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Volume 23 Number 2

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

November 21, 2007

## Area A development freeze ready for a thaw

by Greg Hankins,  
Times Editor

An undeclared moratorium that has halted since June development of new subdivisions in a 100-square-mile area around Seven Lakes appears ready to end.

As *The Times* went to press Monday morning, The Moore County Board of Commissioners was slated to consider — and perhaps approve — a massive rewrite of subdivision regula-

tions in a Monday evening meeting.

That would set the stage for the Commissioners to finally move off their table a six-month moratorium on new subdivisions in Area A that was proposed in May. The Commissioners issued a call to Public Hearing on the moratorium in June and, rather than enacting it, have delayed their decision for the past five months. The result has been a de facto freeze on new subdivi-

sions in the area.

Meanwhile, the county's planning staff and consultants from Land Design began work on a new subdivision ordinance. The county's Planning Board unanimously approved that language in a meeting on Thursday, November 8, forwarding it on to the Commissioners.

After the initial draft of the regulations was submitted to a joint meeting of the Planning Board

(See "Planning," p. 36)

## Water issues at top of Foxfire Village agenda

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

News of a proposed municipal water line feeding into the Grande Pines development drew a disgruntled property owner to the Foxfire Village Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 13. A Public Hearing to discuss the water assessment resolution was the first order of business on the agenda.

The resident expressed surprise and dismay that not only would her lot be assessed for a portion of the cost of the new water line, but that she also would be prevented from installing a private well because of the moratorium and ordinance banning all private wells within

village limits.

Mayor George Erickson and the Foxfire Village Council members assured the resident that they understood her frustration

but that notification had been sent and all appropriate steps had been taken to alert affected property owners.

(See "Foxfire Council," p. 40)

## Lauer lays out game plan on water

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Radium levels in Foxfire wells and discussion of future water needs took center stage again at the recent Foxfire Village Council meeting.

"The hydrostructure report shows we have a five year win-

dow," said Councilman Lauer during his water report. "People confuse water strategies and growth. As much as you want to control growth, if you stagnate you will bear the tax burden and we want to grow. We want to be a vital community."

(See "Lauer," p. 41)

## Holiday decorator



**Taylor St. Onge** is getting in to the Holiday Spirit by decorating a tree for Sandhills Children's Center's Festival of Trees. Taylor is the granddaughter of Chuck and Michelle Bolton and daughter of Mike and Ashley St. Onge. [Please see story on page 6.]

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# Temple offers Winter Youth Conservatory

Temple Theatre's Youth Conservatory will offer a unique opportunity for middle and high school students to be part of its February production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Auditions will be held for enrollment into the Winter Youth Conservatory on Saturday, November

24 from 12 - 5 pm. Classes will be held December 11-14 from 5 pm to 8 pm in the Temple Theatre rehearsal hall. Rehearsals for the production will begin January 15 and continue through February 21.

Students enrolled in this program will present *A Midsummer Night's Dream* February 22-24 on the Temple stage.

Audition times can be reserved by calling the Temple Theatre Business Office at 919-774-4512 ext.221.

A monologue is recommended, but not required as the audition will include a cold reading from the script. The enrollment fee is \$150 and is due by December 11.

Classes will be led by Thomas Dalton, Director of Education at the Temple Theatre.

For more information on the Youth Conservatory and other educational programs at the Temple Theatre visit the website at [www.templeshows.com](http://www.templeshows.com) or call 919-774-4512.

## Happy Thanksgiving!

The offices of *The Seven Lakes Times* and Bookshop by the Lakes will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday from Wednesday, November 21 through Sunday, November 25.

We'll reopen on Monday, November 26.

### 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 [mail@sevenlakes-times.net](mailto:mail@sevenlakes-times.net).

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
Dec 7	Nov 30
Dec 21	Dec 14
January 11	January 4
January 25	January 18
February 8	February 1
February 22	February 15
March 7	February 29
March 21	March 14
April 4	March 28
April 18	April 11
May 2	April 25
May 16	May 9
May 30	May 23
June 13	June 6
June 27	June 20
July 11	July 3*
July 25	July 18

## Christmas party at SL Country Club

The Seven Lakes Country Club is holding their annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 15. The cocktail hour starts at 5:30 pm, with dinner commencing at 6:30 pm. The Sweet Adelines will entertain with several of their favorite Christmas songs.

The buffet-style dinner featuring turkey & roast beef carving stations, scalloped potatoes, asparagus with red pepper Hollandaise sauce, salad and rolls, will be topped off with red velvet cake. The all-inclusive price for members is \$25.00, and \$30.00 for non-members.

Join your friends and neighbors for a fun-filled evening to

welcome in the Holiday season. Call 673-1100 for reservations.

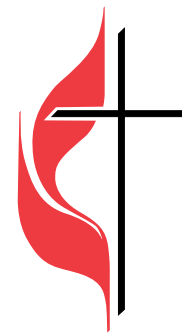
### Need A Miracle? *Saint Jude Novena*

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## Edible Plant Sale

Blueberries, figs and Muscadine grape plants are being sold by the Moore County Master Gardeners. Edible plantings make an attractive, useful addition to any landscape. And nothing is more satisfying than picking fresh fruit from your own plants.

Place your order during November and December: pick-up in early March, the optimum planting time. Proceeds will be used to fund Master Gardener community projects in Moore County. Gift certificates are available for Christmas and other occasions. For information or an order form, call the Moore County Extension office at 947-3188.



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# Pusser's pumpkins draw more than 3,000

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

With an estimated crowd of 3,000 viewing his carved pumpkins during the two night October showing, Todd Pusser, said this year may have been his

busiest yet.

"We've never quite had that many people before!"

Pusser's annual carved pumpkin display at his parents home on Flowers Road is the stuff of Halloween legend.

"I try to do between a hundred and 150," said Pusser. This year I carved 175."

Pusser said that he started carving pumpkins when he was five or six years old and began regularly showing them about

twelve years ago.

"As more and more people started showing up, I decided to have people donate canned goods. This year, we collected food for the Cameron Boys Home raising over \$1,450 in contribu-

tions plus a huge truckload of food which was all delivered last week."

Pusser, now a resident of Aberdeen is a marine biologist and renowned wildlife photographer. (See "Pumpkins," p. 35)

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# Foxfire holds hearing on Village Center

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Despite two previous rejections, the Foxfire Village Parks Committee is hard at work again this Fall preparing a new grant application to the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund [PARTF] for a major renovation proposed for the pool and tennis complex. As part of their concentrated effort to improve the grant application score during the review process, the committee, led by Jack Olsen, held a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 8 to discuss proposed improvements at the Village Center Complex.

Olsen welcomed and thanked the residents in attendance saying, "I appreciate your interest. We are here to listen to your input and get an overview of the Village Center Complex with your opinions for its use."

The new village Zoning Administrator Mimi Ainsworth was also introduced as she also serves as a half-time Parks Director. With a professional resume that

includes a MBA, Olsen said Foxfire was very fortunate to have an employee with Ainsworth's talents on the team.

Ainsworth said that she would keep record of all the opinions expressed during the hearing and that they would be summarized, along with the surveys villagers recently completed, for inclusion in the new grant application that will be submitted in January. If the grant is successful, funding would be made available to the village next Summer.

"We don't know if we'll benefit from the grant or not," said Ainsworth. "In the meantime, we have repairs and renovations that need to be done whether or not we have the grant funding."

## Historical background

Providing historical information of the Village Center Complex, Olsen said the pool and tennis court was built in 1976 as a private facility. Over the years the owner's neglected repairs

and the complex was left in disrepair. Despite its deteriorated condition, it was a valuable asset that the village was able to acquire as a public facility in 2005 for a negligible cost.

Once the complex became public property, the village was eligible to apply for a PARTF grant.

The North Carolina Parks and Trust Fund is a state program explained Erickson. "They take applications from communities around the state and the contribution comes in the form of 50/50 match. That is an incentive," said Erickson. "We only pay fifty percent of the project cost."

Erickson continued explaining that PARTF grantees are required to maintain facilities as a public space for twenty-five years and that grants do not cover operating expenses, only capital expenses.

"The grant proposed will do the following things; renovate the pool itself, renovate the tennis courts, put a small playground for children that would not have

direct access to pool, demolish the pool house that is there and rebuild it including a heated room for winter use as game room or exercise facility, as well as new restrooms," said Erickson.

The original grant application was for \$540,000. The amount was adjusted last year to \$590,000 to include inflation costs.

However even if the PARTF grant is successful the funding will not be received prior to the opening of the pool next Summer creating a much more urgent need for Foxfire. Last year, the county health department

declared during their inspection of the facility that the village would not be granted another permit to open without making several specific repairs.

Olsen said that upon acquiring the pool two years ago, the village had hired a firm to assess repair and renovation needs and that he had a fairly good estimate of the costs for repairs needed to open the pool for the Summer of 2008. However, in the hopes that the grant application will be successful, minimal money would be spent only on those repairs deemed mandatory.

(See "Foxfire Parks" p. 39)

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# 7 Lakes sisters launch candle business

The Rabstejnek sisters of Seven Lakes North — Keelen, Allison, and Casey — have turned an elementary school project into a real business: KAC Candles.

Allison, a student at the year-round school at Southern Pines Elementary, got the ball rolling when she decided to participate in "Kid City," a project that involves young people in setting up a pretend business in order to learn a variety of skills. After using the internet to do research

on various possibilities, Allison decided to set up a Kid City business manufacturing and selling colored and scented candles.

The pretend business was so intriguing that her sisters got involved and decided to turn pretense into reality, creating the real-world KAC Candles.

Now 14, 11, and 10-year-old Keelen, Allison, and Casey — KAC — make a sell a wide variety of soy-based candles, and they're already building alliances

with other real-world business people. Local accountant Howard Gartman has coached them through the organizational and financial intricacies of setting up a real-world business.

Harris Printing in Seven Lakes has given them an assist with the design and printing of their marketing materials. And now brides-to-be ordering wedding stationery from Harris can complement it with champagne flutes filled with a KAC Candle.

The sisters have built a similar alliance with the Ninth of September, a paint your own pottery studio, that allows pottery customers to have the containers they decorate filled with a KAC Candle product. They also participated in the recent Seven Lakes-West End Area Business Guild Meet the Merchants night.

All of KAC's products are

based on soy wax, a relatively new product that was developed in 1991, Keelen told *The Times*. Compared to standard candles, which are made of a petroleum product called paraffin, soy candles burn at a much lower temperature and do not give off carcinogens as they burn, she said.

The lower pollutant output has been a boon for Casey, who suffers from asthma. While regular candles can bring on an asthma attack, she said the soy candles do not.

"Soy candles are also less likely to start a fire if knocked

(See "KAC Candles," p. 18)



Casey, Keelen, and Allison Rabstejnek of KAC Candles.

## JEAN & ELWOOD HENNING 65th Wedding Anniversary Celebration



Please join Jean & Elwood Henning  
on Wednesday, November 28

2:00 pm – 6:00pm

at

The Coffee Scene

in Seven Lakes Village

to celebrate with coffee and treats.

## Sandhills Pediatrics expands to Seven Lakes.



**Sandhills Pediatrics, Inc.**

steps toward a healthy future

To better meet the needs of the Sandhills' families, Sandhills Pediatrics, Inc. announces the opening of their **Seven Lakes satellite office**. The office will be staffed by a rotation of your trusted Southern Pines' Pediatric physicians. Both the Southern Pines and Seven Lakes facilities will continue to provide excellence in Pediatric care. We are here for you each step of the way. The Seven Lakes office is open from **8-5, Monday through Friday**.

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# Mom and Daughter team for Festival of Trees



Michelle and Samantha Bolton show off the Hannah Montana tree.

by Kathy Desmond  
Sandhills Children's Center

Michelle Bolton continues to share her talents with the Sandhills Children's Center by designing several trees for the 11th Annual Festival of Trees, benefiting children with disabilities.

The Festival of Trees features over 175 decorated holiday trees, wreaths, gingerbread houses, and gift baskets in a winter wonderland that will be available for live and silent auction. The event returns to The Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst from November 28 through December 2.

Designing items for the Festival since 2002, Bolton joined the Festival of Trees Committee in 2004.

As a member of the committee, she works almost year round recruiting other designers for the Wall Trees category and securing sponsors. Her designs this year include several tabletop trees, wall trees, and framed photographs.

Bolton, a resident of Seven Lakes West, is an accomplished photographer with one of her photos creating a bidding war at last year's Festival of Trees.

This year, Bolton and her daughter, Samantha, have decorated a gorgeous Hannah Montana tree that is sure to delight all of the fans of the hit show.

Bidding for all auction items begins with a Premiere Party Wednesday, November 28 and ends at the Gala Fundraiser on

Saturday, December 1. Admission by donation days are Thursday and Friday, November 29 & 30 from 10 am – 8 pm and Saturday and Sunday, December 1 & 2 from 10 am – 3 pm.

Come meet Bolton at the "Meet the Designers" party Thursday, November 29 from 5 pm – 8 pm. For more information or to purchase party tickets, please call 692-3323 or go online at [www.sandhillschildrenscenter.org](http://www.sandhillschildrenscenter.org)

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## Soup and Packaged Dinner Calendar for December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Split Pea with Ham Soup Chicken Parmesan Dinner	4 Broccoli Cheese Soup Pork with Apples Dinner	5 Mexican Meatball Soup Shepherd's Pie Dinner	6 Tomato Florentine Soup Sweet Bourbon Salmon Dinner ♥	7 New England Clam Chowder Beef Stroganoff Dinner
10 White Bean Chicken Chili ♥ Beef Enchiladas Dinner ♥	11 Lentil Soup ♥ Chicken Tetrastini Dinner	12 Beef Vegetable Soup ♥ Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	13 Creamy Chicken Vegetable Soup Spice Crusted Tilapia Dinner	14 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo Southwestern Pork Tenderloin Dinner
17 Black Bean Soup Sausage & Cheese Manicotti Dinner	18 Vegetable Soup ♥ Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	19 Butternut Bisque Pot Roast Dinner	20 Beef Barley Soup Lemon Shrimp Oriental Dinner ♥	21 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥ Salisbury Steak Dinner
<b><u>CLOSED!</u></b> Merry Christmas!			27 Mushroom Bisque Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	28 Chicken & Dumpling Soup Chicken Enchiladas Dinner
<b><u>CLOSED!</u></b> Happy New Year!		Jan. 2 Split Pea with Barley Soup ♥ Shrimp Stroganoff Dinner	Jan. 3 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Ginger Beef Stir-Fry Dinner ♥	Jan. 4 New England Clam Chowder Swiss Steak Dinner

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\$310,000

7 Lakes West  
267 Longleaf Drive



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Lot 6189 Banbridge Dr. Seven Lakes West ..... \$70,000  
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# SEVEN LAKES NORTH & SOUTH LANDOWNERS

Two weeks ago at the November 7 meeting of your board of directors the subject of an amendment to our by-laws arose. This amendment if voted on and passed, would have passed by the narrowest of margins (4-3) yet it would have resulted in declaring Steve Hudson our present director and treasurer, ineligible to run for a second term. Fortunately, any such vote was delayed until the next board meeting on December 12.

At this past meeting, the most thoughtful presentation against the passage of this amendment, which is identified as by-law 6.2.3, was presented by Chuck Leach, a resident of the South Side. It was great to listen to, but far more thought-provoking when read with care. It follows:

The amendment in question is now to be voted upon by the board on December 12.

We feel, just as Chuck Leach has pointed out, that the passage of any amendment which violates our rights to nominate and vote for whomever we wish, provided that person is a resident in good standing, is contrary to all that this nation stands for and the democratic process itself.

## Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you are all aware there is currently a very pressing matter to be addressed tonight before our landowner's board. Prior to a final vote to amend the current by-laws I hope each individual on this board has personally evaluated the possible impact of this action. The right to vote is a highly valued privilege, one of the many freedoms that we all enjoy. The landowners voted Mr. Hudson to a term of office, and he has served this board in an honest and commendable fashion. He has done nothing wrong or illegal. He has just exercised one of his other freedoms, to have the courts determine the issue related to Restrictive Covenants. Therefore, if Mr. Hudson decides to run for the landowners board again, it is up to the landowners, exercising their privilege to vote, who should determine if he is re-elected and continues to serve on this board. It is not your duty or right to change by-laws and take the voting right away from the landowners.

If you decide to tread into these very sacred waters, you must ask yourself where this path can lead. Although it is highly unlikely, perhaps a board member of the future might be controversial in other areas such as religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, ethnicity, political views etc. The list could go on and on.

On one final note, if you decide to go in this direction, please consider an all-inclusive motion, one that would include any board member who is involved in any action that is in opposition to the consensus of the board. After all, it has only been a few short months since your president, while a sitting member of the board, became involved in a citizens group that worked outside the mandate of the board. Most certainly, a by-law change should include any and all board nominees who work in a capacity that does not serve the consensus of the board. Of course, these recent past efforts were undercover in nature, so the message sent to the citizens of 7 Lakes is be secretive about it, don't stand up and be counted, as Mr. Hudson has done.

Chuck Leach  
Seven Lakes South

## Help Defeat By-Law Amendment 6.2.3

Please attend the meeting on December 12 at 7:30 pm in the North Clubhouse, if you are able to do so, and by your presence let your feelings be known.

Hap & Lula Mae Aitken, Jim & Judy Allen, June & Wally Brown, Wally & Rosemary Campbell, Jackie Coger, Dave & Roxana Davies, Michael & Linda Donnell, Art & Ann Dykeman, Les & Nancy Englehart, Ron & Erika Erskine, Don & Donna Fentzlaff, Dan Flint, Jon & Jackie Giles, Bill & Suzanne Gross, Jim Gunderson, Frankie & John Hall, Frank & Lu Hayes, Mary Hudson, Jerry & Marilyn Johnson, Chuck & Betty July, Jay Kenzel, Jim & Eleanor Kilpatrick, Dick & Sally Kindsvatter, Bill & June Kirkland, Herb & Helen Koehnke, Chuck & Jane Leach, Chuck Levinger, Jim & Pat Lott, Andy & Jane Lowe, Cal & Ada Loy, Ed & Dot Mazurkiewicz, Charlie & Ethel Oliver, Vernelle Otter, Liliane Partain, Howie Pierce, Bill & Jean Pomplun, Paul & Nancy Pressler, Tom & Roberta Robinson, Mike & Pam Roscoe, Pete Sonderfan, John & Rita Shields, Edith Starkey, Bob Stephan, Chuck Stephenson, Loren Swearingen, Mark Widman, Clawson Williams

# Sandhills Pediatrics opens 7 Lakes Office

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Dr. William Stewart of Sandhills Pediatrics said the Seven Lakes area was a great choice when the popular Southern Pines-based pediatric practice was ready to

expand.

"When we looked at our current patient population, we came up with over 1,000 patients just in the West End zip code," exclaimed Stewart explaining that there were several reasons

for opening a second location.

"We were continuing to grow in Southern Pines and we couldn't add any more space there," said Stewart.

"We had been thinking about a satellite office and it just made good sense to move in this direction and be closer to West End and this side of Pinehurst as well as to Robbins, Carthage and now within twenty minutes of Troy."

Stewart said a satellite office would also take the crowding pressure off the Southern Pines location and give them the opportunity to hire an additional pediatrician or nurse practitioner in the future.

The Seven Lakes Sandhills Pediatrics office is open five

days a week, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, with staff physicians serving on a regular scheduled rotation: Dr. Kate Mason, Mondays; Dr. Stewart, Tuesdays; Dr. Christoph Diasio, Wednesdays; Dr. Joe Boles, Thursdays; Dr. Wendy Carlton, Fridays.

"On occasion the office will need to double up on certain days," said Stewart, "because they are so busy and patients may see different physicians than on the [regular] schedule."

According to Stewart the facilities at Seven Lakes are as comprehensive as those in the Southern Pines office.

"We have a full facility with a basic laboratory, minor treatment rooms, and a trauma room. We are set up to do everything

here that we do in Southern Pines."

While the Seven Lakes location will not offer extended hours, the Southern Pines office does provide some evening hours and an acute care clinic on Saturdays.

Appointments may be made at the Seven Lakes office by calling 673-1600.



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# Seven Lakes Ladies are state champs!

by Barb Horan  
Seven Lakes Tennis

Yes, they have done it again! The Super Senior Ladies over 70 tennis team from the Seven Lakes Country Club are the North Carolina State Champions in their division. This earned

them the right to represent North Carolina in the Sectional Championships that will be held in late March in Columbus, Georgia.

Members of the team are Kay McCarthy, Joan Carter, Edie Barrett, Ally Vogel, Joyce Charles,

Judy Streit, Lore Olsen, Myra Taylor, Jane Lowe, Marilyn Quintana, and Barb Horan.

Defeating teams from Wilmington and Winston-Salem, these ladies won eleven out of twelve matches they played in. Many of these players have been together

for almost twenty years and all but one of the ladies live right here in our Seven Lakes communities. For the past nine of eleven years, the team has won championships at both the state and sectional levels.

This team not only plays tennis together, but their friendships go far beyond the tennis courts. They have seen each other through breast cancer, shoulder surgeries, knee replacements, the death of a spouse, and life's everyday problems. These ladies shop together, play bridge together, share book clubs, play golf together, and are involved in just about everything in the Seven Lakes communities. True friendships that continue to grow...and it all started with a little yellow ball.

The Seven Lakes Country Club is extremely proud of their tennis facility where these ladies play. Many of the players are involved in teaching the game of tennis to the children of Seven Lakes and the surrounding area. The two Kids Carnivals held recently were a tremendous success as were two well-attended summer camps.

Under the leadership of Tennis Professional Bruce Adams, the facility offers several programs for both children and adults with both private and group lessons. You can reach the tennis office for further information at 673-1096.

It just goes to show you and these ladies, that tennis is a life-long sport.



**Team Members** — Front: Marilyn Quintana, Joyce Charles, Barb Horan, Myra Taylor, Edie Barrett  
Back row- Ali Vogel, Kat McCarthy, Judy Streit, Joan Carter, Lore Olson. Not shown: Jane Lowe.

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*and will reopen Friday morning at 8:30 am.*

# New 7 Lakes school bus route starts Monday

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Instead of birdsong, North-side residents may be surprised to wake to the sound of school

buses on Monday, November 26. That is the official start date for a new bus route that has been developed to accommodate four additional stops within the

neighborhood.

Previously, Moore County school buses had stopped only at the Seven Lakes Firehouse and at the North Clubhouse. However, according to Tim Lussier, Community Relations Advisor for Moore County Schools [MCS], the bus route was revised in response to requests from Seven Lakes parents.

The new stops, which will be in effect for all buses going to and from West End Elementary, West Pine Middle, and Pinecrest High, will be at the intersections of Pleasant View and Cottage Grove, Pineneedle and Edgewater, Sunset and Overlook, and Cardinal and Shadywood. Two other locations: Shenandoah and Cardinal, and Edgewater and Shagbark have been approved but will not be put into use immediately.

A fourth smaller bus, for Exceptional Children, will continue to

use its established route.

Dave Miller, a Seven Lakes North resident for eighteen years and parent of two school-aged children initiated the request for new stops and has worked hard over the past several months to develop the best and safest route possible.

"When I started this process I knew I didn't want stops on Firetree Road and that the county did not want [the buses] to make any three-point turns." He continued, "Initially I proposed twenty-six stops for the elementary kids, but what's shaping up here looks like it will be a very good middle and high school series of stops, especially as we get the two future stops."

Miller said that he personally walked the neighborhood and helped the county to determine which intersections would be safe and convenient.

"State law says that there cannot be bus stops within 2/10 of

a mile of each other nor can a child walk more than a mile from their home to a stop," said Miller. "The stops were chosen because they are within three blocks of anywhere, especially once the future stops are brought on this will be good system."

Miller said that while the new bus route is "a good step forward," he acknowledged that there was still plenty of room for more improvement and public comment.

"Until the county has numbers this is as much as they are willing to offer," said Miller noting that the school must maintain maximum bus occupancy standards.

Current regulations stipulate, depending on bus size, the number of passengers allowed. High school buses may carry approximately forty-four students, middle school capacity is fifty-four, and elementary buses may carry

(See "School bus," p. 34)



**Delores Thomas**, a county school bus driver since 1992, safely ferries the children of Seven Lakes North and South to and from West End Elementary each day.



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issue of The Times for details.



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# Don't let flu vaccine myths scare you

by Jason Joyce  
Quality Care Pharmacy

It is that time of the year when the days are getting a little shorter and the mornings are getting cooler. Summer has ended and the autumn leaves will soon start showing the colors of God's masterpiece. It is also the time of year when contagious respiratory illnesses cause by the influenza viruses are most prevalent.

The flu season usually hits the Sandhills from the months of December to March and now is the time to prepare. The flu can cause mild to severe illness, and usually affects 5 to 20% of American's annually. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications and unfortunately, some may lead to death. Symptoms of flu may include fever, headache, weakness, cough, sore throat, runny nose, muscle aches, and stomach symptoms [nausea, vomiting, diarrhea].

The virus that causes the flu is usually spread from person to person by coughing or sneezing. It may also be spread by simply touching an object with the virus on it and then touching your mouth or nose. An infected person can be contagious before the symptoms even develop and up to five days after symptoms begin.

The flu is one of the most preventable infectious diseases that has the potential of causing havoc each year. The chances of getting the flu can be substantially reduced by adhering to good infection control techniques, frequent hand washing, and getting a simple vaccination. There are many myths that have surrounded the vaccine and give people false information and anxieties about receiving the vaccination.

**Myth 1:** I had the flu or flu vaccine in previous years and my body has developed immunity to the flu.

**Reality:** Flu viruses or strains change from year to year. Therefore, you may get the flu more than once in your lifetime. Each year samples of viruses throughout the world are sent to WHO

[World Health Organization] and CDC [Center for Disease Control] to determine the most popular strains to include in the next flu vaccine.

**Myth 2:** I can wait until I hear

there is a flu outbreak in my area before I get the shot.

**Reality:** That is like trying to put on your seat belt right before an automobile accident. It is too little too late. It usually takes two

weeks to develop a complete immune response to the vaccine. October and November is the ideal time for obtaining the flu vaccine in our area.

(See "Flu vaccine," p. 37)

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# Don't toss those leaves! Use them for mulch

During the past month the weather has changed finally. Fall and cooler weather are here.

Since weather has been mentioned, let me make a few statements about it in the area, statewide, and in the Southeast. Having been in the Myrtle Beach area for the past month, I had an opportunity to discuss rainfall with a number of people from various places and everyone mentioned dry weather everywhere throughout the Southeast. Although rain showers were

widespread one or two weeks ago, the dry soil was temporarily moistened but much more is needed to further improve conditions.

According to all, the leaf colorings in the Sandhills and coastal plain are more noticeable than in the mountains of Western North Carolina, Southwest Virginia, and Eastern Tennessee. This is very unusual. No doubt the extremely dry weather in these areas is responsible.

Realizing that the holiday sea-

son is approaching and that gardening interests are secondary, here are a few suggestions for November:

People continued to ask, "I need to plant trees, shrubs, and some flowering perennials, annuals, bulbs, and other plants. When should I do it?"

One can plant anytime they like as long as the soil isn't frozen but I suggest you wait until more rainfall and soil moisture are restored. There is enough time to plant from now through February. But remember, adequate water will be needed and necessary for plant survival.

Recently the question was asked, "Why should I mulch my plants?" Mulch acts as an insulator helping to maintain uniform soil temperature. Mulch also prevents water loss from the soil by evaporation and suppresses weeds when applied

two to three inches deep. When mulch is organic, the soil structure is improved. As the mulch decays, the material becomes topsoil. Finally, mulch it provides a cover of uniform color and interesting texture.

Pine straw doesn't seem to be much of a problem as oak or other hardwood foliage. Some folks desire to rake or blow their leaves in a pile, collect them, and take them to a brush dump.

If you own a mulcher-chopper cut them up and use as a mulch around your landscape plants. A few people put them in a compost pile, rot them thoroughly, and

use as an organic soil material. Others mulch-mow them into the lawn as a soil turf builder.

Pine straw is ideal as a neat mulch for all shrubs, flower beds, and trees, and it also serves well as a cover in a wooded lot.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving holiday.



## Gardening in the Sandhills

Jim Caudill

## Methodists to host Advent concert

To begin the Advent Season, West End United Methodist Church will present Paul Long, Minister of Music and Organ, from Southern Pines United Methodist Church, in concert on Friday, November 30 at 7:30 pm. The public is invited to attend this joyous occasion.

Long is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and The Juilliard School.

As a solo artist, he has performed organ recitals all over the East Coast, notably St. Thomas Church in New York, Bruton Parish Church in

Williamsburg, the Piccolo Spoleto Festival and many dedicatory recitals.

He is past president of the Moore County Music Society, performs regularly with the Moore County Choral Society and the Music Society. He has been a church musician for nearly forty years, over half of that in Moore County, and performed the dedication recital for the church's Allen organ some years ago. His recordings, including a Christmas CD, will be available.

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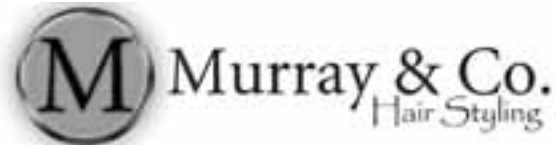
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***Happy Holidays!***



# In memory of . . .

**Mary Catherine Tew Parsons**, 82, of Eagle Springs, died Friday, November 9, at her home.

Mrs. Parsons was a native of Sampson County. She was a homemaker, and was a member of Pleasant View Friends Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Gardner Parsons; her parents, Robert and Kizzie Tew; a brother, Robert L. Tew Sr.; and four sisters, Helen Tew Bass, Elizabeth Tew Autry, Ann Tew Maness and Pat Tew Lowe.

Mrs. Parsons is survived by a son, Joseph Gardner Parsons Jr., of Rockingham; a daughter, Josephine Parsons Maness, of the home; four brothers-in-law, Jack Parsons, William Parsons, Franklin Parsons, and Charles Parsons; two sisters-in-laws,

Kathleen Canady and Eloise Parsons; and four grandchildren, Aaron Thomas Hogan, Caroline Emily Kidd and Joseph Gardner Parsons IV.

A funeral service was held Sunday, November 11 at Pleasant View Friends Church. The Rev. Don Luellen officiated. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Kennedy Funeral Home of Robbins assisted the family.

**Robert Bruce Worthy**, 84, of Seven Lakes South, died Monday, November 12, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Worthy was born in Alton, Illinois, a son of the late Christopher and Elsie Lammy Worthy. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He worked for

many years in product development for Stauffer Chemical Company and enjoyed golf and bridge. He was an apple grower and pig farmer for many years, and was a member of the Hardin Masonic Lodge.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Carolyn Chris Worthy, and a sister, Dorothy Pope.


Mr. Worthy is survived by his wife, Patsy Worthy; a son, Bob Worthy and his wife, Jackie, of Montross, Va; three stepsons, Douglas Ritter, of Myrtle Beach, SC, Mark Sarver and Bruce Sarver, both of Russells Point, Ohio; two stepdaughters, Natalie Marsh and her husband,


Jesse, of Hopkins, SC, and Michele Curl, of Abbeville, SC; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is serving the family.





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## West Side Tree Lighting

All are welcome to attend the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the West Side Park Community Center on Sunday, December 2, at 3:00 pm for a kick-off to the Holiday Season.

Entertainment includes performances by the Lake Auman Band, the Seven Lakes Dancers, and a holiday sing-a-long. Refreshments will follow. Come out and enjoy this community event.

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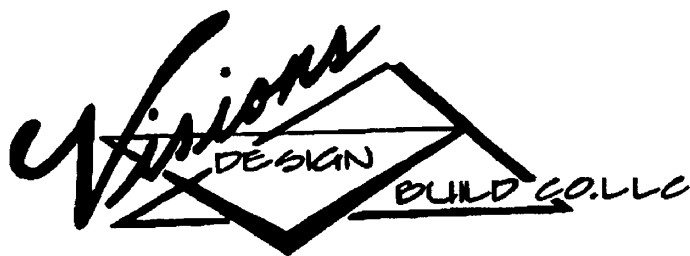
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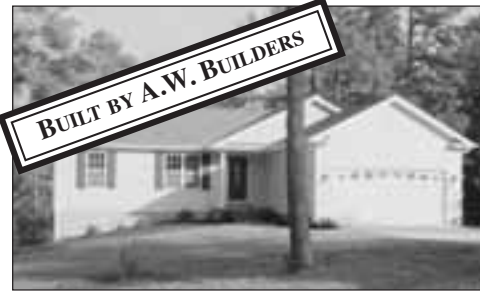
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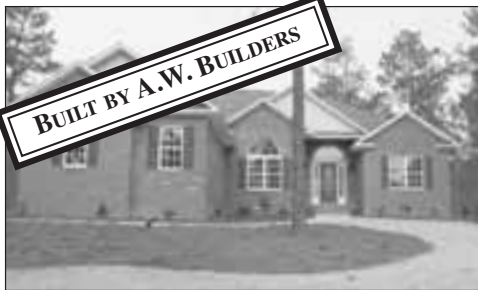
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# Kiwanians learn about Healthy Living

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

On November 6, the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club was treated to a presentation about a new program at FirstHealth called the Health Behavior Change

Program. Sally Beth Johnson, Community Health Services Coordinator, explained that FirstHealth has received a seven year grant to implement a community program which focuses on loss of weight and eating

nutritiously, quitting smoking and using smokeless tobacco, and exercising properly.

There are three programs available to the community in an effort to improve the health of everyone in Moore County that is willing to subscribe to the program outlines.

*Healthy Eating Every Day*, is a fourteen to twenty week program offered free of charge.

*Active Living Every Day*, is also a fourteen to twenty week program offered free of charge.

*First Quit*, is a comprehensive program aimed at helping participants permanently quit the use of tobacco. A slight charge is involved and medication may be available to the enrollees.

For more information on any of these programs, you may call 877-342-2255. Johnson's enthusiastic presentation of the program was very well-received by the audience.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at the Seven Lakes Country Club at Noon. Everyone is welcome to attend.



**Ed Schroeder**, Kiwanis President, is flanked by Sally Beth Johnson and Anne Johnson.

## 7 Lakes Women to hear Handbell Choir concert

The Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir will perform at the Women of Seven Lakes Meeting on Thursday, December 6 at 1:00 pm.

A holiday sing-a-long will follow the concert.

All women in Seven Lakes are invited to join and monthly meetings are held early in the

afternoon to encourage younger women in the community to participate.

Please bring any of the following items to support the men and women of Seven Lakes Assisted Living: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, after shave, body wash, and powder.



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# Local Vets observe Veterans' Day in Capital

by Joe Kristek  
VVA Chapter 966

Recently the Moore County Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 966 helped organize an overnight bus trip to Washington, DC in celebration of Veterans' Day.

Altogether fifty-one travelers made the trip, each with their own idea as to how they would spend their time in Washington.

Many were veterans and since it was Veterans' Day weekend, most of the travelers planned to visit at least one of the many memorials that are located on The Mall, in the area between the Washington and Lincoln Memorials.

The Vietnam vets on board were there to help celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, known as The Wall. Some of them planned to march in the

parade down Constitution Ave.

The World War II vets making the trip were focused on visiting the World War II Memorial which is the newest memorial. Some were seeing it for the first time which made it a very special occasion for them.

The Korean War vets traveling with the group paid their respects at the Korean War Memorial. If you ever get to Washington a visit to that memorial is a must.

The women veterans on the trip were bused out near Arlington Cemetery to the area where the Woman Veteran's Memorial is located. That memorial celebrated its tenth anniversary a couple of weeks ago.

Some of the travelers took advantage of the guided tour bus through Arlington Cemetery. It was a great trip and all who participated had a most enjoyable time.



Vietnam Veterans Chapter 966 visited Washington, DC, for the Veteran's Day observance.

## 7 Lakes Christmas Day Camp

A special three-day Christmas Day Camp for children will be held Wednesday, December 26 through Friday, December 28, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Bring your own lunch and snack and plan for plenty of games, crafts, and fun activities. Cost is \$10 per day, per child. Pre-registration is available, contact Chad Beane at 673-4931.

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Tony and Jan found themselves feeling unhealthy and unfit. Tony had started taking Blood Pressure Medicine and didn't like the way he felt. Jan found her clothes didn't fit anymore.

When they decided to do something about it, they included the kids: Drew, 13, and Lauren, 9. (And Tony's mother, too!)



They joined the club in June of this year, and, as of Oct. 29, Tony has lost 40 pounds, 21 inches (5.75 off his waist) and is off his Blood Pressure Medicine! Jan has lost 24 pounds, 20.75 inches (5 inches off her waist) and 3 sizes!

Their family workout —

- Weight training (free weights and machines) – 4x week
- Cardiovascular (Treadmill and Elliptical) – 5x week
- Swimming – 2x week

Tony is minister at Faith Baptist Church on Carthage Road.

Jan home schools their children along with her church responsibilities.

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# Club gets scoop on online courses from SCC

by Betsy Oliver Mikula  
7 Lakes Computer Club

Lynn Beith, Director of Professional Development Programs for the Continuing Education Department at Sandhills Community College was the guest speaker at the Seven Lakes Computer Club's meeting held on November 13. Beith reviewed the courses currently offered online from the college.

Sandhills Community College [SCC] offers seventy-one college credit online courses and thirty-one continuing education online program areas featuring more than 300 courses. A complete listing of the online non-credit courses can be found on



Lynn Beith

pages 7-10 in the SCC Spring Semester catalog. The fee for most online courses, for seniors over age 65, is \$5.00.

Online courses can be taken at your convenience – any time, any place. To get started all you need is a computer, an email address, and a web browser.

Beith used the internet to demonstrate the ease of signing up for a course and the ease of accessing lessons. Courses are six weeks in length and include lessons which can be downloaded and printed, quizzes, assignments, and supplementary

materials. There is always a discussion group that you can enter online.

Online courses are not easier or less valuable than traditional classroom courses. Research has shown that success in an online course requires as much, if not more, time and effort than a classroom course.

Many of the Computer Club members have taken online courses. Joan Herrmann told the club that she took an online digital photography course and said that it was excellent. She stressed the fact that by study-

ing at home, she had instant computer access and did not have to wait until a computer was freed up at school.

Melva Johnston, Club President, presented the "Tip of the Month." To reestablish internet connection on DSL, Johnson said one should turn off the computer; turn off the DSL switch; wait a minute; then turn on the DSL cable until the light is constant; before finally turning on the computer.

Visitors are always most welcome at the Computer Club meetings.

## KAC Candles

(Continued from page 5)

over," Keelen continued, "because they burn at about 100 degrees, rather than 250 degrees for paraffin candles." The lower temperatures also mean that spilled wax is less likely to damage wood and other surfaces. "You just take a damp sponge and wipe it up," Allison explained.

The lower burning temperatures also mean that the wax is consumed more slowly, making for a much longer-burning candle.

The melted soy wax can even be used as a hand lotion, Keelen added. "Plus, because it's made of soybeans, that helps farmers. Our candles are both environmentally friendly and friendly to farmers."

KAC buys the soy wax in bulk and then add in colors and fragrances. The molten candle wax can then be poured into almost any container or mold.

The flexibility of the raw materials makes for a large and varied product line. "We have tons of products," Allison said.

"People can even bring their own containers and have us fill them," Keelen added.

Prices range from twenty-five and fifty cent tea lights — which burn for five to six hours — to large twenty-dollar candles that include nearly a quart of wax.

To purchase or learn more about KAC Candle products, call 910-673-3171.

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# Tweeds chair Foundation Holiday Ball

Pinehurst residents Bob and Lorraine Tweed have a very personal reason for their interest in hospice care: actually, a couple of reasons.

"Hospice is very dear to our hearts since they provided care to our parents in their final days," says Bob Tweed, who chairs the FirstHealth Hospice Foundation Board of Trustees.

That role and the many other community leadership roles that the Tweeds have assumed since they moved to Pinehurst – as well as their commitment to a proposed FirstHealth Hospice House – are why members of the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Auxiliary asked them to chair the Auxiliary's 2007 Holiday Ball.

"We were honored to be asked to serve as chairs of this year's Ball, and we were delighted to hear that the proceeds would go to the Hospice House," Tweed says.

The annual Auxiliary fundraiser is scheduled for Friday, December 7, in the Grand Ballroom of The Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst.

"Bob and Lorraine Tweed are true community leaders, Lorraine as a member of the Pinehurst Village Council and Bob as the chair of the Hospice Foundation," says Auxiliary president Kathy Byron. "They are also per-

sonally invested in the Hospice House, which demonstrates their commitment through a willingness to take on leadership roles with this project."

The Tweeds have always been impressed with the Auxiliary's work, but especially with the organization's \$1 million pledge to the Foundation of FirstHealth's Stepping Stones Campaign to build a Heart Hospital, Hospitality House and Hospice House.

"Since 1930, the Auxiliary has supported many projects benefiting the hospital, patients and the community," says Lorraine. "In addition to the Ball, the Auxiliary has earned money through proceeds generated by the hospital's Gift Shop, vending machines, memberships and donations. They have contributed to innumerable capital campaigns, special projects and community outreach. It is our pleasure to be associated with this wonderful

organization."

Married for fifty-one years, the Tweeds moved to Pinehurst in 1996 after Bob Tweed's retirement as vice president and controller of the Hospital Products Division of Abbott Laboratories. He began his career as a financial trainee with General Electric and held various positions with that company before joining Abbott Laboratories in 1976.

Born in Great Falls, Mont., he graduated from Bucknell University. Since moving to Pinehurst, he has served as president of the Newcomers and Act II organizations and the Pinehurst Forum and as an elder of Community Presbyterian Church. In addition to his work as Hospice Foundation Board chair, he also serves on the Hospice Advisory Committee and the FirstHealth Finance Committee, and he is executive vice president of the Golf Capital Chorus.

Also a Bucknell University graduate, Lorraine Tweed has served Pinehurst as a member of the Village Council since 2001 and was elected to her second four-year term in 2005. Raised in Massapequa Park, Long Island, N.Y., she served as a legislative aide to a state representative in Illinois from 1978 to 1994.

Board and as first vice president of Moore Republican Women.

The Tweeds have two children and five grandchildren. "Bob and Lorraine have been so supportive of the Auxiliary and this endeavor, learning everything they can about the Auxiliary past and present, helping us get the word out in a variety of public service venues as well as encouraging donors to become Ball sponsors," says Byron. "We are extremely fortunate to have them as Ball chairs."

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**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

- **Moore County Schools** – Thanksgiving Holiday Break, schools closed November 21 - 23.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22**

- **Thanksgiving Day**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25**

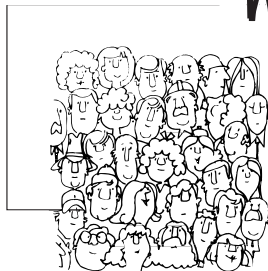
- **Weymouth Woods: Turkey Talk** – 3 pm, Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines. Benjamin Franklin proposed having the wild turkey as our national bird instead of the bald eagle. The program will consist of a discussion of the history of the bird and an update on its current status.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

- **Sandhills Natural History Society Meeting** – 7 pm, Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Road, Southern Pines. Program feature by Dave Davenport on the amazing animals of the Galapagos Islands. Visitors welcome! Information 692-2167 or visit [www.sandhillsnature.org](http://www.sandhillsnature.org).
- **Annual Farm City Banquet** – 6:30 pm, 707 Pinehurst Avenue in Carthage. Come hear about Moore County's rich agricultural heritage as local historian Ray Owen presents "Not All of Our Eggs in One Basket." Entertainment and amazing door prizes are always a hit! Tickets \$10 per person, available at the Chamber office and the NC Cooperative Extension office in Carthage.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**

- **Moore County Chamber: State of the County** – 12 pm – 1:30 pm, National Golf Club, Pinehurst. County officials will provide update, public is invited to attend. Cost \$25, includes lunch.



## What's When Calendar

RSVP

692-3926 or email  
[lcopeland@moorecounty-chamber.com](mailto:lcopeland@moorecounty-chamber.com)

- **Seven Lakes Massage, Optical Solutions and Murray & Co** – Christmas Open House, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. 980 Seven Lakes Drive (Seven Lakes Professional Park building). Join in the holiday cheer celebration with discounts, giveaways, and refreshments.
- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association General Meeting** – 7:30 pm, West Side Park Community Center.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

- **Festival of Trees** – The Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst. Sandhills Children's Center celebrates its Eleventh Annual Festival of Trees from Wednesday November 28 to Sunday December 2. Daily admission is by donation and ticketed

events are \$75 before November 16. Information, contact Teresa Copper or Kathy Desmond 692- 3323.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

- **Weymouth Christmas House Tour** – 10 am – 4 pm, Weymouth House, Southern Pines. Floral demonstrations & twenty-five beautifully decorated rooms.

Refreshments. Tours Nov 30 - Dec 1. Advance tickets \$8; or \$10 at the door.

Tickets available at The Country Bookshop, The Cook's Choice, Southern Pines, The Faded Rose, Pinehurst, Given Book Store, Olmsted Village, or Phoenix Fashions.

- **Carols at Weymouth** – 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm, Weymouth House in Southern Pines. A delightful evening filled with music, hosted by Steve, Brenda, and Kate Bouser. Refreshments will be served and the event is free and open to the public.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

- **Advent Concert** – 7:30 pm, West End United Methodist Church. To begin the Advent

Season, you are cordially invited to a special concert featuring Paul Long, Minister of Music and Organ at Southern Pines United Methodist Church. Public welcome to attend.

- **Weymouth by Candlelight** – 7pm – 9pm, Weymouth House in Southern Pines. An evening tour of the Christmas House with wine, cheese, desserts, and music. Admission is \$20. Reservations 692-6261.
- **Temple Theatre: A Carolina Country Christmas** – 8 pm, Temple Theatre, 120 Carthage Street, downtown Sanford. Opening night of new work written and

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directed by Michael Lilly. Classic Christmas tunes woven into a heartfelt tale that will take audiences from bouts of laughter to moments of poignant reflection. Show continues through December 16. Opening night, audience invited to meet performers and designers after the show. Tickets \$20 adults; \$16 for groups, Thursday evening performances, active military personnel and Lee County Educators; \$10 for students and children. 919-774-4155.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

- **Weymouth Christmas Children's Hour** – 9 am – 10am, Weymouth House in Southern Pines. A visit from Santa and his elf and refreshments for children aged three to twelve years. Cost \$3.00; under three, no charge.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

- **SLWLA Christmas Tree Lighting** – 3 pm, West Side Park Community Center. All are welcome to attend the annual Christmas Tree lighting to kick-off to the Holiday Season. Entertainment includes performances by the Lake Auman Band, the Seven Lakes Dancers, and a holiday sing-a-long. Refreshments will follow.

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

- **MCS Board of Education Business /Organizational Meeting** – 6 pm, Schools Central Office in Carthage.
- **Moore County Commis-**

**sioners Meeting** – 4 pm, Historic Courthouse in Carthage.

- **Top Hat and Tails** – 5 – 8 pm, Olmsted Village in Pinehurst. Truman Capote, famous for his Black & White Ball would be proud of this upcoming pet adoption event featuring black dogs, white dogs, black cats, white cats, black and white dogs, and black and white cats accompanied by their classy caretakers dressed in style for an equally wonderful party. Enjoy tasteful music, wine, beer, and appetizers, while socializing with adorable dogs and cats that are looking for a forever home.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

- **Seven Lakes Business Guild Tree Lighting** – 6 pm, Seven Lakes Village Green. Bring the little ones to meet Santa Claus

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

- **Foxfire Village Council Organizational Meeting** – 3pm, Town Hall.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** – 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

- **Moore County Planning Board Meeting** – 6 pm, Carthage.
- **Women of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 1:00 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Join the group for a holiday sing-a-long as well as a performance by the Brownson Memorial Handbell

Choir. Bring any of the following items to support the men & women of Seven Lakes Assisted Living: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, after shave, body wash, powder.

- **Light Up a Life Tree-Lighting and Reception** – 5 pm, FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care, corner of Memorial Drive and Aviemore Drive in Pinehurst. The Light Up a Life program provides a special time of remembrance for families

and friends who have lost a loved one as well as a special place of fellowship. Lights on the trees will burn throughout the holiday season to memorialize and honor those who have been cared for through FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

- **Seven Lakes Scrapbook Club Crop** – 6:30 pm – 11 pm, West Side Park Community Center. No fee for this crop, come and work on

your albums. Bring your Christmas list with you as Creative Memories specials and supplies will be available. Call Tracy Stromberg 673-5839.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

- **SLWLA Kids Christmas Party** – 3 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Join Santa and his elves for a fun-filled afternoon of Gingerbread Men decorating, crafts, face painting, and refreshments. Karen Milligan 673-3304.



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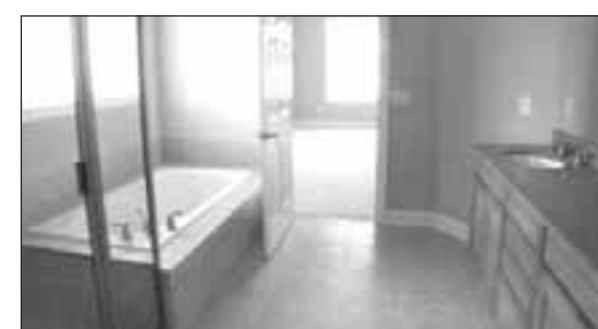
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# Lions recognize Halloween decorators

by Jerry Genaw  
Seven Lakes Lions

The Seven Lakes Lions concluded their Best Halloween Decorations Contest by announcing a winning residence in each

of the Seven Lakes communities.

The winning themes were:  
Seven Lakes West; Scary Spider at the Nadzan residence.

Seven Lakes South; Scarecrows at the Cummins residence.

Seven Lakes North; Flowers Galore at the Girgis residence.

The winners were all treated to dinner at the last Lions Club

Meeting at the West Side Community Center and were also given a gift certificate for free dinner at a local restaurant.



Spider at the Nadzan home.



The Cummins' scarecrows.

## Get your event in The Times!

Got a great get-together? Serving up some savory stew? Need a volunteer of two?

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See the box on page 2 for contact info and deadlines.

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## Teamwork made BYOB mixer a big success

Approximately 125 people attended the sixth annual BYOB Mixer, presented by the Women of Seven Lakes, held on Sunday, October 28 at the West Side Park Community Center.

Dining on sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, prepared by twenty-five great cooks from the Women's club, participants enjoyed whatever beverage they had brought with them and the company of great conversation with old friends and newcomers.

The success of an event such as this depends entirely on the help of volunteers of which there

are many in Seven Lakes.

Event Co-Chairs Ginny Long and Peggy McCallum would like to thank Pearl Basak, Carmela Chase, Tina Darby, Margie Doe, Lois Ann Eisil, Jane Farnam, Ginger Finney, Carolyn Follansbee, Marie Garvey, Ginny Heerema, Phyllis Heubel, Jean Keating, Dianne Klingensmith,

Evelyn Launhardt, Lucille Lee-man, Patt Lewin, Betteann Mamul, JoAn Moses, Dodie Mulready, Jo Nicholas, Betty Park, Deanna Petrie, Sue Sikes, Paula Taggart, Joan Tourt, and Pat Weber for making the party a true success.

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# Bow Wow Meow Tournament is a winner!

The Bow Wow Meow Golf Tournament, held on Friday, November 9 at Beacon Ridge Country Club, had an exceptional turnout with 103 golfers in attendance. A buffet luncheon was served prior to the shotgun start and the weather, though somewhat chilly in the morning, gave way to a sunny and pleasant afternoon.

Dixie Gossage, President of Montgomery-Moore Animal Rescue, acknowledged and thanked the work of volunteers Michael Keenan and Norm Dyson.

“Montgomery-Moore Animal Rescue was started a little over six years ago,” said Gossage, “in the yard of an old dairy farm. Four years ago, with the help of Norm Dyson and other volunteers from Seven Lakes, we moved to our present location – an old truck terminal sitting on five fenced-in acres which gives the dogs lots of running room. The facility is in constant need of many things, but it is a haven for the starving and abused animals that need a kind word and a hearty meal.”

Gossage said that proceeds of the golf tournament would help with medical needs for the animals in their care and to improve the shelter.

“Regardless of all the love and attention we give the animals, their care boils down to money,” said Gossage. “Our ability to help them depends on the kindness and generosity of folks like you and all the corporate sponsors, who donated prizes and money.”

“You helped us raise in excess of \$7,000. The animals and I thank you so much for supporting this event today.”

Gossage also thanked the committee of Jim Schrum, Holton and Sandy Easter, Steve Auditore, and Bob MacGregor for their efforts, as well as the Bow Wow Girls; Norelyn MacGregor,

Lee Forman, Ruth Brooks, Karen Tobias, Joanne Dyson, and Sue Keenan.

The winners of the first flight were Bruce, Ron, and Tyndall Allgood, and Sam Bankhead. Second flight winners were Ron and Linda Dunning, and Kathleen Toomey. Third flight winners were Paul and Kathy Kirst, and Larry

and Christie Elliott. Closest to the pin on hole 15 was Frank Horan. Closest to the pin on hole 7 was Dan Crowley.

The Montgomery-Moore Ani-

mal Rescue welcomes volunteers and contributions. The address is Box 727, Biscoe, NC 27209. The telephone number is (910) 572-3647.



Bow Wow Meow Tournament participants.

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134 Fawnwood, Seven Lakes West  
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**BETTER THAN NEW!**  
106 Morris Drive, Seven Lakes West  
One owner, custom built, all brick home on a beautiful elevated lot 5 minutes from the 1st tee. Quality construction throughout with new heat pump in 2006, solid surface counter tops, hardwood flooring in the kitchen and kitchen eating area, this home has 9 foot ceilings in the Great Room and high cathedral in the Carolina Room. . . . .  
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**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!**  
112 Pinnacle Ct., Seven Lakes West  
This home would be great for those downsizing or as an investment opportunity to live in while here and lease while you're gone. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with a screened-in porch in back. Enjoy the amenities of SLW and let someone else do the lawn.  
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103 Brendell Court, Lot 5671, Seven Lakes West  
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## Infrastructure should be SLLA Board priority

Every person leaves a footprint in everything we do every day of our lives. I wonder, as a member of the Seven Lakes Landowner's Association Board, what my legacy will be. What will be the legacy of this Board as a whole?

A board that makes decisions to upgrade or add new amenities will be very positively remembered. Many of these additions are quite necessary with the changing times and populations. But what about the board that takes on the responsibility of repairing the aging infrastructure?

Will we be remembered for "fixing" the dams? The dams

guard the lakes, our greatest assets, many of which have experienced chronic problems with seepage, stability, and erosion. It is recommended that repairs and maintenance be completed through proactive planning. Prioritization of work on the dams needs to consider

identified deficiencies. The issue is not whether the dams should be a priority, but how soon we can properly implement the rec-

ommendations of the dam safety evaluation.

Our roads are in critical need of major repairing. We need to set aside and collect funds to begin paving. We need to spruce up

its entirety. Are we, the 2007 Board of Directors of Seven Lakes, going to follow the same path as our past boards or are we going to step up to the plate and present a plan to build our dams up to par and pave our roads?

I have spoken comparing our Board of Directors and corporate boards in terms of carrying out long term goals. In the corporate world the goals are serious commitments and are constantly checked and rechecked. Our goals, where they exist, do not appear to carry over from one board to another. Is there any continuity when goals designed

to take several years to accomplish are left to the next board to determine their worth?

We spend weeks or more on subjects that could be discussed and resolved in a much shorter period of time while the infrastructure of Seven Lakes North and South continues to deteriorate.

What will our legacy be in March of 2008? A board that took the bull by its horns, repaired the dams, began a paving campaign, and stood tall to make Seven Lakes an even better place to live? I sincerely hope so. I would like to be remembered as a part of that great board.

MEMO:

### Board Notes

Donna R. Stephan  
Seven Lakes  
Landowners Board

Seven Lakes. Here again, safety comes into play.

However, we must consider the care of our infrastructure in

## SLLA Board did not 'cede' — but 'conceded'

Dear Editor:

In your November 9 edition, you rebutted Don Truesdell's contention that there was a misstatement of fact in your October 26 edition dealing with the lawsuit between the Seven Lakes Country Club [SLCC] and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA]. You indicated that you are standing behind your report as printed.

In reality, I believe that there was indeed a misstatement of the agreement that was struck between the parties. Your use of the word "cede" is inappropriate as it relates to the substance of the agreement because it implies that the SLLA had some-

thing to surrender, yield or grant to the Club, when, in fact, it did not. The SLLA position, when the agreement was signed, "conceded" the issues of rights and authority of the Club to determine the fate of their five acres of existing practice range.

The agreement is very clear that, in the event the Club membership approves the sale of the existing practice range property to a developer, and if the property is determined to be legally dividable into residential lots, the SLLA South Side Covenants and the Architectural Review Board [ARB] would then apply with respect to the planned development.

The Association never "ceded" anything to the Club; rather it "conceded" that the Club could control its own affairs with a concession to the SLLA that if the development materializes, the property would then fall under the

ARB auspices.

The SLLA does not now, nor did it ever, encourage the development of the property. That is an issue for others to decide.

Edward Nuti, Director  
SLLA Board of Directors

[Editor's Note: As Mr. Nuti suggests, we gave this horse what we thought was a thorough beating in the November 9 edition of *The Times*. We are not inclined to repeat the exercise.]

## Don't take voter's rights

[Southsider Chuck Leach delivered the following remarks during the November 7 General Meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association.]

As you are aware there is currently a very pressing matter to be addressed December 12, before our Seven Lakes Landowner's Association [SLLA] Board. Prior to a final vote to amend the current by-laws I hope each individual on this board has personally evaluated the possible impact of this action. The right to vote is a highly valued privilege, one of the many freedoms we all enjoy. The landowner's voted Mr. Hudson to a term of office, and he has served this board in an honest and commendable fashion. He has done nothing wrong or illegal; he has just exercised one of his other freedoms, to

have the courts determine the issue related to restrictive covenants.

Therefore, if Mr. Hudson decides to run for the SLLA Board again, it is us to the landowners, exercising their privilege to vote, which should determine if he is reelected, and continues to serve on this board. It is not your duty or right to change the by-laws and take the voting rights away from the landowners.

If you decide to tread into these very sacred waters, you must ask yourself where this path can lead. Although it is highly unlikely, perhaps a board member of the future might be controversial in other areas such as religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, ethnicity, political views, etc. The list could go on and on.

On one final note, if you decide to go in this direction, please

consider an all-inclusive motion, one that would include any board member that is involved in any action that is in opposition to the consensus of the board. After all, it has only been a few short months since your president, while a sitting member of this board, became involved in a citizens group that worked outside the mandate of the board. Most certainly, a by-law change should include any and all board nominees or members that work in a capacity that does not serve the consensus of the board. Of course, those recent past efforts were undercover in nature, so the message sent to the citizens of Seven Lakes is be secretive about it, don't stand up and be counted, as Mr. Hudson has done.

Chuck Leach  
Seven Lakes South

### SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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# 'Tis the season for turkey, coons, & Milkshake

The abundance of leaves in my driveway and the unending piles of pilgrim-inspired art coming home in the hands of my offspring can mean only one thing. Dang, is it time to defrost the turkey already?

Now don't laugh because this is a crucial step in turkey frying.

You've seen these right? Little suspended canisters of oil so flammable that you are instructed not to ignite them within fifty yards or so of your house, deck, or dog. Heck, what's the point of frying the turkey when it'll be frozen again by the time you carry it back across from your neighbor's yard?

But I'm kidding of course, poultry is roasted to char in the Douglass abode. I leave turkey frying to my dear brother who resides on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Let's just say that

up in those parts, Labrador Retrievers are actually gainfully employed in their occupation of



## Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

choice — yanking dead ducks out of cold marsh water — and turkeys taste best after a thorough dousing in super-heated peanut oil.

Here in the Carolinas, darling hubby and I intend to break wishbones in Myrtle with his folks while enjoying homemade cranberry sauce, well-buttered mashed potatoes, biscuits, and whatever else will fit on my plate.

Of course this means we will be leaving our house wide open to attack by those little ring-tailed hooligans that

have been raiding our garage-cache of cat food of late.

Aren't raccoons the most persistent of all

God's creatures? I've heard their name is a Native American word meaning 'little hands.' Ironical for the Thanksgiving holiday, I wonder if that means I'm indebted to supply them with a free meal?

And while these masked rob-

bers have been smart enough to figure out our cat door, luckily, said cat has been smart enough to give them a wide berth. Perhaps it's the three to one odds which leaves her less than pumped for a fight.

I mean we're not talking about your average tame domestic feline. Milkshake, don't be fooled by the name, is no sweet ball of fluff — much to my consternation. No, this rotund cloud of black and white carnage showed up on my doorstep two years ago and has terrorized the ever-shrinking squirrel population around our house ever since.

My husband once referred to our garage as 'the killing fields.'

Not a pretty picture first thing in the morning let me tell you.

Thankfully, time and plenty of good meals have calmed the mighty beast and her murderous escapades are now limited to an unfortunate mole or vole, or two. Is there a difference anyway?

So on this holiday weekend, I will be thankful for turkey meat that is not in danger of exploding in a pillar of flame, for in-laws who think spending the week in an oceanfront condo is better than bunking at my house for the same period, and for Milkshake. Long may she guard our simple home from the threat of vole world domination.

## Thanks from Women of 7 Lakes

Dear Editor;

We wish to thank all the merchants in the Seven Lakes - West End area, who so generously supported the Women of Seven Lakes philanthropic endeavor. Your cooperation made our annual Fall Luncheon, Fashion Show, & Card Party a tremendous success.

It is the generosity of the businesses in the area that make it possible for the Women of Seven Lakes to maintain an excellent record of philanthropic giving in the community.

Tinkie Petterson,  
Raffle Chair

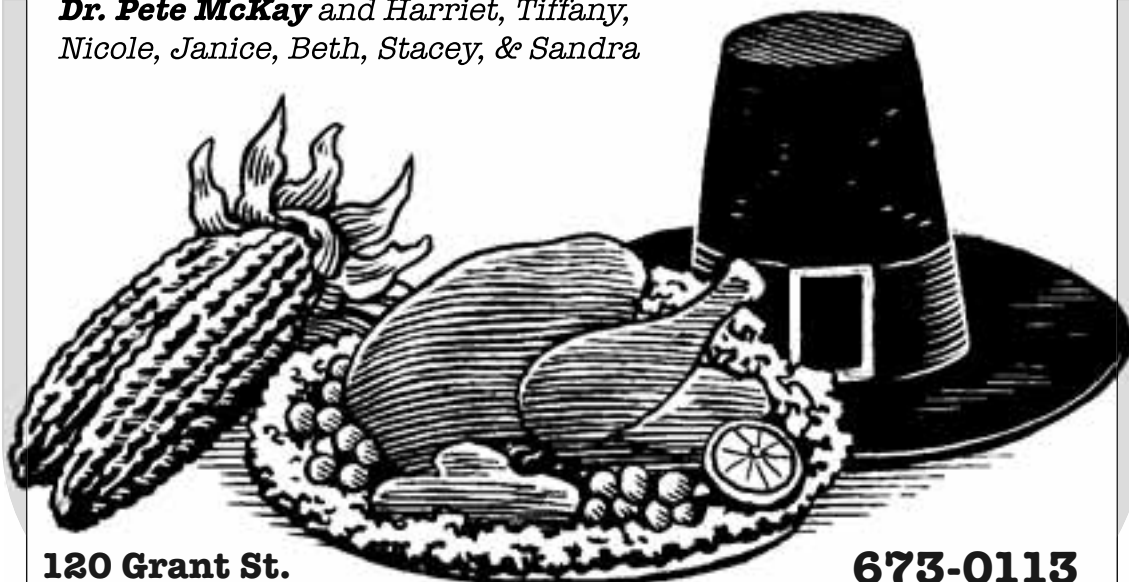
Women of Seven Lakes

## A Message of Thanks at Thanksgiving from "Our Place" to Yours



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

**Dr. Pete McKay** and Harriet, Tiffany, Nicole, Janice, Beth, Stacey, & Sandra



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# Close encounters of the mammalian variety

Heard at a recent party involving six couples:

After a lively discussion about the presence of animals in the neighborhood, we evolved into recounting our experiences with animals in our earlier years in various parts of the country.

Bats headed the list. One raconteur pulled her memory cells together enough to recall that, in the presence of her elderly aunt in the bedroom of a summer cottage, she witnessed a bat entering unceremoniously. The aunt shrieked an octave higher than her usual tone, covered her head with a blanket, and

ran out of the room cracking her skull on the door frame enroute. A case of sheer terror. She always said that whenever a bat got in your hair, it would inevitably become entangled. So it was best to have it cut short before going to the lake.

Another guest had this to report:

Again the scene was a cottage bedroom. Reducing his elongated story to two minutes, here's what he said:

"My wife and I were awakened by a loud flapping noise. Upon turning on the light, we saw a bat flying from one end of

the room to the other, just two or three inches below the ceiling directly over our bed."

"I observed that bat's flying pattern. It was very consistent. I ran out to the porch and grabbed a fish net mounted on a pole, that was leaning against the wall. I ran back and jumped on top of the bed, swaying alarmingly back and forth. I held the net in a position where I figured the bat, on his returning flight from the far wall, would unknowingly fly straight into the trap. He did. At the same instant, I lost balance, fell to the bed, and bounced unceremoniously to the floor —

head first. I had just enough consciousness left to stagger

triplets.

She apparently had no training in English, thus no response to the command, "Get away from there!"

A small pile of fireplace logs at the corner of the deck beckoned. One was immediately dropped to within two inches of the animal. No

## Mason's Musings

Mason Gould



to the porch to release the intruder."

"Have you ever tried to disentangle jagged bat wings from a fish net? Forget it. Even better, just don't go on vacation!"

After another relatively unexciting bat story was told, one of the other guests came up with this:

At their new vacation house in the Vermont woods, the couple settled into a deep sleep only to be routed awake at 2:00 am by a persistent, loud scratching sound outside their bedroom wall.

The man of the house, yours truly, crawled out of bed, grabbed a searchlight, and proceeded to the deck. Peering down, I saw an enormous porcupine, apparently pregnant with at least

response. A larger log was lowered, to scare her away. Nothing. Finally, the biggest log was dropped to within an inch.

At last, the porcupine decided to move — if you can call it that. The rate was two inches per minute. After a half hour, when she seemed safely gone, we were able to resume slumbering.

The next day I went outside to see where the porcupine had been. About fourteen feet of siding veneer had been eaten, gnawed, and torn away.

I met the builder of our cottage and told him what had happened.

"Oh," he said, "didn't I tell you all you had to do was put a salt lick at the edge of your property and your house would never be bothered?"

## Show your opposition to Bylaws Amendment 6.2.3

Dear Editor:

If our association had been founded in 1999 or thereafter, I wouldn't be writing this letter today because I believe that what the board, by a small majority of 4-3, is attempting to do would be declared illegal under NC House Bill 1541.

The board's proposed amendment states that "nominees for the board of directors are eligible to serve ONLY if they are NOT a named plaintiff in litigation against the association." NC HR 1541 on the other hand states that "the executive board may not act unilaterally to determine the qualifications, powers and duties, or terms of office of executive board members." What a difference! While HR 1541 applies only to associations established after January 1, 1999, we may, by a vote of the landowners, adopt this chapter and its coverage at any time. Perhaps that time has come!

HR 1541 is described as "an act to amend the laws governing homeowner associations to provide greater protections for homeowners." If amendment

6.2.3 is voted upon and passed by a slim majority of our board, then I believe we require that "greater protection."

Read the advertisement on page 7 of this issue and by your presence at the board meeting

on December 12 show your distaste for proposed amendment 6.2.3. Any such discriminatory clause does not belong in our By-Laws.

Ron Erskine  
Seven Lakes North

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# Thanks from the Lions

Dear Editor:

The Seven Lakes Lions Club would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the citizens and businesses of Seven Lakes for their generosity in our recent

White Cane Drive.

They not only helped us to reach our budget goal; but, most importantly, the monies collected will be used to support programs and services for people who are

blind or visually impaired as well as for sight conservation.

*Jerry Genaw,  
Publicity Chair  
Seven Lakes Lions*

## Literacy Tutors Needed

Do you have two hours a week to spare to help an adult learn to read? The Moore County Literacy Council is offering an opportunity to community members to participate in this challenge. An orientation for new volunteers will be held on December 12 from 1 pm to 2 pm at the office located at 575 SE Broad St in Southern Pines.



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### FEATURED HOME



**NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
Seven Lakes South near bus stop. Lots of very nice upgrades in this three bedroom (split plan) home with separate office. Cathedral ceilings, hardwood and tile floors, rear porch, front porch, and stainless steel appliances.  
**Only \$242,000**



**GOLF FRONT ON 17th HOLE** - All brick home priced to sell & immaculate. Upgrades included. Spacious kitchen and eat in area. Relax in the Master suite with Jacuzzi tub & separate shower. Enjoy the view! .... **\$305,000**



**WATERFRONT ON LITTLE JU-NIPER** - Lovely home (over 2000 sqft) with Carolina Rm, large great rm, large kitchen with breakfast bar, masonry fireplace with gas logs, super views of the lake from most rooms ... **\$239,000**



**NEW LAKEVIEW CONSTRUCTION HOME** - This one has it all - hardwood floors, solid surface counter tops, open plan and tile floors with nice Carolina Room.  
..... **\$299,900**



**SOUTHSIDE GEM** - Super home across street from SLCC #8. Unique floor plan with Carolina rm, nice kitchen (pantry tile countertops), & good size BRs. Very large corner lot (1.5 lots) ready for pool, etc. ... **Asking \$249,000**



**GOLF FRONT 3RD FAIRWAY** - Like new golf front, spectacular view of Third Fairway. All brick, open floor plan with split plan BRs and Carolina Rm. Immaculate condition. Great for entertaining! ..... **\$269,900**



**ALL BRICK 2 STORY** - Beautiful Northside home on large wooded corner lot near amenities. MBR on main level with 2 BR on 2nd floor. Sep. DR, large screened porch, neat family rm with masonry fireplace (gas logs) ... **\$248,000**



**LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT BARGAIN** - Six bedrooms, four baths with new hardwood floors in great room and new tile in kitchen. Boat dock with lift. A must see.  
... **Won't last long at \$580,000**



**LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT LOT** - Lot #3157 ideally located at the end of cove with excellent views of the lake. Great investment property.  
..... **Only \$279,900**



**SEQUOIA LAKEVIEW** - Wonderful home with unique floor plan. Two story with two Master Suites! View the beautiful lake from the wooden decks and balcony. Comfortable and in excellent condition! ..... **\$254,500**



**LAKE AUMAN WATERFRONT LOT** - Lot #3389 large lot (.96 acre) with excellent views of the lake near the back gate on Longleaf Drive. Could be sold as a pair with #3390.  
... **Lot #3389 listed at \$299,000**



**WATERFRONT ON DOGWOOD LAKE** - Super three bedroom, two bath with great room (with fireplace), and Carolina Room overlooking the lake. Great price for a great home!  
..... **\$159,000**

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#3388 - Lake Auman - \$299,000  
#3389 - Lake Auman - \$299,000

### GOLF FRONT

#2147R - 1 Acre on 4th Hole - \$29,500  
#2188 - 18th Green - \$35,000  
#2211 - SOLD! - \$25,000  
#2396 - 4th Hole - \$35,000  
#6146 - View 3 Holes at BRCC - \$59,500

### COMMERCIAL LOTS

#114 - \$8,000

### INTERIOR

#1012 - Large Lot with Good Perc - \$25,000  
#1014 - Great Investment with Good Perc - \$25,750  
#1015 - Private with Good Perc - \$26,500  
#196 - Reduced/ Dbl Lots - \$27,000  
#215/220 - Reduced! - \$28,500  
#1004/05 - Two/wet - \$6,900  
#2543 - Large/Level - \$23,000  
#2574R - Lake View - \$28,000  
#2475 - Really Nice - \$21,500  
#2495 - Private - \$20,000  
#2514 - Good Perc - \$24,900  
#2545 - Cul-de-sac - \$15,000  
#5218R - Double - \$79,000  
#5433 - Great Building Lot! Level - \$47,500

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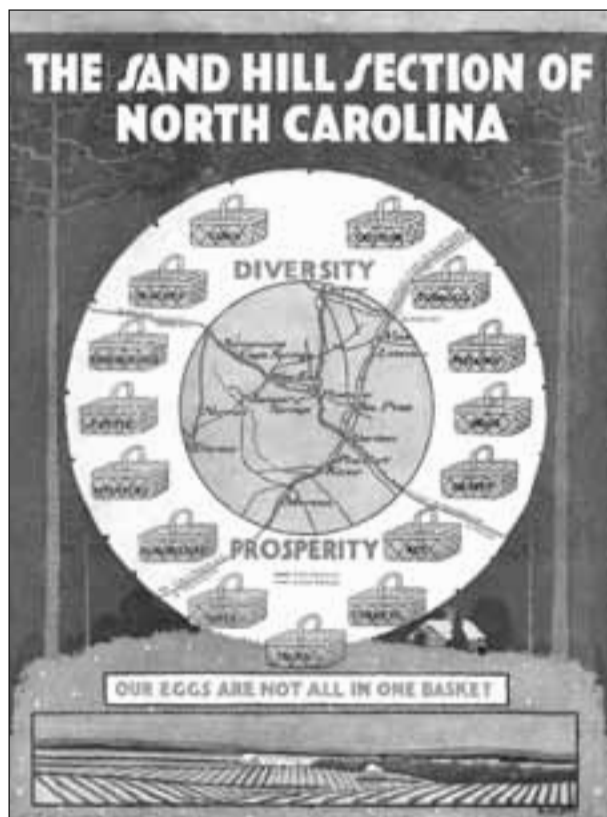
Alexandra & Veronica  
Whelan with NANA

## NOVEMBER ACTION

113 Winsford Circle -  
Under Contract  
101 Pineneedle -  
New Listing  
Lot #2147R - Reduced!  
Lot #2574R - Reduced!  
Lot #5344 - Reduced!  
134 W. Devonshire - New Listing



# Farm-City Banquet



*An early brochure promoting the Sandhills.*

## Owen to speak on Agricultural Heritage of the Sandhills

Make plans to attend the 24th Annual Moore County Farm City Banquet on Monday, November 26.

Come hear about Moore County's agricultural heritage as local historian Ray Owen presents "Not All of Our Eggs in One Basket."

The banquet will be held in the Agriculture Building located at 707 Pinehurst Avenue in Carthage and begins at 6:30 pm.

Did you know that the Fair Barn in Pinehurst once hosted the largest agricultural fair on the east coast?

You will learn much more about our rich agricultural history during this year's event. Entertainment and amazing door prizes are always a hit!

Tickets are \$10 per person and are available at the Chamber office and the NC Cooperative Extension office in Carthage.



**Lakes Auman Landing** — Bob Fewkes snapped this shot of a seaplane landing on Lake Auman from his deck on November 9 and forwarded a copy to *The Times*. No word on the identity of the pilot — or whether any Westside rules and regs were bent in the process. We note that, at least, it's not a jet plane.



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# Medlicott featured at Book Clubs' Luncheon

Seven Lakes book club members and their guests are invited to a luncheon on Friday, December 14, at 12:00 pm in the Great Room of the West Side Park Community Center.

The featured speaker is Joan Medlicott, a North Carolina author who has written a series of novels about the Ladies of Covington.

Following the luncheon, Medlicott will be available from 1:45 pm to 3:00 pm to sign books at the Bookshop by the Lakes.



Joan Medlicott

Her latest novel, *Come Walk with Me*, will be released on December 11.

The reservations deadline for the luncheon has been extended to December 1.

Checks for \$20 should be made out and mailed to Jan Patton, 3110 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC, 27376.

Please note whether you are a guest or the name of the book club you attend.

All Seven Lakes book club members and guests are welcome.

# AARP seeks tax volunteers

Last year, the local AARP Tax-Aide program and local volunteers provided FREE Federal and NC Tax Return counseling and preparation for Moore County residents by preparing and filing over 1,990 Federal and State Tax Returns. The majority of these were filed electronically to ensure prompt processing and rapid payment of any refunds.

AARP's Tax-Aide Program is the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service. This year the program expects to significantly increase the number of customers assisted in Moore County. To do this, volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are needed to assist with one-on-one counseling and tax return preparation.

Volunteers will be comprehensively trained and required to pass a competency test to become IRS Certified as a Tax Counselor. Training will be conducted in Pinehurst during January 2008. Volunteers who become IRS Certified are asked to give a minimum commitment

of forty hours over the ten-week filing season from February 1 to April 15, 2008.

To volunteer, or for more information about becoming a local AARP Tax-Aide volunteer, contact the local AARP Tax-Aide Coordinator, Bill Roberson at 673-1452. You may also visit the national AARP website at [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide) or call the national AARP Tax-Aide toll free

number: 1 – 888-AARPNOW [1-888-227-7669].

AARP Tax-Aide is administered through the AARP Foundation in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service. The AARP is an affiliated, 501 (c) (3) nonpartisan charitable organization. You are not required to be a member of AARP to work in this program.

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**LAKE VIEW COTTAGE SEVEN LAKES WEST.** Charming picket fence cottage steps from Lake Sequoia beach. 118 Primrose Circle. **\$229,000**

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## Cheerleading Clinic



*West Pine Middle School hosted a one-day cheerleading clinic for girls aged 5 to 13 on Saturday, November 17.*

## Top Hat & Tails Pet Event

Top Hat and Tails, is a most sophisticated pet adoption event to be held Monday, December 3, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Olmsted Village in Pinehurst.

Truman Capote was famous for his "Black & White Ball": sophisticated creatures socializing at a wonderful party! He would be proud of this upcoming event

featuring black dogs, white dogs, black cats, white cats, black and white dogs, and black and white cats accompanied by their classy caretakers dressed in style for an equally wonderful party.

The award winning Homewood Suites in the lovely Olmsted Village is hosting this sophisticated pet adoption event at the

hotel – where pets are always welcome.

While attendees enjoy tasteful music, wine, beer, and appetizers, they can socialize with adorable dogs and cats that are looking for a forever home. Three Moore County animal welfare groups will be presenting adoptable pets at this unique event.

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# Parents urged to complete military survey

Moore County School officials are emphasizing the importance of completing and returning a federal government Military Impact Aid survey which is being distributed by the school district at this time.

Results of the survey could produce significant funding for Moore County Schools under the federal government's Military Impact Aid program.

The survey is called a "first count" student survey and is presently underway. Moore County Schools will be surveying students: who have one or more parents in active military service in the United States, who have one or more parents who work on federal property [such as a military base or post office], or who have a parent or parents who reside on federally-funded property.

In a "first count" survey, the numbers of students with parents having federal connections is calculated as a percentage of Moore County Schools' total student population to determine whether the system qualifies for additional federal funding. These monies can be used to offset locally-funded school and student services.

Military Federal Impact Aid is a federal program that provides funding for a portion of the educational costs of federally-connected students. It is the federal government paying its "tax bill" to local school districts as a result of the presence of a military installation or tax-deferred federal property.

Impact Aid is the only federal education program where the funds go directly into the school district's general fund for oper-

ations such as the purchase of textbooks, computers, utilities, and payment of staff salaries.

In order for Moore County Schools to be eligible for funding, at least three percent of all children in the school district's ADA must be federally-connected.

Moore County Schools has conducted the survey for the past few years.

"Since the federal government's funding schedule falls a fiscal year behind the actual survey, we are still awaiting official word about last year's survey results, although preliminary expectations are that it will bring about some funding," said Tina Kissell, Moore County Schools Administrator for Student Services.

"We recognize that with the BRAC military re-alignment which will bring thousands of new residents into the Ft. Bragg area and the active construction business, the number of federally-connected families in this area is expected to increase dramatically. It is important for every qualified family to complete one survey per child and return to the child's school so he or she can be an active participant in this process."

Shevelle Ramirez, Moore County's Liaison Officer to Ft. Bragg said, "This is an important activity that Moore County residents need to take seriously and pro-actively. The funding that other school systems have gleaned from Military Impact Aid has helped them to offset budget cuts and program reductions. Ft. Bragg takes the relationship we have with our neighboring counties to heart, so we support this effort to strengthen the school districts where our soldiers' children attend."

Kissell is urging families to "please work with us in this endeavor! This effort may potentially save Moore County taxpayer dollars, while, at the same time, increase services for our students."

Following the survey, the district must submit a federal application directly to the U.S. Department of Education by January 31 containing the designated results of the "first count" survey.

The Student Services Office of Moore County Schools will be facilitating this effort.

Questions can be addressed to Tina Kissell, Student Services Administrator, at 947-2342.

## Chapel Christmas Fund

The Chapel in the Pines commences their 19th year of holiday fundraising this month. Slanted towards needy adults, children, and seniors, the Chapel's community Xmas Fund encompasses much more than Christmas. The money raised takes care of food vouchers and gifts for more than fifty area families in West End and Jackson Springs and also includes the added holidays of Thanksgiving and Easter.

The Chapel works hand-in-hand with Moore County's Social Services Department to select appropriate recipients of the Fund's offerings.

"The source of money for these endeavors is threefold: individual contributions, Seven Lakes area business people, and the Chapel's Benevolence Fund," said Alice Shaughnessy, the Benevolence Chairwoman.

"The latter, by the way, donates substantially from money raised at the annual rummage sale which was held in October."

Donors wishing to contribute may make out their checks to Chapel /Community Xmas Fund c/o Alice Shaughnessy, 3081 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC 27376.

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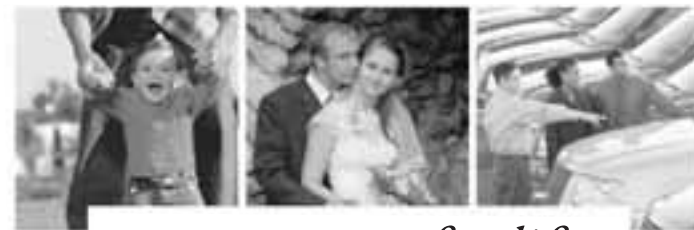
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## School bus

(Continued from page 10)  
sixty-six children.

"I have asked the county to review the Seven Lakes route again in the Spring because we may get many more riders," said Miller.

Currently many Seven Lakes parents choose to drive their children to and from school but with the availability of conveniently positioned bus stops, the system may experience a surge in new bus riders.

"It will be up to the community to keep the county accountable," said Miller. "If we need two buses, we need two buses – but the county can't commit those resources without documented need."

Miller said, "What I'm hoping

is we get positive usage of these buses but the danger is we will get too many kids and parents will be turned off." He continued, "Parents need to be aware that this is an ongoing process and the county will reevaluate. Eventually, I expect we'll need two buses for the elementary school and two for the middle."

Miller said he expects that the new route will take a year or two to be established and the full series of stops determined.

"Another future stop which has been discussed would provide service for the families in the northeast section of Seven Lakes North. Possibly the county will consider a stop along Holly Grove School Road, with Seven Lakes kids having access across

the fence."

Bus service to this corner of the neighborhood is hampered by the dam at Lake Sequoia. The guardrails over the dams in Seven Lakes do not meet the standard for bus safety, as determined by the state, so the route must circumnavigate the neighborhood.

Miller also said that he has looked into whether the county would add bus stops in Seven Lakes South but, for now, the county was more interested in accommodating the much larger student population residing on the Northside.

Miller concluded saying that for safety reasons he would like to encourage parents that intend to drive their child to the new bus

stop intersections, to park their vehicle along the shoulder of the road not being used by the bus.

A letter has been sent out to parents of current bus riders with detailed information on

exact pick-up and drop-off times for the various stops. The bus serving Pinecrest High School has the earliest and latest scheduled pick-up and drop off times, at 6:45 am and 4:55 pm.

## Get your Holiday Poinsettia from West End Elementary

West End Elementary School is in desperate need of awnings to cover walkways and at the car ride line pick-up area.

As a special fundraiser, the PTA is selling Christmas Poinsettia plants with all proceeds going to the awning fund. You can help by ordering your Holiday Poinsettias before Friday, November 30.

The plants will be available for pick-up at the WEE cafeteria on Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8.

All orders must be placed and paid for in advance. Order forms are available at several business locations around the Seven Lakes, or by calling Amanda Keller at 673-3892.

Quantities are limited so order quickly. A 6.5 inch pot is \$13.00 and a 10 inch pot is \$24.00. Poinsettia plants are available in the colors red, pink, or marbled.

Harry sez:



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## CLOSING AND THE SELLER

If you are about to close the sale of your home, there are steps you should be aware of to make the closing as smooth as possible.

Normally, you and your attorney will be responsible for drawing the new deed and bringing this document to the closing. The purchase of tax stamps may also be necessary. You will need a copy of your most recent tax bill, which should be receipted if it has been paid. If the insurance or mortgage is to be assumed by the new buyer, you will need these payment books, policies, etc.

When the sale involves income, as for rental properties, the seller should bring leases, rent schedules, es-

crow statements for deposits held and a letter to be sent to tenants notifying them of the ownership change. Of course, you would also bring keys, garage door openers, and the like to the closing.

If you choose our agency to handle the sale of your home, you'll be sure that all the bases will be covered. Then you can walk out with cash in hand and celebrate.

• • •

If there is anything I can do to help you in the field of real estate, please call me at 910-673-1699 or 800-994-6635 at Sandhill Realty.

E-mail: sandys@ac.net.  
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Pumpkins

(Continued from page 3)

rapher. He grew up in Eagle Springs and is the son Larry and Dayle Pusser.

Pusser said he was disappointed last year that he had to cancel his pumpkin display because he was on a two-month work assignment to China.

"I look forward to it and the reason I do it is therapeutic," said Pusser noting that while during the day the pumpkins don't look life much, "they come to life at night."

Pusser said that he has done a lot of pen and ink sketching since childhood and that many of the pumpkin designs are his own with less than thirty percent of the designs coming from others, including some commercial carving kits.

"There are some good pumpkin designs out there, like Pumpkin Masters, that I use," said Pusser.

Each Fall Pusser said he purchases his pumpkins from various farmers in Moore, Montgomery, and Randolph Counties.

"The source will vary depending on who had a good crop," said Pusser. "I need large, good size pumpkins; the variety I carve is called Mammoth Gold which is common in the Sandhills and North Carolina Piedmont."

He continued, "The last few years has been hard on pumpkins, with a blight a couple years ago affecting pumpkins up and down East Coast and the drought this year."

Once the pumpkins have been selected, Pusser will spend up to two weeks drawing the designs using a permanent marker.

"For really complicated designs, like faces, I'll sketch it out on sheet of paper and then stencil it onto the pumpkin," said Pusser.

The process continues with the cutting which Pusser said he will accomplish in three to five days.

"Once you start cutting them, they won't last more than five to six days," said Pusser.

To preserve the pumpkins once they have been carved,

Pusser said he will soak them in cold water for thirty minutes to an hour if he notices they are starting to go soft or shrivel.

"I'll check them everyday and soak them if needed which firms them back up," said Pusser, explaining that the intricate cuts

of his designs will collapse if they are touched.

Another good tip he shared for preserving pumpkins is to bring them inside on hot days.

"Don't leave them out sitting in the sun."

Pusser said he was really surprised

and pleased at the number of people coming out to see his display this year.

"I think more and more people are seeing what can be done [with pumpkins] and the kids love it," said Pusser. "I primarily do it for the kids, and I'm still a kid at heart."

He continued, "It's a fun thing and a lot of hard work," said Pusser. "I work my mom to death toting pumpkins in the yard and keeping the candles burning but it's a nice thing we can all do together."

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# Planning

(Continued from front page)

and Board of Commissioners in early October, it was sent back for a rewrite to incorporate suggestions provided by both boards and members of the development community.

Developers apparently feel they can live with the new regulations. Speaking at the November 8 Planning Board meeting, Moore County Home Builders Association President Denzel Williams told Board members, "I appreciate all the work and time that the staff has put into this. I think the market is already way ahead of what we are presenting here." In other words, home buyers are looking for and developers are incorporating more open space into new developments.

## More options; more open space

The current Moore County subdivision ordinance provides five different options for carving up land; the new ordinance replaces that with seven options. In the existing ordinance, the "conventional major subdivision," which is the category into which most sizable housing developments fall, has no open space requirements. The proposed ordinance would require conventional developments to incorporate a 50-foot edge buffer and reserve 25 percent of the acreage for open space.

Current regulations offer a "cluster development" option that allows developers working in certain zoning districts to group homes more closely

together if one-third of the land is set aside for open space — allowing for "patio-home" developments. The new ordinance replaces this with a "Neighborhood Conservation" option that sets aside at least thirty percent of the land in open space and allows tighter clustering of homes if even more land is reserved for open space. What counts as "open space" has also been redefined, so that a developer cannot use undevelopable wetlands or a golf course to satisfy the entire open space requirement.

The current ordinance places no limits on how much of a lot can be cleared for home construction. The new ordinance will limit clearing to 75 percent of the lot's acreage. Conversation in the November 8 Planning Board meeting suggested this requirement still sits uneasily with the homebuilders.

MCHBA President Williams argued that it takes another 25 percent away from the land that can be developed. Planner Cris Armstrong pointed out that this 25 percent is part of the lot the developer will sell to a homebuyer — it is the buyer, not the developer, that cannot clear that portion of their lot.

The existing subdivision ordinance contains no provision for the easy division of land among family members, which may force rural farm families who want to give land to their children to comply with the same requirements as a big developer. The absence of an option for "family subdivisions" has been a bone

of contention among planners and the planning board for years. The new ordinance reduces the requirements for dividing land among family members.

The existing ordinance includes a Planned Unit Development [PUD] option that can be used by developers constructing master-planned subdivisions that combine residential and commercial uses. The new ordinance replaces this with two separate PUD options, called "hamlet" and "rural," designed to fit in the more urban and less developed portions of the county. The new PUDs have stricter buffering and open space requirements and also require the developer to hold a community meeting to

share his plans and gather public input before submitting an application to the Planning Board.

Once a PUD is approved, the current ordinance offers almost no flexibility to the developer. The site plan for the PUD is part of the approved package, and simply moving a lot line can require a trip back to the Planning Board for approval. The new ordinance allows the developer to sketch out more roughly the division of the acreage, indicating uses that will be placed in various areas, rather than nailing down every lot line in advance.

## Some ideas abandoned

The initial draft of the new ordinance included some pro-

visions aimed at incorporating newer thinking about the need to interconnect developments. For example, Seven Lakes North and McLendon Hills lie side-by-side. But, because the private roadway networks of those gated developments are not connected, a resident of Seven Lakes North traveling by car to visit a McLendon Hills neighbor could easily spend fifteen minutes driving to that appointment.

To avoid creating these isolated, unconnected developments, the first draft of the subdivision ordinance required connections to neighboring communities and roadway designs that provided "stub-outs" to facil-

(See "Planning" p. 37)

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## Flu vaccine

(Continued from page 11)

**Myth 3:** The flu vaccine can give me the flu.

**Reality:** The injectable flu vaccine does not contain a live virus; therefore, it cannot cause you to develop the infection. You may be an unlucky soul and become exposed to the flu before your

body is able to develop an immune response — usually two weeks. After getting the vaccine, some people may experience runny nose or body aches for a day or two. This means your immune system is working and your body is processing the vaccine.

**Myth 4:** I received the vaccine but still got the flu.

**Reality:** There are many respiratory tract infections that affect the human body that are not caused by the influenza virus. The vaccine would not protect you from these other bacteria and

(See "Myths" p. 38)

## Planning

(Continued from page 36)

itate future interconnections of subdivision street networks. In addition, the use of gated communities was limited. These requirements were all removed from the draft the commissioners were set to consider Monday night.

Also removed — by a vote during the November 8 Planning Board meeting — was a requirement that developers hire a soil scientist to help guide the initial division of land. Because much of the county lacks any access to centralized wastewater treatment, most developments rely on private septic systems. Variable soils in the county have meant that, in the past, many lots were created that will not perc for septic installation. This was a problem with a number of lots in Seven Lakes South.

The soil scientist requirement was aimed at preventing the creation of un-percable, unsalable lots by making the analysis of soils a key element in the original layout of the subdivision. However, the requirement met with stiff opposition from the development community, who objected that it would add cost to a project, driving up the cost of land and housing, with-

out providing any guarantee that the lots ultimately laid out would actually perc.

Planning Board member Ron Jackson, a builder and developer, argued that, even with a soil scientist involved in the overall layout of the development, the septic plans for individual lots would still have to be approved by county health inspectors. The result would be additional cost that would further reduce the supply of affordable housing in the county, Jackson argued.

An hour-long back and forth debate by Planning Board members ultimately resulted in a split vote that removed the soil scientist requirement and replaced it with language on subdivision

plats that would warn prospective buyers that a given property had not been evaluated for septic suitability.

### Decision time

As *The Times* went to press, the agenda for the November 19 Commissioners meeting included a public hearing on the new ordinance. Absent significant objection from the public or development community, the Commissioners could approve the new regulations — or they could order up additional rewrites. In either case, it appeared that the long-running freeze on new subdivision in Area A would be shortly coming to an end.

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Thank you to all who have supported the League during 2007 to foster pets and volunteer your time.

More volunteers are always welcome.

**Have a Safe and Happy Holiday season.**

# Myths

(Continued from page 37)

viruses. The vaccine also does not protect you from all strains of the flu, but just the most popular from previous years.

**Myth 5:** I am strong, healthy, and rarely become sick.

**Reality:** Influenza is a highly contagious and very effective in quickly knocking the most healthy and independent people to their knees. Most people would rather spend time off on a vacation rather than recuperating

from the flu.

**Myth 6:** Influenza vaccines are promoted by health care professionals only to sell a product, and make the drug industry rich.

**Reality:** Each year, there is

an estimated 25 – 50 million cases of the flu reported in the United States. The cost of approximately 150,000 hospitalizations and thousands of deaths due to complications from the flu far outweighs the cost of the flu

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Lot 2005	.....	\$19,500
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# Foxfire Parks

(Continued from page 4)

Olsen then opened up the hearing for public comment asking attendees to focus their comments and suggestions to issues specifically related to the Village Complex Center and not to any other recreational facilities or activities.

### Public comment

Village resident **Carlotta Young** expressed support for the project saying, "We should go ahead and fix the pool and charge more per person. As a Foxfire citizen, I would be willing to pay more and outside users should pay more and also pay for guests. This is way to get revenue and help our budget. A dollar is not enough!"

Currently, the cost for a pool membership for Foxfire residents is one dollar.

**Charles Coker** advocated any repairs necessary to opening the pool next season "The pool gives us additional choices. We have people who don't use pool but when the grandkids or guests come, it's nice to have it in place." He continued, "It's a great physical facility for us as a community and for the whole character of village."

Councilwoman-Elect **Page Coker** said she had recently spoken to as much as ninety-five percent of Foxfire residents and said most agreed that the pool and tennis complex adds value to their homes.

Ainsworth reported that respondents of the recent survey listed swimming as the second most favorite activity of villagers. Golf was number one.

Councilman-Elect **Vic Koos** asked for an informal show of hands of villagers in attendance that wanted the pool repaired and maintained as a public facility. The room was unanimous in support of the pool.

Resident **Ed Spalding** expressed support for the project saying, "We need the pool. We need the tennis courts. We should repair or replace whatever we need to do whether we get the grant or not. We need to do it and I'm willing to do my part."

Koos asked Spalding if he thought Foxfire residents not in attendance at the hearing would agree with his position. Spalding said he did.

Charles Coker suggested that the choice of doing nothing would not prevent the village from having to spend money, "If we don't do anything, we can't open pool and the county will insist we fill in and demolish the pool." He continued, "It'll cost us money to do nothing. We must spend money and do something and I'd rather do something and get something back!"

Another resident with construction experience suggested the estimated cost for the proposed renovations was too high. "For \$500,000 you could probably build an enclosed pool

with an exercise facility," he said. Erickson said that the exact costs to repair the pool had not been bid out but the estimates were \$130,000.

The resident suggested that cost was inflated, "I'm in construction and hearing these numbers is like, "hey that's a lot of money."

Olsen replied that the village had consulted with contractors and would certainly go back and reaffirm bids but said, "If you can find qualified person to do job for \$300,000 we'd appreciate it."

Noting that there was probably a range of cost in construction materials and contractors, Olsen continued, "Right now we have a very reputable firm giving us this estimate. We are not going to build a piece of junk. We will build a pool fitting for this upscale community in which we live and the quality of the work must last at least twenty-five years."

Young asked if the committee had considered whether costs could be broken into a tiered-process with pool repairs prioritized, followed by tennis court renovation, and then the new playground.

Olsen responded, "It's very difficult to get a PARTF grant. If we have the opportunity to do this all together it would be best." He explained that the inflationary cost of construction also made it more attractive for the village to complete the project

sooner rather than later.

Young reiterated her question, "I'm concerned that if we don't get it [grant] this time. We've had two tries and if we don't get it could we approach the renovation in phases?"

Olsen replied that he would rather address that issue only if the village does not get the grant.

### Other Suggestions

Other suggestions made at the hearing included adding swimming and tennis lessons for children, providing nighttime illumination around the complex and pool, adding picnic tables with umbrellas on the grassy areas around the pool, including a mini-kitchen in the multipurpose

room, adding an outdoor shower, and including a concessions area or tables in front of the complex.

Resident **Darryl Star** thanked the committee, "I believe the complex will be a key amenity we need to apply ourselves towards. I would like to thank you all on the committee for taking the time to go through the process." He continued, "You have the interest of the community at heart and I believe that our community has nowhere to go but growth. There are good folks here and more are coming and we need to have modern up-to-date facilities to attract them."

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# Foxfire Council

(Continued from front page)

"The hydrostructure plans have been in the office for a month," said Erickson noting that discussion of the well moratorium and assessments for the water line had been included in both the village newsletter as well as village coverage in *The Times* on several occasions.

Councilman Ed Lauer said the estimated costs including engineering for the Grande Pines water line was \$160,000. This cost will be borne by property owners benefiting from the new water line and could be reimbursed in cash or in five equal installments at eight percent annum.

The resident said that she was preparing to dig a private well and thought her request would be grandfathered.

Lauer clarified that the ban on private wells had already been passed and that he was sorry but no new permits would be granted.

"It's unfortunate when you had planned to do this but this isn't new news," said Lauer. "I haven't granted a well permit in four months and my personal conviction is I have no intention of doing it."

Lauer continued saying that since the developer of Grande

Pines had been present at recent meetings, he was surprised that he was not passing information along to property owners in that subdivision.

Lauer, who serves as the village Water Director, said all water costs incurred must be covered by water income.

"The water fund does not draw funds from taxation. The assessments are a standard business for Foxfire," said Lauer noting that the village has three options for determining how assessments are portioned and that the village would choose the fairest method.

The property owner was still upset and said she would be interested in seeing the hydrostructure plans on file at the office.

Mayor Erickson responded, "There are ten steps to this process. The public hearing tonight is step four." Encouraging the resident to continue her dialogue with the village, Erickson said, "There will be another public hearing as required under North Carolina law."

Erickson then called a second public hearing for a zoning ordinance resolution amendment on required fence and wall community standards.

The amended fencing ordi-

nance added several construction materials to the list of approved options. The ordinance was also worded to allow fencing to be constructed around unsightly and/or storage areas.

## Finance Report

Prior to the finance report, Mayor Erickson thanked Councilman Wally Peckitt for his work with the village and presented him with a certificate and pin honoring his twenty years of public service.

Peckitt responded by applauding Councilman Carl Munro.

"I would like to acknowledge the efforts and various projects undertaken by Carl. Though we didn't always see eye to eye, I respect his energy," said Peckitt.

In finance, Peckitt reported the village Capital Water Reserve Fund of \$134,000 had been moved and combined with the Water Fund, bringing the water fund to \$259,000.

There was \$14,954 in the Police Fund and \$321,989 in the General Fund.

Peckitt provided a copy of the audit contract in the amount of \$9,500.

Peckitt also made a declaration of intent to reimburse – a necessary resolution, according to Mayor Erickson.

"We met with representatives from BB&T and they recommended we adopt this resolution," said Erickson. "Some communities in North Carolina have failed to do this and when it came time for reimbursement they could not receive the funds."

Peckitt said that despite the resolution, "We are going to attempt to accomplish without borrowing but we want to protect our position with respect to financing Woodland Circle [extension]."

## Public Safety Report

Prior to his report, Councilman Munro continued in the spirit of public acknowledgment by thanking Peckitt for his work and by applauding Mayor Erickson's efforts.

"He is the finest mayor we've had since 1992," said Munro. "I did not originally support George

but he has turned out to be the finest mayor. I congratulate you for fine job."

Munro presented the Mayor and council with a copy of the text and photographs selected by his committee for historical information to be sent to the North Carolina League of Municipalities [NCLM] for inclusion in their 100th anniversary book.

Munro reported that a state police patrol unit responsible for monitoring overweight trucks is currently working with Police Chief Campbell and that two trucks were recently cited.

"There is an agreement in place to work together [Campbell and state police] and hopefully a message will go out to not take a loaded truck into Foxfire," said Munro.

(See "Foxfire," p. 41)



Geoffrey M. Gower,  
CLU, ChFC

Geoffrey M. Gower is President and Chief Investment Officer of GM Gower & Co., Ltd., a Registered Investment Advisor.

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NOTE: All reserved trees must be picked up by 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 30th.

Thank you again for your continued support!

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# Lauer

(Continued from front page)

Concerned by the lack of understanding of the issues Lauer took the opportunity to review each of the problems facing Foxfire's water supply.

"First of all, I'd like to explain about radium. It's not radon

which is a gas," said Lauer. "Radium is a natural mineral that occurs in clay and it has been detected in several village wells."

Lauer noted that part of the solution for radium mitigation would increase village water capacity.

"There are two ways to mitigate radium; one is to mix with water from a well without the radium issue. The second way is a gamma log where a measure of the entire depth of well is taken," said Lauer. "You figure out at what level the radium is at and then block it off with a screen at that point not allowing the radium to leach into the well."

"Currently we [Foxfire] have undertaken a much more aggressive well-drilling than we would have. We have three test wells completed and think we have been successful in finding three producing wells," said Lauer. He continued, "We are testing them now to ensure the water is of the quality that we want."

However, Lauer noted that even without the expense of

radium mitigation, the village will be forced to find more water to accommodate growth.

"What does that mean? asked Lauer. "The cost is going up. We currently have some of the lowest rates anywhere – well, they are going to go up." He continued, "The water department is self-supporting and we will be on-par with other communities around here in paying for our water."

In reference to the Grande Pines resident who had expressed displeasure at not being able to dig a private well, Lauer said, "I understand the upset of an owner who can't put in a well but my interest is in the overall community."

He continued, "I'm sorry for those who have to bear the bur-

den but we have to move forward and be fiscally responsible. We have no choice but to provide safe and good water for our community."

A resident asked whether the village could wait for future water as the county would probably place water lines along Rt. 211. Lauer responded that with no time line in place and Montgomery County's water treatment plant already near capacity that for now Foxfire was still in the five year window identified by the hydrostructure report. However, he concluded, eventually Foxfire's future water needs "would be directly tied to what Moore County does."

# Foxfire

(Continued from page 40)

**Zoning Report**

Zoning Administrator Mimi Ainsworth reported that thirty-four homes are currently for sale in the village, twenty-five of those being new construction or 'spec' homes. There are fourteen additional homes under construction including four duplexes. In the past month, she received one construction permit application and issued three occupancy permits.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Erickson reported that the names of two residents within the extraterritorial jurisdiction [ETJ] had been submitted for approval to the Planning Board by the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

Planning Board Chair Craig Ramey requested that when there are openings on the board, that current members may make recommendations.

To serve, candidates must be registered voters. The term of service on the Planning Board for residents in the ETJ is three years.

Ramey also reported that the Planning Board had granted conditional approval of Grande Pines Phase II, with six issues identified as needing attention before final approval would be given.

**Park Committee**

Ainsworth reported that the Park Committee held a public hearing to gather input from villagers regarding the Village Center Complex [see related story on page 4].

"We had a good turnout and will, along with the results of the survey, post them in the December newsletter," said Ainsworth.

She noted that there are two vacancies on the Park Committee and said people who are interested and available to attend

meetings should contact Jack Olsen.

**Organizational Meeting**

An organizational meeting with the newly elected Village Council members taking the oath of office will be held Wednesday, December 5 at 3:00 pm.



Susan T. Adams

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