My perception of current security is a very lax and nonchalant attitude." Jo Nicholas said. "Pettv infractions can lead to larger incidents. It is nice to see county law enforcmeent coming in. We need better video equipment at the gates and we need strict enforcement. In the furture, we may want to look at a perimeter fence. Community members have to let the board know what's going on."

"Considering all the construction, I think our security is as good as any other busy local gated community," Ray MacKay said. "There are some improvements that can be made. We need to review the transponder technology and the surveillance equipment. The gate house was not designed for efficient or effective security. We need to redesign the system for the technology that we want to use."

"With our security system we have now, with all the crews coming in and out, I feel they are doing as well as they can do," Betty Childers said. "But we need to make sure that everything is working. If the gates are just left open, people are going to come in and out. We need to make sure our guards are trained well so they don't just wave people through. Until we get all the construction finished, security will be an issue."

"I tend to agree that the amount of construction is an issue." Dave Carter said. "We have lots of folks coing in and out. I don't think community members are causing the problem."

"We have a problem at the back gate," Carter continued. "Contractors are coming in through there, with trailers and

without. Ultimately the back gate may need to be manned, though there is definitely increased cost with that. The back gate may be the key issue, as far as security is concerned. Further in the future we may need to ask whether we need a third gate."

March 3, 2006

"I think the security problem part of it can be solved by making contractors register and making their subs register," Blaine Rowland said. "The contractors should not pass their problems on to us. We need to collect names and license numbers. That will slow down part of the problem. We may have to televise the back gate. Security problems will go on until we get a little bit tougher."

Mary Anne Fewkes said that she had worked with at-risk students in the Moore County Public Schools. "When I had only been there for a month I had students offering me stickers for the Seven Lake Community."

Security is becoming a more complex issue, Fewkes said, and will continue to be a problem as the perimeter of the community grows closer to NC Highway 211. "Some areas that could wind up being developed and being part of Seven Lakes West are currently outside our gates."

"Maybe we could look at a manned, dedicated, contractor entrance," Fewkes suggested. "The expense could be taken care of by contractors."

She also suggested establishing a neighborhood watch and noted that the transponder system needs to be fine-tuned. "Development in the village will also impact our security," Fewkes

Question 6. "Are there specific changes or improvements you would seek if elected?"

"No. nothing specific," Blaine Rowland answered. "You can't start making changes before you are even part of something."

"I agree," Jo Nicholas said. "I'd be the new kid on the block. I'd want to sit in the board meetings, listen, and see the whole picture first. I am concerned about security and about the covenants. I'm a strong supporter of covenant enforcement."

"As a board member, I have been able to influence changes and promote improvements in the community," Ray MacKay said. "A number of my ideas have been accepted by the board. For example, I was the architect of the Lake Aumn master plan

"There are things I would like to see the board work on - for example, recruiting more members to lend their talents to assist the many board projects and committees. Come on out and give us a helping hand, MacKay told the crowd. "We're all volunteers."

"The new kid on block can't go

(See "Childers," p. 21)

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Childers: Mailhouse, sewage key issues

(Continued from page 20)

in and try to change everything,' Mary Anne Fewkes said. "If elected to the board, I would try to gather as much input as possible from various groups in the community. I would work to build a more open relationship between board and community."

I'm willing to address difficult issues," Fewkes said. "I'm willing to speak out. I have fought for this community in Carthage. Since we are growing, it's important to find ways to work togeether. We need to embrace our growing diversity and not polarize the community."

Betty Childers said that, if elected, she would want to look at the issue of mail service for the community — "that's one of our most important issues."

"But I don't want to jump in and try to change this and that," Childers continued. "We have already covered many issues. I would like to see the community come together and work more as a community. We need to get more folks to the meetings."

"There are things I would enjoy being involved in," Dave Carter said in answer to the question. "For example, understanding our community better. I would like to collect demographic data and share it with the whole community. I would also like to work on the mail issue. Do we need another mailhouse? Home delivery? We need to get input about what residents want."

Question 7. "Are you willing to devote, and will your daily schedule allow you to devote, possibly many hours per week to board business?"

"As you know, I have aa fulltime job," Dave Carter, who manages FirstHelath's Emergency Services division, replied. "But I have great control over my schedule." Carter said he had already discussed the possibility of serving on the board with his supervisor. "I can adjust my schedule. Fortunately, I'm the one who schedules all my meetings. Would I give my after hours and weekend time to serve this community? Yes."

"Yes," Betty Childers replied. "I can give a lot of time, even though I haven't in the past. Other than the time I spend looking after my mother, I have all the time in the world."

"We need to constantly remind ourselves of the privilagee we have of living in this unique community," Mary Anne Fewkes said. "It's important that we continue to protect what we have. Serving on the board is very demanding, and a three-year commitment. I couldn't have done it while working full time."

"I have run the sailing school, I'm an active area rep, and I've been involved in every major issue in the community in the past few years. I have been involved in county planning board meetings. I now have the time needed to be active and a productive board member. And I feel I know

this community well."

"I have and I do" have the time to devote to serving on the board, Ray MacKay said. "I spend ten to forty hours per week on my board job. The only way I can get away from it is to go out of town. The monthly board work session runs 5-6 hours. I've never been on a board that has open work meetings. We're not a big public agency with support staff. Open work meetings is not an efficient or effective method of getting business done."

"Being retired, I'm willing to devote time to well-planned meetings," Jo Nicholas said. "That takes good agenda planning. Board members should use their time wisely to work together. There are ways to do it. You have to be well-organized and work diligently."

"I'm willing, ready, and able" to devote time to the board, Blaine Rowland said. "But if you're sitting in an eight-hour meeting, you're out of your mind."

"During my work life, I learned you have to plan meetings,' Rowland continued. "If you don't plan your work, you won't get good results. Poor planning produces poor performance."

Audience Questions

After the candidates had finished answering the questions they had been given in advance, Moderator Mealing asked question that had been submitted in writing by audience members.

A. Do you pledge to obey the covenants and rules?

"Most of you don't know what the covenants say, but I do," Ray MacKay answered.

"Being area rep, I do find it very important that residents abide by the covenants," Mary Anne **Fewkes** said. Noting the recent distribution of the Westside handbook, Fewkes said, "I feel strongly that it is important that we follow these in order to have a community that gets along."

Blaine Rowland said he would pledge to follow the rules, but suspected the question might be aimed at his alleged "business" of breeding show dogs. "The dogs are my wife's hobby," Rowland said. "A hobby breeder doesn't make money. I follow the rules and regs very carefully. I don't have a business my wife has a hobby."

"Yes, I'm willing," Betty Childers said, "I don't have a

(See "Rowland," p. 26)

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Seven Lakes Times

March 3, 2006

OPINION

Olympic dreams

The Olympics is over and I am exhausted. Now I can get to bed at a reasonable hour without worrying if some wild youth is going to survive a dangerous activity on the ice or snow.

Take the luge, for example. What parent in any part of the world would allow their offspring to hop on their Flexible Flyer and hurtle down an ice who has never seen a ball game before. Try that explanation yourself.

During all of the athletic activities some youngsters emerge as delightful personalities. I would like to see more interviews with the Flaming Tomato.

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man who



chute on a mountainside at breakneck speed. - and on their back, feet first yet! But then, if you are watching

the curling competition, sleep would come easily. Could one of you explain the sport of curling to me. All I can gather is that one member of the team shoves what looks to be a tin flattened bowling ball down the ice, other members of the team shuffle down the ice furiously sweeping in front of the flattened bowling ball.

There must be some rules to follow in curling. I am reminded of Bob Newhart's comedy routine where he explains the rules of baseball to someone

EVEN TIMES

was interesting. Sarah Hughes, the high school junior, who finished sixth or seventh in women's figure skating was delightful also.

All of the hundreds of the winter athletes of the world seemed happy to participate with each other, eager to win but without the overriding egos that we see in many of our professional athletes. Their athletic skills, honed by years of tough training, their joy at participating in the Olympics, their enthusiastic youth - it all made the thoughts of world peace attractive.

I didn't mind losing sleep at all.

Evaluating candidates

The Concerned Citizens Council (CCC) wishes to thank each candidate for the SLLA Board of Directors for being willing to donate his/her time and effort to this wonderful gated community of ours.

The CCC takes a firm stance on many of the most important

issues confronting our association. We call this stance our platform. We trust that all residents have read the candidate interviews published in the February 17th issue

of The Times and that many of you attended the candidates' night on March 1.

It is hoped that everyone will consider and discuss the candidate's responses in depth and then vote for those nominees who if elected, will:

- · Develop a fiscally responsible long-range plan for our gated community, allocate our resources and establish line item funding for our several dams, our 26 miles of roads and other contingencies. Our goal may not be achieved overnight but a specific percentage of our annual income must be dedicated to this end.
- Adhere strictly to Roberts Rules of Order in all Board of

Director meetings as mandated by the North Carolina Legislature. Some of our recent meetings can only be described as having been out of control.

Together with Community Management, listen attentively and

Ron Erskine for The Concerned Citizen's Council

respond accurately to their constituents. Any communication from the residents. whether oral or written should be acknowledged promptly, and all issues of public interest should be discussed in an open forum and not arbitrarily taken to executive session. It is our firm conviction that the landowner has every "right to know."

Advocate the appointment of a Director to serve as a liaison between the community and the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff will assist us in developing a Neighborhood Watch program and if necessary, provide or suggest other assets to maintain or supplement our present level of security/safety. This might include speed bumps, cameras

Increase the training, effectiveness and authority of Roving Security. They are our "eyes and ears" and should be uti-

lized not only to call 911 to

report suspicious activities, but to note and report all violations of our ordinances, including those related to community standards.

· Study, review and amend where neces-

sary our by-laws, rules and regulations. They contain many inaccuracies. An extensive review and editing is long overdue. This includes our ballots, quorums, procedures to be followed and methods of tabulating votes.

Contribute the most to our gated community.

Thanks for your vote. Let's see an overwhelming turnout. The candidates deserve it. Your community deserves it. This is a great place in which to live!

> The Concerned Citizens Council (CCC) PO Box 1145, West End, NC 27376

Board not 'above board'

Dear Editor:

After hearing Mary Hudson speak about the Jackie Scotti affair at the open board meeting last week, we pulled out our bylaws and found the following:

Chapter IV Section I A: "A full member shall be an owner of a lot or lots in good standing(not delinquent in dues)."

Chapter VI Section I A: "The rights of membership are subject to the payment of annual dues."

Chapter VII Section I A: "Dues and/or assessments shall be due and payable on or before May 1st of each year."

Chapter X Section I A: "The affairs of the Association shall be

managed by a Board of Directors who must be voting members in good standing."

Charlie Oliver reported that



as of that day, February 22, that she was still on the delinquent dues list at the Seven Lakes Landowners office. It seems pretty obvious that she is not a

member in good standing and should not be on our board. Also, why is the board using our own money to pay an attorney to tell them how to break our own by laws so she can stay on the board and run again?

Why did our community manager not report this delinquency to the board or the president after June 1, 2005 or did he and it was just covered up?

Why did our President, Jack Fathauer sweep all this under the rug and do nothing about it until last week? Why have a closed meeting to go over this, when it didn't involve an employ-

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(See "Board," p. 25)

OPINION March 3, 2006 **Seven Lakes Times** Page 23

Finances require careful minding

I am normally a very trusting person. My philosophy has been - I'd rather get "taken" occasionally that go through life suspicious and untrusting. It's a attitude that has served me well in my personal life and in a long professional life. Believing in people has made my life quite positive; however, I'm becoming a bit cynical.

Moments ago, I received a phone call promis-

ing me \$500 credit on any airline and \$100 dollars worth of free gasoline. All I had to do was read through a

packet about a vacation plan.

However, since the free items are only available to persons who have checking accounts, I was asked to confirm the routing numbers on my check and then to provide the numbers of my personal account. I have provided those numbers to legitimate business concerns which use them to draft amounts from my checking account in order to pay my regular monthly bills. I have no problem with that, and consider it to be a convenience for me.

But, am I about to provide these numbers casually? I think not. Not being cynical, but if it sounds too good to be true, it usually is.

I have been receiving free Home Box office and Cinemax for three months. This is quite common when signing up for a different television service, but today I received an enlarged bill charging me for them. When I asked to have the charges deleted on the basis that I never requested such services, I was informed that I did not phone in a request to have such services stopped. They continue automatically after the free period unless a stoppage is requested. It took only a nine minute wait to get to the customer service agent who so informed me.

Three years a go I signed up for AT&T cell phone service, which I used for one month while

vacationing in New York State. When I tried to cancel the service I was informed that I had signed a contract for one year, so okay, I continued making monthly payments for a year. I called and requested that service be terminated after the year. I was informed that I couldn't make such a request at that time. Close to a year later I called again and was informed



that it was too early. I guess, I didn't call next at just the right time because I am still being charged for three unused months.

I have tried to dispute the charges to no avail. Last week I called AT&T to request that this charge against my record be removed. I was informed that it is not possible because I am not listed in the AT&T data base. They do not know that I exist, and because of no current involvement they cannot remove such old charges, Help!

About a year ago, I started getting dunning phone calls stating that I owed Sprint over \$300. I was amazed and requested to know the reason for these charges. I was told that about 5 years ago I had an 800 number and that the charges were long overdue. Since I have never held an 800 number I knew the charges were totally erroneous I continued getting dunning calls.

Finally, I got to a person who said she was removing my name from the call file. But I recently discovered that these charges are still aging against my credit rating as unpaid. Recently, I made numerous calls to Sprint where I was always told that I have a zero balance with them. But that charge remains on my previously pristine credit report as do the AT&T charges.

I also discover that if you ever open a charge account any-

(See "Nona," p. 25)

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OPINION Page 24 **Seven Lakes Times** March 3, 2006

SLLA needs transparency, strong manager

Dear Editor:

In your last issue, I wrote a letter expressing my view that you should have reported the widely known fact that SLLA was never properly licensed to be providing contract security to the SLWLA. After reading your interview with current board member and candidate for reelection Jackie Scotti, I realize that perhaps the problem was not with your reporting.

When you asked if information should be restricted that the board releases, Ms. Scotti's reply was "Absolutely." She further stated that "some things need to

be handled in a closed session by law to be confidential. among board members."

Additionally, you quoted Scotti as saying "What goes on in that



boardroom should stay in that boardroom." These comments were too strong to have intended to be limited to issues required

It should be obvious that Ms. Scotti's views are wrong. Except areas were the board is required by law to keep confidentiality, the board's actions should be totally reported and completely transparent.

My intention is not to be critical of Ms. Scotti but rather to address a much larger issue which I feel her position showcases

We have volunteer boards who give a great deal of their time and energy to our community. Unlike for profit corporate boards, often people are not recruited because of levels of competence or experience that they

bring to the table but rather because they are simply one of few willing to serve.

As a result, it is natural that we will have board members that will work hard at their job and we also have and will have those that do not. We will have board members who are qualified and capable and we will have those that are

If we have the mentality that "what goes on in the boardroom should stay in that boardroom" then problems unknown to the community may be ignored until they become a crisis.

From my view, the first step this community needs toward competent operation is to be totally transparent and make everything that is legally allowable known to the community.

The second step is to recognize that we must protect ourselves from weak boards. The only way to do that is to have transparency and a strong competent community manager. We can function with a strong manager and a weak board but we can not function with a weak board and a weak manager.

Most of the problems we face today should have been resolved before they reached the current crisis levels.

> D. Alan Shaw Seven Lakes South

Moore County Band Concert Mozart, Monuments & Miscellaneous

The Moore County Concert Band will perform on March 5, at 2:00pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel. The concerts theme is Mozart, monuments & miscellaneous. The Band will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birth (January 27, 1756) with two of his well-known compositions; Overture to The Abduction from the Seraglio and the Third Movement (Rondo) from his Horn Concerto No. 3 in Eb.

Performing the Rondo will be guest soloist Dr. Terry Roberts. Dr. Roberts' resume includes 8 years in Germany as Solo Horn with the Deutsche Oper am Rhein followed by 8 years as Solo horn of the Monte Carlo Philharmonic.

The band invites you to attend and enjoy the concert. Admission is free. The band's next concert will be on May 28 at 2:00pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel.



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Nature holds a message we need to hear

sometimes we tend to forget that the gifts of nature are right under our eyes.

It's like missing the chance for a mini-vacation on our own street. A means of refreshment.

Our lives are so busy that A chance to renew our spirits as we take a little time to appreciate the world around us.

> Like hearts beating in the trees, below the surface in the pond, in bodies soaring gracefully in the azure sky, or in those

making their way with purpose along the soil.

Why don't we have more awareness of these living things?

Like a vivid breasted robin gently swaying on a limb and delivering, with persistence, a lovely song. It's as if he wants to prove that

he's justified to be here on earth.

No need for a beautiful flower to say "hi" to us as we pass by. The communication is already there: someone's beating heart open to the silent handshake of a colorful petal, and the realization that each is thankful to be

Does the sun smile? Is a frog's croak a thankfulness for life?

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trying to tell us? That voiceless beauty is in our midst for a purpose? To remind us there is bounteousness in many forms of life? To soothe the frayed edges of our nervous systems? To provide ourselves with a change of pace in the relentless momentum of life?

Yes, that's it. A refreshing change. It can and does nurture the soul. It has something to do with Thanksgiving.

Not just on a certain November day, but everyday in our lives.

The message is simple: Never take the gifts of life for granted. Honor them in all their forms.

Nona

(Continued from page 23)

where it remains as an open account even if used only once years ago. My credit statement showed \$100,000 worth of available credit; consequently, I have made numerous phone calls closing out all but two accounts. I've lived in Seven Lakes for ten years but still had accounts for places in New York State.

Suze Orman says that everyone should check their credit record every so often. I thought it was foolishness, but after doing so, I was amazed to see that my formerly exemplary rating now shows some black marks. My son, who works in banking, informs me that there are errors on most people's ratings. It is no longer enough to just pay all bills promptly.

I pay off my credit card each month so that I don't have to suffer any interest charges. On February 12, I wrote two checks totaling \$821. I've been ill with a painful case of sinusitis and not really "on top of things." Yesterday, February 23 I discovered that I had not mailed them.

Board

(Continued from page 22) ee or salary? What are you hiding? It's common knowledge and open to the public about her unfortunate situation.

To be a member of the board and President, you must be "trustworthy." I think with this sordid affair you've lost all of that and should step down.

Charles Stephenson Seven Lakes North

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My carelessness will no doubt cause a delinquent payment to be recorded on two accounts and it will cost me interest fees.

Paper money and bank drafts make life easier, but a cash only system wasn't all bad. When we make steps forward, it's basically good. But we have to be careful not to slip and take one or two backward.

Surely diligence is the answer, and I guess I'd better start having my credit card bills drafted.

What are dogwood blossoms

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Rowland: Contractors key to security

(Continued from page 21)

problem with any of the rules."

"Yes," said Dave Carter. "If I have a problem with a rule or regulation, I should bring it to the board."

"Yes, we abide by the covenants," Jo Nicholas answered.

B. In past year, how many board meetings have you attend-

"None," Betty Childers answered, " and I am ashamed to admit that. I see the importance of attending."

Blaine Rowland also said he hadn't attended any of the meetings. Dave Carter said he thought he had missed one meeting and Jo Nicholas said she had been to four or five.

"For the past six years, I've tried to come to every meeting," Mary Anne Fewkes said. "I think I have only been to nine or ten this

"About 100 last year," Ray MacKay quipped.

C. How do you plan to rectify the increasing problem of yards not tended to?

"We have a judicial committee," Mary Anne Fewkes answered. "I feel that, when there has been a violation, it needs to be reported. Tony Robertson investigates complaints, talks with the landowner, and issues a warning, if necessary. There is a process for handling this."

"I haven't heard that many complaints," Blaine Rowland said, "so assume they are being handled in a proferssional man-

"I haven't heard of a lot of legitimate complaints," Dave Carter said. "We may be experiencing 'over' complaints. I'm concerned that we have folks who are overcomplaining about things they shouldn't be worried about. We have a process in place to handle problems," Carter concluded.

"We have a process for handling complaints," Jo Nicholas agreed.

"We always have a few knotheads that don't want to follow rules," Ray MacKay said. "The covenants describe a due process. Tony tries to get complaints resolved without resorting the the judicial committee because due process can take time."

"I honestly haven't seen anything that needs to be reported," Betty Childers replied. "Everybody is doing a good job with their property. We may have some that are nitpicking and reporting things that shouldn't be considered. I personally have had two calls for the office. I would have appreciated if folks just came talked with me face to face."

D. Do we want to continue charging homeowners differently from landowners? Should we

on property values.?

"That's food for thought," Jo Nicholas responded. "It's something new I'd have to research." Any such move would need to be put to a vote of the membership, she added.

"The structure we have for collecting fees is in the covenants," Ray MacKay noted. "If you wanted to change that you'd have to change the covenants. I don't know of any groundswell of opinion that we ought to make such a change."

It would require quite some time to assess" such suggestions, Betty Childers said. "It could be a way to keep dues from going up for everyone."

"In all developments I've been

move to a dues structure based in before, all lots were assessed equally," Dave Carter said. "I don't see any reason to change. The community is growing with the existing structure in place."

"I would not endorse that," Blaine Rowland said of the ad valorem proposal. "The structure we have is as good as you are going to get. I'm not in favor of that at all."

Noting that she had read carefully the provision of he North Carolina Planned Community Act when the community was contemplating adopting it a few years ago, Mary Anne Fewkes said "I found out at that time that, under the Planned Community Act, an association cannot assess different dues for different houses. You can't assess

house by house. Because of the Planned Community Act, I think that we would not be able to do it."

D. The final question asked candidates their philosophy on how much time the board should be spending on various tasks for example, long-range planning versus the current year budget process.

"The answer is variable," Blaine Rowland said. "The proportional amount will change from time to time depending on situation at that time."

Agreeing with Rowland, Jo Nicholas said, "All of these go hand in hand."

"The board is spending the

(See "MacKay," p. 27)







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MacKay: Dealing with growth is top issue

(Continued from page 26)

right amount of time on everything right now," Ray MacKay said.

There needs to be a vision for the community," Mary Anne Fewkes said. "Then you can set priorities, and then you can

do planning. That feeds into budgeting, then the day-to-day tasks. The board is not going to be able to handle everything, which is why priorities are important. Ultimately, we will need more volunteeers and more

It's up to the board memebers to allocate their time, Betty Childers replied. "I'm sure they are not wasting their time. "

"To develop a budget you have to have plan, to develop a plan

you have to have a vision," Dave Carter said. He said he saw strategic planning as probably a once-a-year event for the board. "It's not complicated, but it requires that you sit down and work on it."

Westsiders hold their annual meeting at the Community Center on Sunday, March 19 at 2:00 pm. The results of the board elections will be finalized at that meetina.

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Page 28 Seven Lakes Times March 3, 2006 NEWS

Scotti's right to serve questioned, affirmed

(Continued from page 1) questions behind her. "It's time to move on," she said.

The board met in executive session — excluding members of the public and SLLA staff — during its Thursday, February 16 work session to discuss concerns that had been raised about Scotti's eligibility. The association's new attorney, Hunter Stovall, was present for the executive session.

In response to a question by *The Times*, Fathauer confirmed that no vote of the board was taken during that executive session.

Scotti has served one term on the Board of Directors and is one of five candidates vying for three open board seats in elections that will be finalized during the March 26 SLLA Annual Meeting.

Concerns about whether she is a "member in good standing" as defined by the association by-laws were raised in a public forum during the Wednesday, February 22 SLLA general meeting. Scotti was not present at

the meeting

Chapter X, Section 1 of the SLLA by-laws require that directors "must be voting members in good standing." Chapter IV, Section 1 defines "member in good standing as "not delinquent in dues." Annual dues payments are due on May 1 and become delinquent on June 1.

Hudson raised the issue of Scotti's eligibility and asked several questions related to the matter: "As of June 1, did she let anyone know? Did she inform the board? Did she inform anyone?"

"My understanding is that you can't be a board member if you aren't current in your dues. Yet for eight months she was voting as a board member when she knew she was not current in her dues."

"It is the duty of the manager and the board president to know of this delinquency."

Answering Hudson, Fathauer said the association's attorney had investigated the matter and found that Scotti "is current in both dues and membership." He said

that the attorney was preparing a written report on the matter. "When the facts come, they will be available to you," Fathauer told Hudson.

Hudson, who is the wife of SLLA board candidate Steven Hudson, also asked why the board had discussed the situation in a closed executive session, since it had to do not with a personnel issue but with the qualifications of a board member. "We respect individuals," Fathauer answered.

"My understanding is that a closed session is about an employee," Hudson said.

"Apparently we won't be able to satisfy you tonight, Mrs. Hudson," Fathauer replied.

Later in the meeting, Charlie Oliver said he had reviewed the association's delinquent dues report and found 81 property

that the attorney was prepar- owners listed. "One is your board ing a written report on the mat- member," he said.

Fathauer told *The Times* on Wednesday, March 1, that Attorney Stovall had prepared a report on the matter, but that report could not be made public or shared with anyone outside the board in order to protect attorney-

client privilege. Release of his opinion "would damage his ability to represent the board," Fathauer said.

As a result, few details of the basis for Stovall's opinion are available. Fathauer's letter to The Times says only that "Scot-(See "Scotti," p. 29)

Fathauer's letter

(Continued from page 1)

in Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Landowners' Association and has discharged her obligations for 2005-2006 Landowners' Association dues having satisfied the requirements of he bankruptcy proceedings.

Jackie Scotti has proven herself to be a very contributing member of the Board. The Recreation Committee under her Chairmanship have developed and maintained programs that are greatly beneficial to out citizens.

Sincerely,
Jack Fathauer, President
Board of Directors
Seven Lakes Landowners' Association

lary 22 SLLA general meetScotti was not present at found that Scotti "is current in both dues and membership." He said

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Richard Lyda Troy, NC

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Schools plan has \$144 million price tag

(Continued from page 1)

the facilities plan will need to be reshaped to reflect those changes.

Earlier in the evening, the board heard a brief presentation from US Army Colonel Al Aycock, longtime Garrison Commander at Fort Bragg, who said the Defense Department's base realignment program will bring thousand of new military and civilian employees to Bragg. Many are likely to settle in Moore County and many of those will have school-aged children.

"Many of the capacity issues are not sheerly driven by num-

bers," Upchurch told board members, "but also by program needs. Those have changed dramatically over the years."

The plan Upchurch laid out has three phases — at least in part in order to break up the financing on the various construction projects into more manageable bites. Ultimately, tax dollars will pay for upgrading the system; a bond issue is likely to be required; and voters' willingness to approve large expenditures has to be taken into account.

Upchurch noted that Wake County schools recently floated a too-large bond issue that, when it failed to be approved by the voters, "set them back five years."

Here's a brief summary of the projects envisioned in each of the plan's three phases:

Phase 1: 2006-2010

New Middle School in Area 1 (Area 1, which includes the eastern third of the county, is served by Union Pines High school.)

New Elementary School Area 3 Upgrades at eight other schools, including modular units at all three high schools.

Cost: \$39 million

Phase 2: 2010-2014

New High School that can

accommodate 1200 students, taking pressure off of Pinecrest and Union Pines.

Modernization at all three existing high schools.
Cost: \$47 million

Phase 3: 2014-2018

New Elementary schools in Areas 1 and 2.

New Middle School in Area 3. Upgrades at 18 other schools. Cost: \$57 million.

Scotti

(Continued from page 28)

ti is a Owner and Member as defined in Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Landowners' Association and has discharged her obligations for 2005-2006 Landowners' Association dues having satisfied the requirements of her bankruptcy proceedings."

The statement implies that any dues delinquency for 2005-2006 that Scotti may have had was wiped out by a bankruptcy proceeding. Fathauer declined to go into any further detail about the matter. "The letter you have is all the detail that is necessary," Fathauer said.

Asked why Scotti's named appeared on the SLLA's delinquent list as late as January of this year, Fathauer told *The Times* that the delinquent list was in error.

Community Manager Dalton Fulcher told *The Times* that he and the office staff normally don't turn their attention to paring down the delinquent list until October, which was when he became aware that Scotti's name was on the list.

"I was aware that her name was on the delinquent list and I new that she was having some financial difficulties. But we only got our official notification of the bankruptcy it in the last month, so we hadn't taken her name off the delinquent list yet."

Fathauer told *The Times* he first learned of questions about Scotti's eligibility a few weeks ago when a fellow board member brought the issue to his attention.

"We have more important things to be concerned about than this," Fathauer said.

Contradance at West End Gym

Join in for lots of fun and dancing on Saturday, March 11 at the West End Gym, 137 Old West End School Road off Hwy 211. Lessons at 7:00 pm, dance from 7:30 to 10:30 pm. The Band is Tremblay's Dream and the Caller is Steve Williford. Admission – \$6 for members, \$8 for nonmembers, \$5 for students 16 and over, \$3 for ages 12-15, children under 12 free. For information, call 910.947.2086.



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Seven Lakes WEST

Community Newsletter

"Keeping our residents informed"

Volume 5, Issue 3, March 2006

REMEMBER TO VOTE!

Annual meeting announcements were mailed to all SLWLA members the end of January. These materials included details about the 2006 Budget and about candidates for the Board of Directors, as well as ballots for your votes on each of these topics.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BAL-LOTS SOON! You may drop your ballot off at the Community Center offices or mail it using the addressed envelope included in your materials. Please help the ballot counters by submitting your ballot now. Thank you! No ballots will be counted after 2:00 p.m. on March 19, 2006.

COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 19, 2006 2:00 p.m. West Side Park Community Center

Come and visit with your neighbors and friends at the Association's Annual Meeting. The meeting will as usual include time for recognizing Association members for their service, a brief "Year in Review," results of balloting, and questions from the floor.

The highlight of this year's meeting will be recognition of Joe Fellingham as the first member to be featured on the Association's new Wall of Honor. Following the meeting, a reception for the Fellingham family will be held, with refreshments and an opportunity to meet and greet Joe and Fran, as well as your Seven Lakes West friends.

Community Manager Tony Robertson 673-5314 westsidetony @earthlink.net

Boat Storage Yard

As you are all aware our new boat Storage Yard will be opening soon, and I would like to clear up any misunderstanding that might occur regarding insurance coverage on your articles stored in the yard.

The Landowner's Association has insurance coverage on any item stored there up to \$500,000. However, be sure that you are aware that this is a liability policy and only pays if the Landowner's Association is deemed liable or negligent for damage to your individual item. If you store an item in the yard, you will still need to carry your own coverage for things that might occur regarding other incidents.

Recreation Betty Milligan 673- 1462 ronbetmilligan @earthlink.net

Shag Dance Lessons

Beginning: March 9th at the West Side CC...Each Thursday night for seven weeks. Instructors: Bud Hunter & Nancy Donald

Cost: \$65.00 per couple
Beginners: 6:30-7:30 PM
Intermediates: 7:30-8:30 PM
For more information contact
Paul Sowell or Candy Alderman at 673-8180.

Youth Tennis Lessons

Because of circumstances beyond our control, Don Campbell from Lawn and Tennis will be unable to teach the Youth Tennis Lessons in the spring. However, GOOD NEWS...Lessons will be offered during the month of June in conjunction with the North Side Recreation Program. Courts will be shared so half of the lessons will be taught here on our courts.

"FLING INTO SPRING" Dinner and Dance

March 24 from 6 to 10pm Tickets will go on sale March 1st at the mailhouse and at WS Park CC. The Number is limited to 125 so be sure to purchase tickets early. Tickets will be \$15.00 per person. DeeJay-Glen Davis

Dinner will be catered by 7 Lakes Pizza Kitchen. The menu will include Authentic Italian Lasagna, salad & bread, dessert, and coffee and tea. BYOB

If a sitter is needed, "Cool Kids" is offering its services for this event. If interested, one may call Shirley at 673-6789.

Enjoy good food, fun with friends, and great entertainment...come on out for a wonderful evening.

WINE-TASTING HUGE SUCCESS

Thanks to Janet Baker and the entire Recreation Committee for an outstanding performance.

Look for more information on the Easter Egg Hunt in the next Newsletter.

Don't forget that we have tennis courts waiting to be enjoyed, as well as the basketball court and playground.

Secretary
Jan Patton
673-3865
rpatton@nc.rr.com

Summary of Board Actions Taken February 14, 2006 Board of Directors Work Session

- Approved minutes of January 10, 2006 work
- session, January 24, 2006 special meeting, and January 24, 2006 general meeting as amended and distributed to the community.
- Approved the Check Register of January, 2006 as presented.
- By general consent approved a recommendation that the 2006 Treasurer and Finance Committee investigate refinancing the West Side Park Community Center mortgage, and either refinance the loan or pay down \$300,000 of the loan and fix the interest rate at 7.5%.
- Authorized the Manager to continue applying late fees at the rates the Board has used in the recent past.
- Instructed the Secretary to distribute proxy votes for candidates and the budget in the same proportions as Board members' votes per their secret ballots submitted at the meeting.
- 6. Approved a report about maintenance of The Pinnacle and Beacon Ridge Lakeview Homes, authorizing that a letter be sent to PSL members.
- Accepted the Personnel Committee's recommendation to hire an accounting clerk.
- 8. Authorized the Dam Committee to negotiate a contract with Dan Marks of Schnabel Engineering South, LLC, of Charlotte, NC to perform work relative to the dam, not to exceed \$50,000.

THANKS AND KUDOS!

Thank you to Deanna Petrie and the Seven Lakes Women's Auxiliary, and to Carolyn Mealing of the League of Women Voters for another informative and professional Candidates' Forum. This is a terrific service for our community, and we appreciate your work!

Vice President & Infrastructure Director Ray MacKay 673-1690 rmackpe@earthlink.net

YARD WASTE

A reminder to all! Since the new transfer site will be operational in a couple of weeks there will be no street pick up of yard waste this April. To keep our community looking nice year round, do not place collected yard waste on the street right of way.

Seven Lakes Forum

The next Forum is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2006, on the upper level of the West Side Park Community Center. Refreshments will be available at 9AM, with the formal session beginning at 9:15. Participants should plan for about a two-hour session. All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. Linda Tableman, an attorney and former SLWLA Board member will present the topic entitled 'Eminent

Domain...Whose Property is it, Anyway'. The session will relate to the recent Supreme Court decision (Kelo vs. New London).

The 'format' for this Forum, and also for the on-going sessions to be conducted on a monthly basis, follows:

- 9:00am Refreshments
- 9:15 Presentation of information
- 9:50 Break, refreshments
- 10:00 Roundtable discussions
- 10:30 Responses from the roundtables
- 10:50 Summary comments

For further information, please contact Don Welch (673-6701) or Bill Mamel (673-8970).

Attention All New Seven Lakes Homeowners!

The Auxiliary Welcoming Committee visits new homeowners on all three sides with a bag of helpful information, coupons, and gifts provided by Seven Lakes merchants and organizations. If you are a new homeowner on the West Side, please call Ann Chase 673-3413.

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Seven Lakes Times

March 3, 2006

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Seven Lakes Times

March 3, 2006

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