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Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

April 4, 2008

Haggard re-elected Westside Board President

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

As the only nominee for the position of President, Jim Haggard began his second year leading the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors by a vote of acclamation during the Organization Meeting held on Wednesday, March 26.

Nominating Haggard, Director Mary Anne Fewkes reflected on

how far the board had come over the past twelve months: "It was a tough year. Jim not only pulled the board together but also won the support of the community."

The solid vote of confidence for the present direction of the board resonated as the other officers were each re-elected in turn, also by acclamation, with Fewkes remaining as Vice President, Kathy Kirst as Treasurer, and

Ed Tuton as Secretary.

President Haggard appointed incoming directors Karen Milligan to Recreation Committee, Ron Shepard to Architectural Review Committee [ARC], and Ed Silberhorn as Legal Director. Haggard requested the midterm directors remain with their present responsibilities: Ray MacKay overseeing the Infrastructure Committee, Blaine Rowland

(See "Westside," p. 27)

Don't miss Chili Cook-Off

by Kim Tew,
Seven Lakes Business Guild

Mark your calendars for the spiciest event in town! The

upcoming Chili Cook-off and Street Fair presented by the Seven Lakes Area Business Guild and co-sponsored by the

Modern Woodmen of America is Saturday, April 12, 1:00 – 5:00 pm in the Commons Area by the stoplight in Seven Lakes. It's not too late to reserve your space or enter your best chili recipe.

The Commons Area will be bubbling over with some of the best cooks around with plenty of chili for you to taste and a chance to vote for your favorite.

Activities for the children will include piñatas and a bouncy castle. Child ID kits will also be given away by Carthage Police Department. WEEB radio will be featuring a live remote broadcast throughout the afternoon and Southern Pines Police Department will be on hand demonstrating their K9 unit.

Several police vehicles will also be available — so, parents bring your cameras, as this will

(See "Chili," p. 2)



The Cowpokes from Quality Care Pharmacy are just one of the teams ready to serve up some smokin' hot chili at the Business Guild Chili Cook-Off on April 12.

Funny bunny!



It was bunniful times for folks both large and small at the Annual Seven Lakes Landowners Association Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 22.

Candidates' Forum is April 15

The League of Women Voters of Moore County, the Moore County Chapter of the NAACP, and the Seven Lakes Civic Group are sponsoring a Candidates' Forum on Tuesday, April 15, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at the Seven Lakes West Community Center.

Candidates for the NC Senate and the NC House of Representatives, plus candidates for Moore County Commissioner are being asked to participate in the forum.

The public is welcome to attend the Candidates' Forum. Audience questions are encouraged.

You can read *The Times'* interviews with the candidates for Board of Commissioners starting on page 10 of this issue.

Stay up to date!
Register for email news updates
at www.sevenlaketimes.net

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Man charged in Westside theft

On February 10, the Moore County Sheriffs Office received a report of a larceny of an



Michael Peterson

enclosed trailer containing \$2,000 worth of tools from a worksite on Morganwood Drive in Seven Lakes West. Everett Russell Strickland of the Carthage area of Moore County reported the theft.

Michael Wayne Peterson, 45, of 530 Bracken Road in Sanford NC was arrested on March 24, and charged with felony larceny and possession of stolen goods.

Sheriff's officers discovered that one of the stolen items — an air compressor had been pawned in Durham and were able to trace the pawn ticket back to Peterson.

The trailer and some of the other stolen items were recovered and returned to Strickland.

Peterson received a \$10,000 secured bond and a first court date of April 14.

Water restrictions relaxed

Just in time for the spring planting season, Moore County Public Utilities has backed off its restrictions on water use just a bit — enough to allow gardeners and landscapers to water twice a week.

Effective April 1, the county moved back to Stage 2 - Moderate Mandatory Conservation for the Seven Lakes-Pinehurst water system, a less restrictive classification than the Stage 3 - Severe Mandatory Conservation that has been in effect since October of last year.

"We have been monitoring the aquifer and it has stabilized," Public Works Director Dennis Brobst told The Times. "With the recent rain, the County has been upgraded from a D4 drought classification — which is the worst — to D3."

"The growing season is here, and we've been talking with the landscapers and gardeners. We felt like we could make the change to twice a week watering and allow them to put some things in the ground."

Outside watering is perhaps the biggest single difference between Stage 3 Conservation, which forbids all outside use of water, and Stage 2, which permits watering of landscaping and gardens twice weekly between the hours of 5:00 pm and midnight.

Even under Stage 2, water may not be used to wash down sidewalks, patios or driveways — or to wash cars, except at a commercial car wash or if the water is taken from a private well.

Stage 3 aimed at a fifty per-

cent reduction in water use; Stage 2 targets a thirty percent reduction.

Brobst said another factor influencing the decision was the anticipated June 1 completion of a connection between the East Moore Water District and Pinehurst that will bring an additional 1.2 million gallons per day of water into the Pinehurst-Seven Lakes system.

That will allow the county to push more water through the NC Highway 211 booster station to Seven Lakes.

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.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
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
August 8	August 1
August 22	August 15
Sept 5	August 29
Sept 19	Sept 12
October 3	Sept 26
October 17	October 10
October 31	October 24
Nov 14	Nov 7
Nov 26*	Nov 20*
Dec 12	Dec 5
Dec 23*	Dec 18*

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

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Chili Cook-Off promises a spicy afternoon

(Continued from front page)

be a great photo opportunity for your little ones.

Pinehurst Police Department will have their Fatal Vision goggles which simulate driving while impaired with a golf cart course for adults and teens. They also plan to bring a Seat Belt Convincer for those of you that need a little more encouragement to buckle up.

Local vendors will also be on site with merchandise to purchase. Some of the current line-up includes Medleyannas, JuBilee Screen Print, Mia Bella Candles, Indigo's, Eastwood Florist and All These Gifts and More just to name a few.

Other clubs and organizations will be available with information and opportunities to interest you. Montgomery County Archery Club, HomeChoice Network, Seven Lakes Lions Club, Project Linus and St. Mary Magdelene Episcopal Church are some of the clubs that will be present. For a complete listing of chili teams and vendors, please visit the website at www.7lakesbusinessguild.org.

Tickets for chili tasting will be available at the event for \$.50 each or 3 for \$1.00. A commemorative mug is also available for unlimited tasting, one person per mug please. Drinks, tickets and voting ballots will all be available at the main event tent.

All chili tasters are encouraged to vote for their favorite chili. Peoples Choice awards will be given for best 1-alarm (mild), 3-alarm (medium), 5-alarm (hot) and Best Decorated Booth. A judges award will be given for Best Overall Chili. Our "celebrity" judges for the event are Sheriff Lane Carter, Mike Martin of FirstHealth and David Seiberling, the conductor of the Moore County Concert Band.

Make no beans about it, these intrepid volunteers are ready to step up to the bowl and judge the best chili that Seven Lakes can serve up.

Come out and join us for what is sure to be a great afternoon full of fun and flavor!

For more information, please visit the website at www.7lakesbusinessguild.org or call JuBilee Screen Print at 910-673-4240.




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SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2008
1-5PM

In the Seven Lakes Business Commons Area

Mark your calendars for the 1st Annual Seven Lakes Business Guild Chili Cook-Off and Street Fair. You will be able to taste some of the best chili in the area and see some of the finest vendors around. Along with gifts and items to purchase, there will also be booths with information on various local services.

 **FREE ADMISSION** 

Activities include:
Pinatas for the Children, a Bouncy Castle, Child ID Kits, Fatal Vision Program, Seat Belt Convincer and police cars and other vehicles to view. WEEB am radio will be featuring a live remote broadcast.
Southern Pines Police Department K9 demonstration.

**Tasting tickets 50¢ each or 3 for \$1.00
or purchase a mug for unlimited tasting
One mug per person.**

**For more information, please visit our website at
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SLLA moves to morning work sessions

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

An early morning new time for work sessions was one of the changes the new Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board of Directors made during a special work Session on Monday, March 24.

Board work sessions will be held on Thursday mornings at 8:30 am and scheduled one day short of two weeks prior to the regular last Wednesday of the month General Meetings. That means the next work session will be held on Thursday, April 17.

Work sessions will continue to be open to all members, but will, at least initially, be held in the smaller game room rather than the North Clubhouse meeting room.

Board members also discussed revising the public comment session in the General Meetings to parallel the procedure used by the County Board of Commissioners — that is, a single public comment session

held near the beginning of the meetings. Last year, the Board had allowed public comment as each item to be voted on came up for debate.

President Randy Zielsdorf suggested the change. "We'll need to make sure that anything we will be voting on has been published in advance," Director Bud Shaver cautioned.

Zielsdorf said he would also like to make sure the Board and landowners have ample time to study any "complicated" changes to the rules and regulations or by-laws. "I want to ask that you introduce anything complicated two work sessions ahead of time," he told Board members.

"If we come up against an item that really needs additional conversation, then maybe we can allow folks to speak longer," Director Sally Kindsvatter suggested.

"You could call a public hearing on an item at the first of the meeting and allow people to speak longer," Community Man-

ager Dalton Fulcher suggested.

Based on the conversation between Board members and staff, residents can expect some experimentation with seating arrangements for meetings until the Board hits on a style that suits both Directors and the public.

Galford's appointment

The Board's first order of business in the work session was to redo an appointment of Denny Galford to serve out the unexpired term of Director Laura Douglass, who resigned just prior to the annual meeting.

The previous Board of Directors had passed a resolution aimed at filling Douglass' seat with the fourth-highest vote-getter in the annual meeting elections. That person turned out to be Galford. Apparently, the new Board attempted to cement this arrangement during their March 18 organizational meeting by voting to appoint Galford to the post. However, that vote was held during a closed session at the end of the meeting that had been called for another purpose.

So the Board voted once again in open session during the March 24 meeting to appoint Galford to fill out Douglass' term. Just for good measure, they also voted again to make him the Associ-

ation's Treasurer. Both motions were approved unanimously.

Committee appointments

On a motion from Galford, the Board voted to reappoint Donna Stephan to head up the Architectural Review Board for the coming year.

Noting that it had been suggested during the March 18 Organizational Meeting that Laura Douglass continue to head up Recreation, Zielsdorf said he felt it was important to have Board members head up all committees. He said he would head up Recreation, though that job may pass to Director Gary

Caulk later in the year.

Community Manager

"I would like to see a little bit of a change in culture on the balance of power between the Community Manager and the Board," Zielsdorf told his fellow Directors during the meeting.

"The Board should be responsible for holding the Community Manager responsible," he said. Personnel ought to fall under the Manager. Having Board members get involved in who gets hired where and when doesn't make a lot of sense to me. The Board should hold the Manager responsible."



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Oliver inducted into West Point Hall of Fame

Colonel Charles W. Oliver, United States Air Force [Ret], was recently inducted into the West Point 2007 Sports Hall of Fame. Charlie and his wife, Ethel, have lived at Seven Lakes since July 1991. The induction was the fourth group so honored; the first inductees included three Heisman trophy winners, Glen Davis, Doc Blanchard, and Pete Dawkins, as well as their coach, Colonel Red Blake.

At West Point, 1945-49, Oliver played number one singles and doubles for the Army tennis team for four years. His team won seventy-five percent of its matches, and Oliver won ninety-five percent of both his singles and doubles matches. Also his USMA [West Point] team was the only team ever to defeat the U.S. Naval Academy for four consecutive years! In these matches against Navy, Oliver

won all four singles and doubles matches.

The Army team did not have one recruited player on the squad. Two of Oliver's victories were over Dick Savitt from Cornell, the 1951 Wimbledon and Australian singles champion, and Vic Seixas of North Carolina University who was Wimbledon champion in 1953 and U.S. Champion in 1954. Oliver was elected captain of the tennis team for the 1949 season. His classmates on the team achieved successes as both military officers and civilian professionals. One became a Congressman and later Secretary of the Army. One retired as an Army Major General, one as an Army Colonel, four as Air Force Colonels, and one as a successful business man and university professor.

Oliver learned the sport of squash racquets during his first year at Army. In his junior and senior years he played the number one position. In the 1949 season, he was undefeated in matches against mainly Ivy League universities. His only loss that year was in the final of

the NCAA tournament, where he lost to a legendary player, Diehl Mateer from Haverford College and the Merion Cricket Club. Oliver's teammates also elected him squash racquets captain his senior year. At the 1948 National Championships, much to his surprise, his colleagues elected him President of the Intercollegiate Squash Association.

Reflecting on this, Oliver said, "It was a great tribute to West Point," that his colleagues would vote a cadet into this position.

The West Point Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony, held on September 28, started on a Friday and included a visit to the Hall of Fame for short

talks followed by a formal reception, dinner, and induction ceremony. There were 600 people, including fourteen members of Oliver's family and a number of his classmates at the ceremony. Saturday included breakfast at the Senior's Club; receiving the cadet parade with three Generals in Command at West Point; a brunch at the Michie Stadium; and a football game. At halftime, the inductees were presented to the 40,000 spectators in a ceremony on the fifty-yard line. Fortunately, Army won the game to top off an unforgettable event.

Since arriving at Seven Lakes, Oliver has given many free tennis clinics to juniors as well as

(See "Oliver," p. 7)



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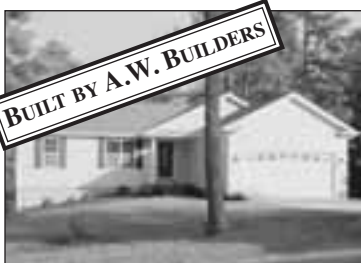
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Exercise tests Westside CERT teams' skills

by Laura Douglass,
Times Reporter

Members of the Seven Lakes West Community Emergency Response Team [CERT] held a mock-disaster training exercise on Saturday, March 28. Under the direction of the Moore County Department of Public Safety, the exercise simulated multiple concurrent disasters including downed electrical lines, tornadoes, and fires.

Working cooperatively with local fire and EMS departments, the purpose of a CERT team is

to assist, enhance, and supplement the services of professional responders.

Bill Carl serves as field leader

for the SLW team and oversees the twenty-member group which includes two rescue teams, a medical team, and a communi-

cations center team. All CERT members are trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and res-

cue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.



CERT Team Members — Marisa Back, Michele Lasher, and Pat Sammann.

Healthy Eating Every Day

A free fourteen-week class, Healthy Eating Every Day will teach how small changes can make big improvements in your diet.

The program will show you how to make balanced food choices when you are at home, at work, shopping, and dining out. You will learn how to set goals, reward yourself, and eat healthy.

The first class will be held on Thursday, May 1, 10:00 am to 11:00 am, at Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Classes continue each Thursday from 10:00 – 11:00 am, for fourteen weeks. For more information and to register, call Cindy Laton at 715-4435, or email claton@firsthealth.org

Oliver

(Continued from page 5)

adults; coached at least three Seven Lakes Seniors teams; and in his final year of competition played on five local teams. He has retired from tennis due to many surgeries; however, he is trying to learn the great game of golf.

His family of five children, their spouses, grandchildren and spouses, and one great-grandchild – a total of twenty-five – have visited Seven Lakes almost every year, since 1991, and have enjoyed the people they have met and the great amenities that cover Seven Lakes.

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Vote Smart gives voters the straight scoop

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

A 1986 Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate representing the state of Arizona, Richard Kimball lost the seat to Senator John McCain – a man who six years later would help him found Project Vote Smart.

A non-profit, non-partisan research organization, Project Vote Smart collects and distributes information on candidates for public office, covering six basic areas; background information, issue position, voting records, campaign finance, interest group ratings, and speeches or public statements.

Foxfire residents Carl and Helen Munro are members of Project Vote Smart and strong advocates of founder Richard Kimball and the program.

“Several years ago, political parties had folks at extremes

but the majority was in the middle,” said Munro. “Today it seems there are more extremists on either end of the party and less in the middle – and those in the middle are the ones who are leaving the parties.”

Munro said the largest growing sector of voters is the independents.

“Over the past ten years, we don’t have a moderate party

middle – the element that would calm both sides. What’s left are the extreme positions – and the result is a lot of spin, ugliness in campaigns, a lot of deceit and lies,” said Munro.

The purpose of Project Vote Smart is to eliminate political spin and provide voters with an easy and free way to access a succinct, clear record of a candidate’s position on issues and

campaign finances.

The Voter’s Self-Defense Manual asks simple black and white questions of each candidate, explained Munro. The guide is distributed on election years and provides a detailed entry of each candidate. Of specific interest to voters, explained Munro, is the passing or failing grade for the Project Vote Smart Political Courage Test.

“Words [by politicians] are said in such a way that you would have difficulty pinning them against the wall to what they believe in,” said Munro. “You don’t stand a chance at getting my vote if you are not willing to tell me what you believe,” said

Munro. “Why in the world would I want to vote for them?”

The Political Courage Test asks candidates one central question: “Are you willing to tell citizens your positions on the issues you will most likely face on their behalf?” Administered to all candidates for presidential, congressional, gubernatorial, and state legislative offices, the test focuses on items a candidate is willing to support if elected, rather than items they oppose.

“Senator McCain is one of the people who helps provide guidance on drafting the questions,” said Munro, “and you’ll notice he does not hesitate to answer

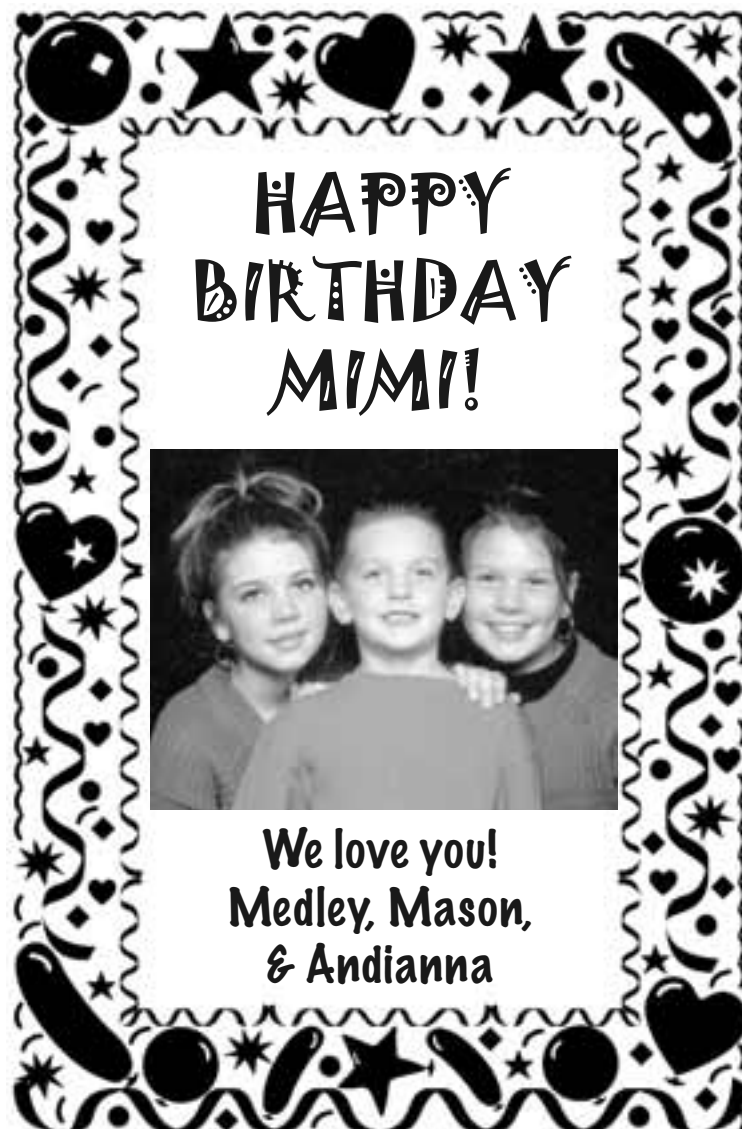
(See “Vote Smart,” p. 26)




Smart Voters Helen & Carl Munro

Project Vote Smart Lecture

Richard Kimball, President of Vote Smart, will present “Depending on the Wisdom of Strangers: The Voter’s Self-Defense System,” on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:30 pm in the Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College. Admission is free, no ticket is necessary, and the event is open to the public.




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SPRING CLEANING!

People like “stuff.” We tend to hold onto it year after year. We save and stock up on things that we don’t know what to do with anymore. Maybe we keep things because they hold precious memories of days gone by, or they remind us of our parents, grandparents, past loves or childhood. To part with these precious possessions seems out of the question.

There is a saying that goes, “You have to get rid of the old to make way for the new.” If you are feeling stuck or stagnant in your life, try spring-cleaning. Throw out some of that stuff, say goodbye to your past and welcome the new energy of your happy, healthy future.

For good mental and physical health, we have two “houses” that need to be spring-cleaned: our physical homes and our physical bodies. Just as we accumulate “stuff” in the form of outgrown clothes, magazines, rusty bicycles, tools and random keepsakes, so do our bodies accumulate old food residues and toxins that need to be cleaned out.

To spring clean your body, give it a break from rich and complicated foods by either cleansing or fasting for a short period of time. Cleansing means paring down your food to just simple fruits and vegetables, lots of water and perhaps whole grains. Fasting means limiting most foods and drinking lots of water, fresh vegetable and fruit juices, teas and

soups. Without much energy going toward digestion, more energy is available to the rest of your body and mind.

Cleansing and fasting can sharpen your concentration, help you gain insight and promote spiritual awareness. It can also bring improved immune function and better digestion.

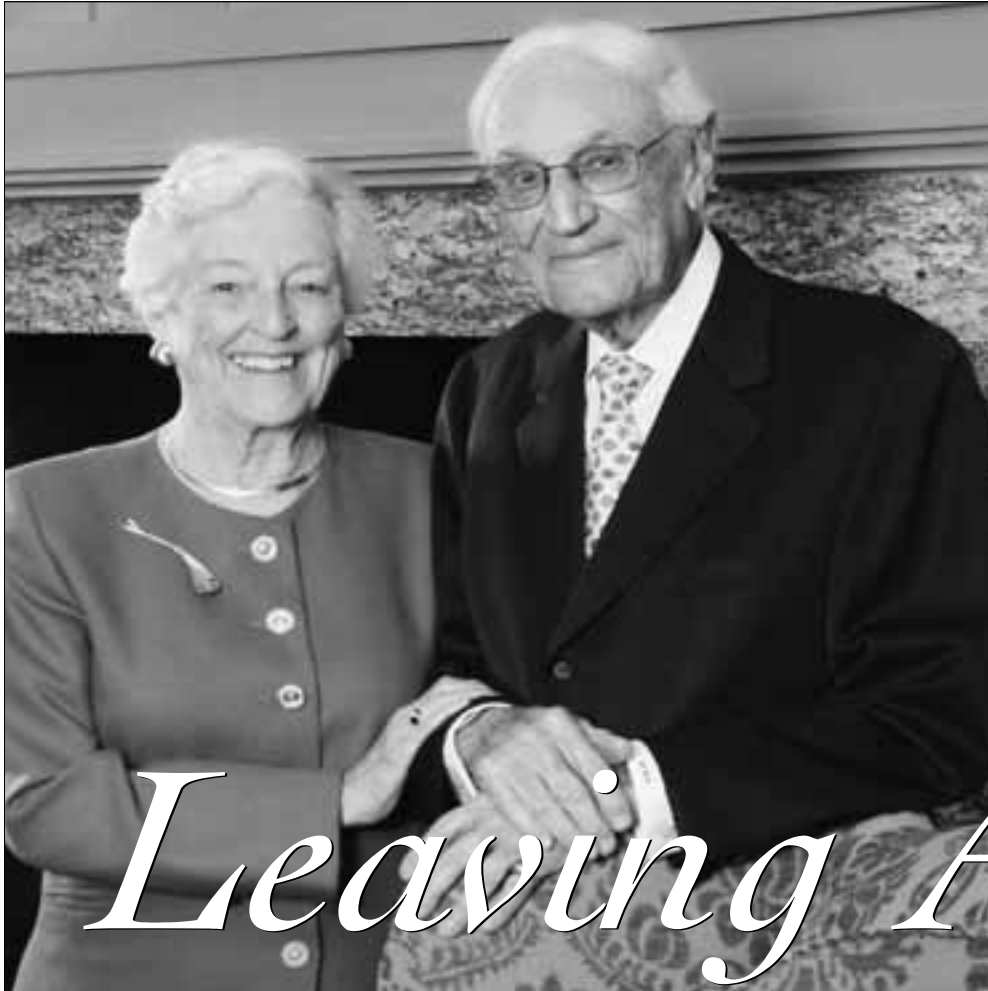
While you’re cleaning out your body and home, don’t forget to spring-clean your heart. Throw away negative thoughts and habits you’ve been harboring that no longer serve you. A clean, open heart will allow you to receive all the good that awaits you each and every day. If your heart and mind are cluttered, there is no room for life’s gifts and surprises to enter.

You can clutch the past so tightly to your chest that it leaves your arms too full to embrace the present.

— Jan Glidewell

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Walter and Betty Reid's generous \$4 million gift in early 2007, now coupled with an additional \$3.5 million gift in 2008, are the largest single gifts ever made to the Moore Regional Hospital Foundation in its 79-year history. The Reid's contributions are the lead community gifts for the Stepping Stones Campaign and represent the trusting relationship that has been built between the FirstHealth health care system and the community it serves.

With a goal of \$30 million, the Stepping Stones Campaign is the largest fundraising effort that the Foundation has ever undertaken. Funds raised through the campaign will support the construction of a Heart Institute, Hospitality House and Hospice House.

FirstHealth employees have already achieved their \$1 million goal, and Moore Regional's medical staff and FirstHealth governance participation has set a record for gifts from these two groups. Factor in the Moore Regional Hospital Auxiliary's gift of \$1 million and the FirstHealth "family" has already provided more than \$4 million to Stepping Stones.

The Stepping Stones Campaign continues a tradition that goes back to the earliest days of the hospital in Pinehurst. It also follows the tradition of calling on the community to help build the facilities needed for expanding and updating patient-care services and raising them to the highest level of excellence.

Leaving A Legacy

The following story focuses on the generosity of a Pinehurst couple and their major gifts to the Foundation of FirstHealth's current Stepping Stones Campaign. One of the major beneficiaries of the Stepping Stones Campaign will be a designated Heart Institute to be built on the campus of FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

"Wherever we travel, Walter always checks out the candy section in the local shops," says Betty Reid.

Not surprising for the former CEO of Charms Candy Company and creator of the American classic "Blow Pop" lollipop, the third largest-selling candy in the world.

"It is," Walter says, "my claim to fame."

Walter Reid shared the fruits of his "charmed" life by establishing the Walter W. Reid III and Elizabeth W. Reid Fund recognizing FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital and supporting the Foundation of FirstHealth's Stepping Stones Campaign.

"This gift has given me as much pleasure as anything I have done," he says. "It may go into bricks and mortar, but it won't end when the last brick is laid."

The world's No. 1 candy company

Walter Reid III began his 54-year career in the candy business by joining his father's New Jersey-based company in 1934. Founded 22 years before as Tropical Charms, the company produced the world's first individually wrapped hard candies in a disappearing package.

That career was interrupted when Walter was called for one-year compulsory military training in 1940. Soon to be married to Lorraine Hyde, a Duke University graduate from Staten Island, he joined the Army Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth expecting to complete his service in December 1941. Pearl Harbor changed his plans.

When Walter returned to Charms, competition from more than 6,000 candy companies was fierce. But under his leadership, Charms became the largest producer of hard candy in the world.

In the mid-1960s, he moved Charms into the gum market with the "Blow Pop," a lollipop with a candy-coated exterior and bubble gum center. Major retailers in the U.S. and around the world began carrying the product whose place in history was sealed when "Candy Industry" magazine named it "the most popular lollipop on the planet."

Walter sold Charms to Tootsie Roll in 1988.

Leadership & philanthropy

When his father died in 1960, Walter Reid assumed a legacy of community service and philanthropy by serving on boards of several businesses and churches and as president of the local YMCA.

He began a 32-year association with Monmouth Medical Center, one of New Jersey's largest academic medical centers, and in 1981 founded the Mid-Atlantic Health Group, the holding company for Monmouth Medical Center and Manchester Regional Hospital. He became chairman of its Board of Governors in 1986.

When Walter stepped down in 1992, the president and CEO of Mid-Atlantic wrote, "I have worked with scores of leading American businessmen and bankers. Only a scant handful have been constructive individuals of character, wisdom and wit. You are one of those few people."

New life in Pinehurst

Throughout their married life, Walter and Lorraine Reid traveled extensively. Both avid golfers, they were attracted to Pinehurst, where they had visited his parents after the war, and bought a winter getaway at the Country Club of North Carolina in 1967. Betty and Jim Smith lived nearby.

Born Mary Elizabeth Walters, Betty was raised in Rockingham by her aunt and uncle. She graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill, where she met Jim. They married and moved to California, where they raised their children before returning to Rockingham in 1954.

Betty and Jim had also considered CCNC their "vacation getaway," even though it was a short drive from their Rockingham home. There, the Reids and the Smiths became great friends, traveling to Scotland and other places for golfing vacations, spending Christmases together and taking cruises.

The two couples even bought a duplex together at Belle Meade, where they planned to live side by side one day. Jim was diagnosed with cancer in the mid-1980s, but with the care provided at Moore Regional lived another 13 years. As they had planned, Betty sold their house and moved to her new home at Belle Meade.

Lorraine succumbed to cancer a few months after she and Walter moved to Belle Meade. Like Betty, Walter moved into the Belle

Meade duplex. Once they were neighbors again, Walter and Betty realized their almost 30-year friendship had become something more. They were married in the Village Chapel in 2000.

"The first wealth is health"

Walter became involved with Moore Regional Hospital in 1986, when fellow CCNC member Hal Stevens invited him to join the Scroll Society, the cornerstone of the Foundation's continued growth. He was intrigued by the success of the organization Hal had helped establish 10 years earlier to broaden the Foundation's base of philanthropic support and which then rested on the generosity of a few prominent families.

The Scroll Society represents the Foundation's most successful annual-giving program. Annual contributions from the more than 500 Scroll Society members, who give \$10,000 over 10 years, are the principal source of "current-use" gifts.

"I consider the Scroll Society the perfect means of fundraising," says Walter. "It is really *the* way to raise funds and keep the community involved."

Since becoming members of the Foundation of FirstHealth Board of Trustees in 2006, the Reids have attended various Foundation-hosted educational programs, information updates and receptions, and have become active in the Camp Easter Network. Because of that involvement, Walter re-evaluated his charitable trusts.

According to the Reids, trusts lose their focus and vitality over time when administered by second- and third generation trustees. "The generation who would manage this trust is scattered all over the country," they say. "They won't know what we want. That's why we transferred the trust to FirstHealth. The Foundation's Board of Trustees will ensure our wishes and intentions are maintained for many generations to come."

The Reid's \$4 million gift in early 2007, now coupled with an additional \$3.5 million gift in 2008, are the largest single gifts ever made to the Moore Regional Hospital Foundation in its 79-year history. The Reid's contributions are the lead community gifts for the Stepping Stones Campaign. Funds raised through the \$30 million campaign will support the construction of a Heart Institute, Hospitality House and Hospice House.

Seven Lakes Times
April 4, 2008

Commissioner

Fiorillo, Picerno compete for District 2 Seat

Nancy Roy Fiorillo

by Greg Hankins,
Times Editor

Though she was born well north of the Mason-Dixon line, in Marlboro, Massachusetts, Nancy Roy Fiorillo has spent thirty years in the South. Trained in Social Work at Austin-Peay University in Clarksville, Tennessee, Fiorillo ran Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program and wrote grants for juvenile offender programs before moving to North Carolina twenty years ago.

She then became an Emergency Medical Services Planner for the Mid-Carolina Council of Governments — and even trained and was certified as an EMT, in order to better understand the programs she was writing grants for.

"So I have an understanding from a very basic level of the public safety side — as well as social work and social services," Fiorillo, who is running for the District II seat on the Moore County Board of Commissioners, told *The Times*. "And

both of those are things that counties do." Fiorillo eventually wound up working for (See "Nancy," p. 30)



Nancy Roy Fiorillo

Nick Picerno

by Greg Hankins,
Times Editor

Nick Picerno's father wasn't old enough



Nick Picerno

to join the service, but that didn't stop him from enlisting. Captured after a deadly fire-fight in Korea, he spent months as a prisoner of war. Once prisoner exchanges began, he was the first New York P.O.W. to return.

Because of his injuries, "he could have been 100 percent disabled," Picerno told *The Times*. "But his dream was to train horses for the harness track. A wealthy man heard his story and gave him his start." The elder Picerno would spend half the year on the race circuit and half in Pinehurst training. It was in Moore County that he met Nick's mother — "a Windblow Harris," as Picerno calls her — who was working as a waitress at the time.

"That how a 'Picerno' wound up being a Moore County native," Nick Picerno explained. "Both my Mom and my Dad were very independent, and they instilled those values in their children. They (See "Nick," p. 33)

The Times' Commissioner Candidate Interviews

The Times conducted interviews with each of the four candidates for the Moore County Board of Commissioners during the week of March 24. All four are Republicans and will compete in the primary election on May 6. Because there are no Democrats running for these seats, the primary election will very likely determine the winner in each race.

That makes it all the more important for voters to become informed and vote in the primary. We hope these interviews prove helpful — and hope you will attend the Candidates' Forum at the West Side Park Community Center on Tuesday, April 15 at 7:00 pm.

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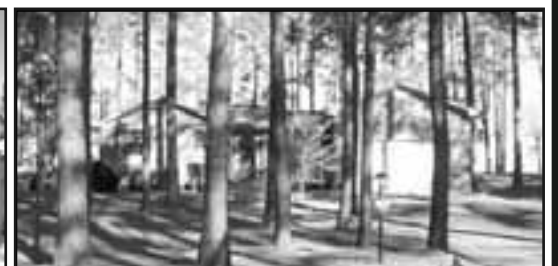
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Candidates

Seven Lakes Times
April 4, 2008

Sloan challenges Lea in county's District 4

Tim Sloan



Tom Sloan

by Greg Hankins,
Times Editor

Tim Sloan, a Republican who is running for the District IV seat on the County Board of Commissioners — currently held by Tim Lea, spent his childhood in Nashville, TN.

A graduate of High Point College, he settled in Moore County after his father, who had moved from Nashville to Pinehurst, invited the younger Sloan to join him in starting a direct mailing business. Sloan now owns and runs that business, as well as WOW Pets in the Town and Country Shopping Center. He, his wife, and two children live in Southern Pines.

Sloan is active in the Chamber of Commerce and other civic groups and enjoys coaching youth softball.

(See "Tim Sloan" p. 36)

Tim Lea



Tim Lea

by Greg Hankins,
Times Editor

Incumbent Commissioner Tim Lea still lives on the family farm he was raised on, off 15/501 near Carthage, and still runs a modest cow-calf herd on the property.

Lea bought the place when his father — a builder, painter, and tobacco farmer, retired in 1989. Less than a year later, he lost the farmhouse in a fire.

"That caused me to realize that, where before I was driven by material things, I realized how material things were not important," Lea told The Times. "It's all about family — That's what makes life worth living."

Lea said working on the family farm taught him some important lessons about work: "I don't know what a 40

(See "Tim Lea," p. 38)

ELECTIONS — Isn't There A Better Way?

**MUDSLINGING, SPIN DOCTORS,
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HOW DO WE FIND THE TRUTH?**

If you want an answer, please come to the Ruth Pauley lecture at 7:30 pm on April 8 to be held in Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College for a non-partisan discussion by Richard Kimball, Founder and President of Project Vote Smart. You will enjoy an entertaining evening at this year's "Sam Ragan" Lecture.

Bournes bring Classic Signs home to 7 Lakes

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

They've lived in Seven Lakes North for seventeen years, but Lynn and Trevor Bourne say they are still suffering from culture shock.

"We left six foot snow drifts in Birmingham [England] and came to the bright, sunny blue skies of North Carolina," said Trevor.

Trevor's parents, Nan and Alec Bourne, still live in Birmingham and Lynn's mother resides in Tamworth, England. The elder Bourne, a 94-year old veteran of World War II, survived four years of slave-labor on the Burma Railway.

"He was captured twice by the Japanese and weighed seventy pounds when he was liberated," said Bourne. He continued, "I spent a week with him last Summer and we had some very good conversations."

Bourne said a desire to move to the United States and his background in design led them to Moore County. The couple purchased a small sign company in Carthage, and have worked over the years to expand the shop into a national business with customers in forty-eight states. Last November, the Bournes relocated Classic Signs to their new offices and workshop in the Seven Lakes Business Village.

"Almost everything we do is in house," said Trevor.

Classic Signs specializes in dimensional signage – which includes routed, carved, sand-blasted, and cast signs, and also produces edge lit and vinyl signs, and digital printing.

Bourne explained that cast signs use a mold to reproduce the texture of wood, often redwood.

"Cast signs have the look of wood but won't rot," said Bourne. "We use a lot of high-density urethane and PVC."

Bourne said the life expectancy of these signs, if kept painted, is almost indefinite and that Classic Signs offers a five-year warranty.

"Most wood signs last only a few years – so most signs you see today you think are wood, they are probably not," said Bourne.

Besides quality materials, Bourne said good design is a crit-

ical component in sign making. "When I design I use three fundamentals – the basics, which are clarity, contrast, and legibility." He said if a sign was missing just one of these fundamental elements, it would not work well.

Local projects for Classic Signs

include the First Baptist Church of Pinehurst on Rt. 211, Pinehurst Medical Clinic, Inc., Page Memorial Church, Villone Tile & Stone, and Theo's Taverna in Pinehurst.

"I always strive to improve and am always pushing the envelope," said Bourne. "My motto is 'you sit down to do better

today than what you did yesterday."

Reaching for new heights in design and creativity, Bourne said a landmark project was his work at Anderson Creek Club near Spring Lake. Bourne created a fifteen foot tall, three-tiered waterfall, featuring a fully-landscaped island of natural stone and plantings flanked on either side by more traditional signs at this community's entrance.

At home, Trevor and Lynn continue their successful partnership raising two sons, Jack and Thomas, and enjoying a second-career as ballroom dancers.

"We'll dance four or five times a week," said Lynn, "and we are training to teach basic ballroom dancing on cruises."

Lynn said her parents, and Trevor's, were gold level ballroom dancers. "We always intended to learn, we just had to find the time," said Bourne.

The couple began taking lessons three years ago and according to Lynn, "We just love it."

Classic Signs is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, with appointments on Saturday. They can be reached at 295-0400 or at www.signblasters.com



Lynn & Trevor Bourne of Classic Signs



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No more overstuffed mailboxes allowed

by Harold Jones, Postmaster
West End Post Office

In recent months, auditors from the district and regional level have been performing service audits in post offices in the Greensboro District, including the West End Post Office. One deficiency they are looking for is

customer mail being held in the post office without the customer's authorization.

This affects many Seven Lakes residents. In the past if our customers left town for a few days and forgot to notify us, it was not a big issue. We simply brought the mail back to the

post office when their box overflowed and held it until the customer picked it up.

Or, if a customer simply did not pick up their mail and the box overflowed, it was held at the post office until the customer picked it up. Now, we simply can not do this. We will have to return

your mail to sender. We have no choice.

Consequences for postal employees violating operating procedures, particularly managers, have become severe.

In short, please make sure you pick up your mail on a regular basis so that your box does not overflow. Also, when you leave town, please complete a Hold Order authorizing us to hold your mail. You can complete a hold form at the post office, or you can do it online at USPS.com.

We simply can not hold mail at the post office without written

authorization from the customer. This is not a new policy. It is just being strictly enforced now. And as I stated before, consequences for employees not following postal policies are severe.

Many of you have boxes that simply will not hold more than a couple of day's mail, and I realize this may be an inconvenience to you. For this, I apologize.

However checking your mail box on a regular basis or completing a Hold Order is less of an inconvenience than having your mail returned to sender.

Women's workshop offered

A mini-workshop for women's wellness will be offered Saturday, April 19 at the Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Most of us are not good at self care. We tend to be good caretakers of others, but do not pay attention to our own needs. If this resonates with you, the Women's Wellness Workshop is for you.

The workshop will deal with aspects of wellness – including body awareness [fitness and nutrition], spirituality, emotional health [a sense of humor and

self-worth], and self expression through guided creative activity. This will be an experiential, interactive time designed to renew, restore, recuperate, and rejuvenate oneself.

The leaders will be Dr. Nadene Peterson of Counseling Professionals, Marjorie Nurnberg of the Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center, and artist Ann Campbell. Dr. Peterson is a Licensed Professional Counselor. Ms. Nurnberg is an ACE Certified Personal Trainer and Certified Nutrition and Wellness Consultant, and owner-manag-

er of the Center. Ms. Campbell is an award-winning artist and art instructor.

The cost of the workshop is \$30 per person. Space is limited to fifteen participants. Call 673-3209 or 910-603-4554, for information and registration.

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FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

★ Important Issues ★

GROWTH: Current trends show that North Carolina could see a population gain of 1.3 million people over the next 15 years. With good leadership and planning, new residents in the Sandhills will find homes in attractive communities with adequate infrastructure.

WATER is a critical issue in Moore County. Upon careful study, we will need to promptly implement the measures that will develop and conserve adequate water supplies.

BUSINESS is the backbone of our economy: tourism and recreation, small business, head-quarters of national companies, agriculture, retirement communities, and clean industries. New business needs to complement our existing business community and respect our rural ambiance.

TAXES: Only essential tax increases should be enacted.



To learn more about my background and my stand on the issues,
I urge you to visit my website: www.VoteForNancy.org.



Paid for by Nancy Roy Fiorillo Campaign Committee

Books West celebrates twenty years of reading

by Grace Kirkpatrick
Books West

Dodie Straus and Dorothy Keyes envisioned the concept of a book club for residents of Seven Lakes West. Member-

ship would be limited to twenty so that the group could meet comfortably in members' homes. Dodie and Dorothy each took a list of residents and called them to find those who were

interested.

The group began meeting in March 1988, deciding to meet monthly, excluding July and August. "Books West" was the name chosen for the club, Seven

Lakes' first book club.

A committee of three, using suggestions from all the members, chooses the books for the year. This format changes occasionally. Members then volunteer to be either hostess or reviewer of the month. A discussion by all members follows the review.

A December luncheon is held at a local or nearby inn or restaurant, with each member bringing a gift for a Chinese Auction. A June luncheon is held, usually at the chairman's home, with members bringing food for the luncheon.

The current members of Books West are pictured at left: Front

row; Grace Kirkpatrick, Eileen Pope, Rosemary Passman, Pat Blair, Judy Streit, Carolyn Mealing, Back row; Sally Terrutti, Betty Bauer, Dee Dick, Nancy Kling, Fran Fellingham, Diane Silberhorn, Evelyn Everett, Betsy Mikula. Members not pictured; Mary Anne Bird, Betty Buechel, Pud Kent, Jan Lynn, Dorothy Murphy, and Carole Skau.



The Ladies of Books West

Grande e Piccolo

by Helen Pardue

The Gallery at Seven Lakes, located in the St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church building on Seven Lakes Drive, has opened its final show of the season titled "Grande e Piccolo." Elephants, painted in their natural habitat, plus other native South African animals are exhibited. Large ethereal landscapes to tiny, golden grumpy guppies, all depicted by nine talented Seven Lakers.

The exhibit featuring photography, linoprint, collage, water color, oils, acrylics, and color pencil works is hanging, ready for your viewing pleasure on Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, through April 17.

This outreach program has been successful, with many artists, quilters, photographers, and needle artists participating. Each of the artists are grateful for the opportunity to display work in such a pleasant venue. A return to the Gallery is planned for the fall.



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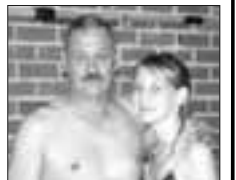


Congratulations to Neal Parsons, who celebrated his 60th birthday by swimming 60 laps on Friday, March 7!

He is sharing his belief in fitness with his family and friends who he has motivated to come and work out!

NEAL'S WORKOUT ROUTINE INCLUDES:

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- Swimming 2-3 times per week on the alternate days.



Neal with his granddaughter

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FEELING GOOD IS THE FUN OF IT!

Women voters look at energy alternatives

by Laura Douglass
Times Report

"At a crossroads," is how Andy Honeycutt of Progress Energy described the environment and economy, during the March 18 League of Women Voters discussion on alternate energy resources.

"Global climate change, the cost of energy, and how to meet the demands of growing populations in North Carolina and the southeastern United States is on everyone's mind," said Honeycutt. "We know its [alternate energy] important to our customers and us as a nation."

Former mayor Mickey Brown of Robbins and retired organic chemist Paul "Nick" Nicholas also participated in the panel discussion which focused primarily on North Carolina Senate Bill 3 [SB3] and the proposed Fibromont poultry-litter fired power plant.

SB3, passed last Summer by the General Assembly, promotes the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency through implementation of a renewable energy and energy efficiency portfolio standard. Alternative energy sources defined under the bill include commonly accepted sources such as wind and solar. However, the list also encompassed several other more controversial renewable resources, such as biomass incineration.

Mayor Brown, a lifelong resident of Robbins, said the proposed Fibromont plant is viewed by his community as a benefit.

[The Robbins site is one of three under consideration by the parent company, Fibrowatt. A final decision of location has not been announced.]

"After their presentation I was very sold. We discussed concerns with chicken litter and smell so we had representatives go and visit the plant in England to see for themselves," said Brown. "The investment and jobs will help Robbins."

The proposed 50-megawatt plant would provide enough power for 5,000 homes.

According to Honeycutt the technology for burning biomass is proven. "They [Fibrowatt] approached us as a buyer of their energy last Summer," said Honeycutt, "but at that time we

did not have SB3."

Honeycutt describes SB3 as a collaborative effort between policy-makers and the energy industry.

"This is a good product. We lobbied to get it passed and asked for poultry [litter] as part – to allow biomass."

Explaining how Progress Energy is seeking to strike a balanced solution, Honeycutt said they are providing energy while also encouraging energy conservation to reduce consumer consumption.

Agreeing that "nobody wants coal," Honeycutt said coal plants are, and will remain, important sources of energy. However he explained that by incorporating alternate energy resources into their fleet, Progress Energy and other energy providers can mitigate cost spikes and maintain a regular rate structure despite gas or coal fuel cost fluctuations.

SB3 provides a 12.5 percent cap on renewable alternate ener-

gy resources that can be placed into the power grid. Honeycutt explained the cap was desirable to keep costs down for consumers.

In addition to poultry-litter plants, Honeycutt said Progress Energy is also creating solar partnerships and working with NC State to develop new technologies.

North Carolina is not a good candidate for a large-scale wind or solar farms explained Honeycutt. "However," he said, "We have sixty percent more chicken litter than we can use – way too much to utilize as fertilizer."

Honeycutt also said that energy conservation awareness is important collectively. "As an individual you are not going to make much of a dent but collectively what we do makes a difference."

Westsider Paul "Nick" Nicholas, Ph.D., a retired organic chemist with the US Customs Service, was less enthused that SB3 defined biomass power plants as

alternative energy.

According to Nicholas, fifty-two percent of our current electricity is fueled by coal, followed by nuclear [21%], gas [16%], hydropower [7%], oil [1.5%], with the remaining 2.5 percent of energy fueled by other technologies including biomass incineration, geothermal, wind, and solar.

"I call these the good, the bad,

and the ugly," said Nicholas. "The ugly is coal."

Nicholas said the environmental cost of burning coal is high. "Coal is the leading cause of smog, global warming, and acid rain."

Typical coal-fired power plant expel millions of tons of CO₂, in addition to sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxides, carbon monoxide, hydro-

(See "Energy," p. 16)

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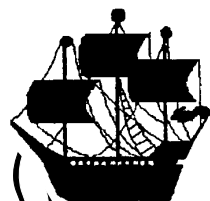
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from Lucy's Kitchen

Lucy Ingram
Seven Lakes South

Creamy Bruschetta Spread
Ingredients

1 tub light cream spread
1 clove garlic
2 Tbsp chopped fresh basil [less if you use dry]
1/2 cup chopped cucumber
1/4 cup black olives, sliced
1 medium tomato [I used cherry tomatoes, halved]
1/2 cup chopped onion

2 Tbsp Italian dressing
Mix spread, basil, and garlic until well-blended. Spread into 7"-8" circle on plate, with center slightly indented to form rim

around outer edge.
Combine tomatoes, cucumbers, olives, onions, and dressing. Spoon into center of cream cheese. Serve with crackers.

Energy

(Continued from page 15)

carbons, mercury, arsenic, lead, and other toxic metals. At the other end of the energy spectrum, Nicholas defined cleaner energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydro, as "the good."

"You don't get air pollution," said Nicholas. "Some might not like solar panels, or a wind farm on the horizon, or a river dammed up, but at least it does not create pollutants."

Biomass incineration, which can include anything organic in nature, such as forest and mill residues, wood and wood waste, animal waste, fast growing trees harvested to burn, municipal or industrial waste, and agricultural waste [corn stalks], do not fall into Nicholas' definition of "the good."

"You can't destroy an element," he explained, "you can change its form or its nature but the elements are still in the ash or residue — air scrubbers catch polluting emissions but do not destroy them."

Nicholas said that depending on the level of sophistication of a poultry-litter or biomass plant, he would place this energy resource in the bad or even ugly categories.

"You are still getting off-putting gases and the potential for toxic metals from what you are burning," said Nicholas.

He explained how metals and toxins are present in the soil, harvested into the crops, consumed by the chickens, and deposited in their waste.

"These materials must go somewhere," said Nicholas.

A League of Women Voters member asked whether excess poultry litter was more dangerous when spread over fields as fertilizer, potentially contaminating ground water, or expelled

into the air during incineration.

Nicholas responded that he would recommend excess and residue poultry-litter fertilizer be

used only on turf farms or golf courses and not sold to agricultural farms "where it could make its way into the food chain."

Richard S. Pasko, D.C., D.A.C.B.R.

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In memory of . . .

Reba Mae Quesinberry, 86, of Seven Lakes, died Thursday, March 20, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mrs. Quesinberry was born in Surry County, a daughter of the late Coy and Onnie Collins Scott. She lived in Moore County for twenty-five years, and was a member of Middlecross Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of forty-seven years, Roy Quesinberry; three daughters, Mora M. McInnis, Debra A. Loftin of Jackson Springs, and Ramona M. Harris, of West End; a sister, Addie Hiatt, of Mount Airy; six grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Saturday, March 22, at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes. The Rev. David Reynolds officiated.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Hudson Irwin Talbott, 84, of Seven Lakes South, died Thursday, March 20, at his home after a brief illness.

Mr. Talbott was born in Kansas City, MO, a son of the late Edward and Carrie Shaw Talbott. He was vice president of Syntex Co., and was a member of Seven Lakes Country Club, Za-GA-Zig, and the Scottish Rite Shriners, Des Moines, IA.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Janet Gail Talbott.

Mr. Talbott is survived by his wife of sixty-two years, Lois Warner Talbott, of Seven Lakes; two sons, Gregory H. Talbott, of Omaha, NE, and Kirk W. Talbott, of Cedar Rapids, IA; and one granddaughter, Brooke Talbott, of Omaha, NE.

A memorial service was held Thursday, March 27, at The Chapel of the Pines in Seven Lakes. The Rev Don Welsh officiated.

Memorials may be sent to the Shriners Hospital for Children, Greenville, SC, or to the Office of Development, 200 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607-1460.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

Dr. William Greer Kenney, 75, of West End, died Friday, March 21, at FirstHealth Moore

Regional Hospital.

Dr. Kenney was born in Chagrin Falls, OH, a son of the late Vernon C. Kenney and Jacqueline Stice Kenney. He was a pediatrician, and was a captain in the U.S. Army for three years.

He was preceded in death by a son, William G. Kenney II.

Dr. Kenney is survived by his wife, Jo C. Kenney, of the home; a son, Jeffery N. Kenney, of Newport News, VA; a stepson, Tim Copper, of Seven Lakes West; a stepdaughter, Teresa Copper Black, of Foxfire Village; and seven grandchildren.

A private memorial service will be held at The Chapel in the Pines Memorial Garden in Seven Lakes, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Holy Childhood, 100 Groton Parkway, Rochester, NY 14614.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is assisting the family.

Thornton Dock Hailey, 80, of West End, died Sunday, March 23, at his home.

Mr. Hailey is survived by six

daughters, Mary Hooker, Barbara Paige, Clestine Brower, all of Johnsonville; Marlene Hailey, of Raeford; Fay Shanklin, of Onleska, WI, and Jinnie Simmons, of the home; two sons, Roy Lee McNeil, of Orlando, FL, and George Hailey, of Southern Pines; a sister, Emmeline Campbell, of Newark, NJ

A funeral service was held Thursday, March 27, at Bostic-Kendrick Funeral Chapel in Southern Pines. The Rev. E. Hooker and Elder Jesse Fairley officiated.



John Duncan Blue, 90, of

Jackson Springs, died Monday, March 24, at FirstHealth Montgomery Memorial Hospital in Troy.

Mr. Blue was born in Montgomery County, a son of Malcolm

and Margaret McKenzie Blue. He was a member of Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church, and was an employee of the state for twenty-two years until

(Continued on page 18)

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My family and I are asking you for your vote on Tuesday, May 6th—to make all our hopes and dreams a reality.

Thank you,
Nick Picerno

Paid for by the Nick Picerno for County Commissioner Committee

In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 17)
his retirement.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Jerry Blue and Johnny Blue.

Mr. Blue is survived by his wife of sixty-seven years, Edith Harris Blue, of the home; one daughter, Judy Blue Simmons, of Candor; one son, Roger Blue, of Clinton; eight grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Thursday, March 27, at Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Suzanne Simpson officiated. Burial followed at Culdee Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 7, Jackson Springs, NC 27281.

Alberta Roemer Spence, 89, of Seven Lakes, died Monday, March 24, at her home with family by her side.

Mrs. Spence was the daughter of born Paul and Josephine Roemer of New York and grew up in Queens and Long Island.

At age 17, she began her dancing career as a Roxyette, now known as the Rockettes. After performing several years at the Roxy Theatre and Radio City, she toured the United States and Canada as an ice skater in

the Roxy Ice Review. Majoring in retailing at New York University, she then became a style coordinator for the Chicago Mail Order Company and modeled for Carmel Bros. of New York. During World War II, she served with the air warning service in Panama. Married to her second husband, C.E. Jack Terry, she lived in Houston, Texas, worked as a buyer for Foley's Department stores, conducted fashion shows for a local TV program, and learned to fly private airplanes, flying in several "powder puff" derbies.

In 1975, she moved to Rocky Mount, North Carolina where she worked at Wedding Designs helping brides be fashionable and designing beautiful wedding veils. In 1992, she married W.R. Spence of Rocky Mount and became a member of the Lakeside Baptist Church and Rocky Mount YMCA.

For the last six years of her life, she has lived in Seven Lakes to be near her children. She attended the West End Presbyterian Church, volunteered for the local animal shelters, volunteered at "Project Linus," swam with her Forever Fit swim group, helped send her grandchildren to college, and enjoyed having many wonderful friends.

Mrs. Spence was preceded in death by her husband, William R. Spence, of Rocky Mount, NC. She is survived by her daughter, Lynn Beattie, and son-in-law, Chuck Beattie of Seven Lakes, and grandchildren, Steven & Jacquelyn Beattie. She is also survived by stepfamily, Betty and Ed Laughinghouse of Greer, SC; Janie and William Spence, Jr. of Raleigh, NC; Cecil Terry of St. Louis, MO; and her cousins, Ann Fouts, Clara Witt, and Erika Witt, of Largo, Florida; and her beloved dog, Chester.

A memorial service was held at West End Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 29, at 2:00 pm, followed by a reception in the Crawford Center. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your nearest animal shelter in honor of her love for animals.

Sean Ian Bennett, 44, of Charlotte, died on Tuesday, March 25.

Mr. Bennett was born in Misawa, Japan, where his parents, Pauline McBride Bennett and the late William Francis Bennett, were stationed.

He worked as a rigger with several theater venues in the Charlotte area, and was a member of the International Alliance

of Theatrical Stage Employees [IATS], local chapter No. 322. He enjoyed rock climbing, weight lifting, and wrestling.

Mr. Bennett is survived by a four-year-old son, Shane Alexander Bennett, and his companion

and mother of his son, Candus McPherson, of the home; his mother, Paula Hill and her husband, Raymond, of Seven Lakes West; a brother, Stephen William McBride Bennett; two stepchildren

(Continued on page 19)

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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 18)

dren, Rachel Albert and Taylor McPherson; two stepbrothers, Michael Hill and Raymond Hill; and three stepsisters, Kathleen Hill, Mary Hill, and Karen Walker.

A Celebration of Life was held Friday, March 28, at McEwen Funeral Chapel at Sharon Memorial Park. The Rev. Scot McComas officiated.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established for Mr. Bennett's children; Sean Ian Bennett Memorial Fund at First Bank, PO Box 438, West End, NC 27376.

McEwen Funeral Service at Sharon Memorial Park in Charlotte assisted the family.

Douglas Charles Morris, 86, died Saturday, March 29, at St. Joseph of the Pines.

Mr. Morris was born in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. He moved with his parents to Rochester, NY and became a naturalized US citizen in 1943. He studied accounting at the Rochester School of commerce and married Naomi Cole in 1943. He served in the US Navy during World War II as a Quartermaster aboard a minesweeper in the South Pacific and was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation.

After the war, he earned a Degree in Architecture from the University of Michigan and settled in Bay City, Michigan where he eventually ran his own archi-

tecture firms designing award-winning schools, churches, and homes around Michigan and New York.

Mr. Morris was an Eagle Scout and served as a Scout Master for many years.

He retired in 1986 and moved to Seven Lakes South where he built a house of his own, unique design. He enjoyed golf, and he helped design remodeling for the Seven Lakes Club-

house and The Chapel in the Pines. He also tutored math at Sandhills Community College.

He was preceded in death by a son Donald Jay Morris.

He is survived by his wife of sixty-five years, Naomi Cole Morris; sons, Douglas Cole Morris of Seven Lakes, David Wayne Morris of California, Dean Evans Morris of New York; brothers, Jack Morris of Virginia, Bob Morris of South Carolina; sisters,

Betty McGrail of Rochester, NY, and June LaGrange of South Carolina.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Friday, April 4, at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

Great gardens wanted!

The Seven Lakes Garden Club is starting their search for gardens for this year's garden tour. Would you like to be on tour?

If you have been working hard to develop a beautiful garden or yard and would like other people to see its beauty then please volunteer for the garden tour this year. Do you

know someone with a beautiful garden? Let us know.

The Seven Lakes Garden Tour will be held on Saturday, June 21. The club is looking for gardens from the North, South, and Westside of Seven Lakes to make this year's Seven Lakes Garden Club tour a success! Call Carmela Chase at 673-2635.

Understanding Hospice

First Health Hospice and Palliative Care will make a presentation on Understanding Hospice on Wednesday, April 9 at 3:00 pm, in the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. This event is open to all North, South, and Westside residents. For more information, call Fran Stark at 673-5493.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 5

- **SLCC Game Show Network Night** – 5:30 pm cocktails, 6:30 pm dinner, Seven Lakes Country Club. Here is your chance to be a contestant on “Seven Lakes Feud,” “Chain Reaction,” or the “Not so Newlywed Game.” Dinner-All-inclusive member cost \$22.50, non-members is \$27.50. Reservations 673-1100.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

- **Doubs Chapel UMC: Native American Sunday** – 1444 Doubs Chapel Road, West End. Speaker is Wade Hunt. A covered dish luncheon will be served.

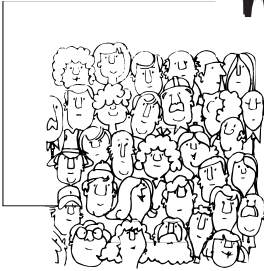
MONDAY, APRIL 7

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 4 pm, Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Work Session** – 8 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes Meeting** – 3 pm, Game Room adjacent to SLLA offices. Brian Hudson, The PC Doctor, presents “Keep It Simple.” With Spring cleaning season here, you might as well include cleaning up the computer.

- Hudson will tell you how. All guests are welcome
- **Ruth Pauley Lecture Series: Project Vote Smart** – 7:30 pm, Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College. Richard Kimball, President of Project Vote Smart, presents “Depen-



What's When Calendar

ing on the Wisdom of Strangers: The Voter's Self Defense System.” The Sam Ragan Memorial Lecture is open to the public, admission is free with no tickets required. Information 245-3132, after 6:00 pm.

- **Does Christian Science Really Heal Sickness and Sin?** – 7:30 pm, Sandhills Horticultural Gardens Visitors Center, SCC, 3395 Airport Road, Southern Pines. Sponsored by First Church of Christ, Scientist with featured speaker John Q. Adams III, CSB, of New York City. All welcome for event. Information, 692-7759.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

- **Grande e Piccolo Art Show**

– 1 – 4 pm, The Gallery at Seven Lakes, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church building on Seven Lakes Drive. Elephants, painted in their natural habitat, plus other native South African animals are exhibited.

Large ethereal landscapes to tiny, golden grumpy guppies, all depicted by nine of your talented Seven Lakes

neighbors. The Gallery is open Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1 - 4 pm through April 17.

- **Understanding Hospice** – 3 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. First Health Hospice and Palliative Care will make a presentation on Understanding Hospice. This event is open to all North, South, and Westside residents. Fran Stark, 673-5493.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

- **Moore County Planning Board Meeting** – 6 pm, Carthage.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

- **Pancake Supper** – 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church, 1444 Doubs Chapel Road, West End. Tickets are \$5.00.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

- **Seven Lakes Chili Cook-off and Street Fair** - 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Sponsored by Seven Lakes Business Guild and Modern Woodmen of America. Held at the Village Business Common Area. Come check out the Chili fixin's and judge for yourself who should win. Business exhibits, fun for the family. Tasting tickets 50¢ each or 3 for \$1.00 or purchase a mug for unlimited tasting. Free admission. See you there!

MONDAY, APRIL 14

- **NARFE Meeting** – 10:30 am, Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett St, Southern Pines. National Active & Retired Federal Employees Sandhills Chapter 1895 guest speaker will be Daniel Oates, First Health Medical Librarian. Chapter 1895 welcomes all Federal, including USPS, active employees, retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses to monthly meetings. Information, Vilma Geisert 215-5898, or George Sandoval 246-9881.

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Call Tammy 603-5300 or Rebecca 315-4141

- **Moore County Board of Education Business Meeting** – 7 pm, Schools Central Office, Carthage.
- **Sandhills Photography Club Meeting** – 7 pm – 9 pm, Christ Fellowship Church, Midland Road & Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. Westsider George Butt will judge a digital competition, the subject is "Humor." Guests are welcome.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

- **League of Women Voters: NC & County Candidates Forum** – 7 pm – 9 pm, Seven Lakes West Community Center. LWV, the Moore County Chapter of the NAACP, and the Seven Lakes Civic Group are sponsoring the forum. Come and meet the candidates for the NC Legislature and the Moore County Board of Commissioners. Information, Linda Tableman at 673-2059.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 1 pm to 6 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Appointments suggested, call 673-4931.
- **SLLA Work Session** – 7:30 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** –

8:30 am, Game Room.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

- **Golf Capital Chorus Banquet** – 6 pm, National Golf Club. To honor twenty-year director Paul Conway. All past and present chorus members are encouraged to attend the event, which will include a roast as well as traditional tunes sung by all. The cost is \$27.50/person. Reservations, Alan Langley at 215-0247.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

- **Women's Wellness Workshop** – 9 am - 1 pm, Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center. Workshop cover all aspects of wellness; fitness and nutrition, spirituality, emotional health, and self expression. Guided interactive activities with leaders Dr. Nadene Peterson of Counseling Professionals, Marjorie Nurnberg of the Seven Lakes Health and Fitness Center, and artist Ann Campbell. Cost \$30 per person. Space limited. Information and registration, 673-3209 or 910-603-4554.
- **Pet Responsibility Day** – 10 am – 3 pm, Southern Middle School, Aberdeen. Celebration featuring agility, Frisbee-catching, and pointing dogs demonstrations. Dogs & cats looking for forever homes, pet-related booths and information, parade, face painting,

music, ice cream, and Houses for Hounds Building Boneanza! Bring your pet for Dog Wash, a \$5 rabies shot, or to be micro-chipped. Vet and a dog trainer will be on hand to answer questions. 949-9953

- **Clenny Creek Day** – 11 am until 4 pm, McLendon Cabin and Bryant House, 3361 Mt. Carmel Road, Carthage. Raffles and fundraiser for Moore County Historical Association, including 100-year old quilt. Information, www.moorehistory.com
- **SLCC Kid's Tennis Carnival** – 1 pm - 2:30 pm, Seven Lakes Country Club Tennis Facility. Program includes a tennis lesson, snacks, and a can of "goodies!" Sponsored by the SLCC Tennis players & Moore Tennis Association. Program under the direction & supervision of SLCC Tennis Professional Bruce Adams. Reservations 673-1096. No charge.

MONDAY, APRIL 21

- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 6 pm, Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

- **League of Women Voters** – 11:30 am, Longleaf Country Club, Southern Pines. Cary McSwain, Moore County Manager, will present Current Events in County Government.

Public is welcome. Cost \$12 includes luncheon. Reservations call Charlotte 944-9611.

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association General Meeting** – 7:30 pm, West Side Park Community Center.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

- **FirstHealth Advance Directives Workshop** – 2 pm – 3:30 pm, Moore County Moore County Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Highway 15-501 Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 Highway 15-501. In conjunction with the first-ever National Healthcare Decisions Day, FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care will host an event designed to highlight the importance of advance directives in health care decisions. "Your Health Care Decisions: Expressing Your Medical Wishes" features a physician, two Hospice professionals, and an attorney who will discuss the new North

Carolina Advance Directives forms.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

- **Devonaire 4-H Horse Club Competition** – all day, Seven Lakes Stables. Competing within age categories, English Division classes are scheduled in the morning with Western Division classes competing in the afternoon. Information, Rebecca Fletcher at 673-5788.
- **Pinehurst Garden Club Plant Sale** – 10 am – 3 pm, parking lot next to Givens Memorial Library, Pinehurst. Flats of vinca or bronze leaf begonias cost \$11.00, 6" pots of geraniums cost \$4.75, all in assorted colors and available by pre-order. Also available; hanging baskets, ferns, mandevilla, lantana, verbena, wave petunias. Call Lynn Delgarn at 215-0811, or Shirley Schultz 235-5284.



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121 Deer Track Rd.Foxfire\$47,900	111 Beacon Ridge Dr.SL West (Golf Front) ..\$69,000
239 Longleaf Dr.SL West\$55,000	148 Otter Dr.SL West (Lake View) ..\$69,000
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Seven Lakes Lions clean up at Easter

by Jerry Genaw
Seven Lakes Lions Club

Lion Dan Flint and his crew of faithful supporters turned out in the cool morning air on the Wednesday before Easter to

insure that the streets of Seven Lakes would be clean and welcoming for the holiday weekend visitors.

In his report, Flint said, "I'm pleased to report that we had a

very successful trash pick-up this morning, Wednesday the 19th of March. Lioness Barbara Lambert and Lions Flint, Genaw, Leeman, Petrie, Pierce, While, and Woods collected fourteen

bags of assorted items."

Thanks to the above for their willingness to participate. We hope that more of our fellow

Lions will volunteer for the next pick-up that will take place in early June.

Big turnout for Egg Hunt

by Linda Criswell
Seven Lakes West

Although the hunt had to be postponed from its originally scheduled date due to questionable weather conditions, the annual Westside Easter Egg Hunt was once again a success. Hundreds of parents and grandparents accompanied some very excited children to the community center for what turn out to be a perfect weather day for such an event. Activities included the egg hunt, prizes for gold and silver eggs, sidewalk drawing, refreshments, and, of course, a visit from the Easter Bunny.

A special thanks to Seven Lakes Hardware for the use of their popcorn machine; which was enjoyed by adults and children alike.



Two-year old Madison Stromberg admiring her pretty colored eggs.



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Soup and Packaged Dinner Calendar for April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 Tomato Florentine Soup ♥ Shepherd's Pie Dinner	8 Broccoli Cheddar Soup Chicken Tetrazzini Dinner	9 Lemon Chicken with Orzo Soup ♥ Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	10 Roasted Tomato & Corn Soup ♥ Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	11 New England Clam Chowder Ginger Beef Dinner ♥
14 Cream of Zucchini Soup Italian Meatloaf Dinner	15 White Bean Chicken Chili Chicken with Artichokes Dinner ♥	16 Potato Leek Soup Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	17 Vegetable Soup ♥ Lemon Shrimp Oriental Dinner ♥	18 Shrimp & Corn Soup Swiss Steak Dinner
21 Split Pea with Barley Soup ♥ Baked Spaghetti Dinner	22 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	23 Chicken Dumpling Soup Beef Enchiladas Dinner	24 Mushroom & Wild Rice Soup ♥ Ginger Salmon Dinner ♥	25 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥ Pork with Apples & Sage Dinner
28 Lentil Soup ♥ Salisbury Steak Dinner	29 Beef Barley Soup ♥ Chicken Parmesan Dinner	30 Tomato Basil Soup ♥ Pot Roast Dinner	May 1 Chilled Cucumber Soup Crab Cakes Dinner ♥	May 2 New England Clam Chowder Vegetable Manicotti Dinner ♥

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Mobile meals at Kiwanis

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

Kathy Hopkins, the local director of the Meals on Wheels program spoke to the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club

In its thirty-fourth year of delivering meals to shut-ins, the Meals on Wheels program consists of delivering one hot meal,

Monday through Friday to people who are unable to handle that chore by themselves. There are no restrictions [age, financial status, etc.] for recipients. If the client can afford it, the cost is \$2.00 per meal. The meals are prepared at the Penick Home in Southern Pines and are essentially the same food that the

Penick residents receive.

A high majority of the clients live alone, which means that the social interaction between the delivery person and the client is a very important side benefit of the program.

On more than one occasion the delivery person has been the one to find a client unconscious or in distress of one kind or another. Clients support about fifty percent of the cost of the program, with the remaining costs covered by donations from churches and other organizations.

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



Kathy Hopkins of Meals on Wheels is flanked by Ron McGaughy, Program Chairman, and Ed Schroeder, President.

WEST END FIRE DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE

THE WEST END FIRE DISTRICT WILL
HOLD THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE WEST END FIRE AND RESCUE
DEPARTMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2007 AT 5:00 PM
AT THE WEST END FIRE STATION
4203 NC HWY 73.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO
NOMINATE AND ELECT THREE (3) DISTRICT
RESIDENTS TO THE WEST END FIRE AND
RESCUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALL FIRE DISTRICT RESIDENTS ARE URGED TO
ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT PUBLIC MEETING.

Interested in Extended Hours for 7 Lakes Ummer Day Camp?

Extended day camp hours this Summer may be an option if there is enough interest.

Daily swimming, games, crafts, outdoor supervised play, and plenty of fun – the Summer camp will run from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday thru Friday, with also a half-day option.

There will be a limited number of spaces. If you are interested in the extended day program, please call Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane at 673-4931, as soon as possible.

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Vote Smart

(Continued from page 8)
[reporters] questions.”

Other founders and notable members of Project Vote Smart include such diverse political backgrounds as former Senator George McGovern, former Governor Michael Dukakis, Senator

Bill Frist, former Senator Newt Gingrich, and former President Jimmy Carter.

Munro said voters must assume “a vigilante mentality” to encourage participation in the Political Courage Test. “The more of us who insist on voting for

candidates who are willing to come out and say what they believe, the more candidates will do it.”

Approximately half of the elected officials representing North Carolina agreed to take the test – formerly called the National

Political Awareness Test [NPAT].

The Munro's spent two weeks at the Project Vote Smart headquarters in Montana as member-volunteer interns.

“What impressed me was how careful they were that they got the facts straight,” said Munro.

Helen Munro agreed, “I found myself liking certain candidates from their answer – because of the way it was worded, those are the people I would vote for.”

Carl Munro elaborated, “Even though I would disagree with a
(See “Vote Smart” p. 27)



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NEAR THE BEACH — A block from Sequoia Pt. 3 BR, 2BA, fantastic Carolina Rm, beautifully landscaped private lot, low maintenance exterior on Primrose Ct. New tile in baths, kitchen, utility rm & Carolina Rm . . . **\$220,000**



WATERFRONT ON LITTLE JUNIPER - 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**



RENOVATED GEM - New listing in SL North, located near Sequoia Beach area. Super condition with master BR on the main level and 2 BR above. Fireplace in great rm, separate family rm, workshop, huge bonus rm . . . **\$229,500**



NEW CONSTRUCTION - 7 Lakes South near bus stop. Lots of very nice upgrades in this 3 BR (split plan) with separate office. Cathedral ceilings, hardwood & tile, rear porch, front porch, & stainless steel appliances. . . . **\$242,000**



COLONIAL IN 7 LAKES SOUTH - Large home with 4 BR and 2.5 BA, hardwood floors in DR & LR, new appliances, lots of attic storage, located on three lots (1.79 acres) across street from the golf course (8th hole) . . . **\$249,000**



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.
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LAKEFRONT ON BIG JUNIPER LAKE - This new listing has a great view of the lake and includes a large Carolina room, split bedroom, vaulted ceilings and more. Call us for an appointment. . . . **\$249,900**



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! . . . **\$299,900**



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**



HIGHLY DESIRABLE TOWNHOUSE - Priced for quick sale. Three bedroom, two bath with Carolina Room and very nice open floor plan. Great location near the south gate and the Seven Lakes Country Club. . . **\$155,000**



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**

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#1015 - Private with Good Perc - \$26,500

#196 - Reduced/ Dbl Lots - \$27,000

#215/220 - Reduced! - \$28,500

#1004/05 - Two/wet - \$6,900

#2343 - Golf Front Triple Lot - \$45,000

#2475 - Nice Slope - \$21,500

#2562R - 1.64 Acres with Perc - \$24,900

#2574R - Lake View - \$19,000

#2495 - Private - \$20,000

#2514 - Good Perc - \$24,900

#2545 - Cul-de-sac - \$15,000

#5218R - Double - \$79,000

#5433 - Under Contract! - \$47,500

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Westside

(Continued from front page)

heading the Safety/Security Committee, and Fewkes overseeing Environment/Lakes & Dams

Manager's Report

After forty years of service in public management, Tony Robertson told the incoming board that it was, "time for me to smell the roses."

Robertson took the time to acknowledge and thank each board member for their work and welcomed the incoming members. "Do what is in your heart and what you believe is right for the community and you don't have anything to worry about," said Robertson. "You have a great slate of officers and directors and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the boards – all have the community in their heart."

An anticipated end of the year

retirement by Robertson necessitates a timely board decision, reminded Haggard, whether to begin the hiring process for a new community manager or transition to a management company.

Finance

Treasurer Kathy Kirst provided an overview of last years' audit, finances, and the budget process.

Several named reserved funds for capital projects are maintained, including roads, dams, and contingency funds. "This is not a business or a government agency, if you don't spend money [within fiscal year], we still have it – it goes into reserves," said Kirst.

All bills and payments under the current budget must be received and checks cut prior to April 30, explained Kirst. "Everything is set to zero on April 30."

Audits are performed every other year, reported Kirst, with a

financial review performed during intervening years.

Proposed Covenant Change

If the USPS approves the most recent request for curbside delivery of mail to residents of Seven Lakes West, such a change would require an amendment to the Covenants document of Seven Lakes West members, with an approval vote of sixty-seven percent.

A ballot for the covenant change request will be included in the annual SLWLA mass-mailing this Spring.

"This will speed up the process if we get [USPS] approval," said President Jim Haggard.

Secretary's report

Secretary Ed Tuton reported meeting minutes and other records are stored electronically off-site in a safe deposit box at First Bank, with access limited to administrative staff and Treasurer.

Financial records are backed up weekly and Tuton explained that additional selected committee minutes are also stored; including lakes, dams, and infrastructure.

Area representatives have updated five or six categories of the Rules and Regulations, reported Tuton.

As head of the Nominating Committee, Tuton asked each director to be proactive in identifying potential future board members.

Infrastructure

"We are a small town from an operation and infrastructure standpoint," said Director Ray MacKay. He explained his duties include oversight of street maintenance and repair, grounds and facilities maintenance and repair, and that he serves as a liaison with utility services.

Noting that this is MacKay's sixth and final year on the SLWLA board, Tony Robertson described MacKay as one of the community's most valuable assets.

(See "Westside," p. 41)

Vote Smart

(Continued from page 26)

respondent's position, sometimes the position they took made a lot of sense and based on that they would have gotten my vote."

Munro said he believed that there are very few times today when a voter will be lined up with every position for a particular candidate.

"The line is blurred," said Munro. "Independents are probably the one group that can accept change more so than any other – and if they truly behave as independents, they will control elections."

Brought up as a Republican, Helen said she married a Democrat and is registered as an Independent.

"It's the Independents that most need a source of information that is independent of either party and not based on spin," said Munro.

"That's why it's called The Voter Self-Defense Manual. Go find the facts, it won't cost you anything. Become a smarter cit-

izen and, as such, do a better job in the election process."

An up-to-date Project Vote Smart Voter Self-Defense Manual is available on-line at www.vote-smart.org or you can call toll-free 888-VOTE-SMART [888-868-3762].

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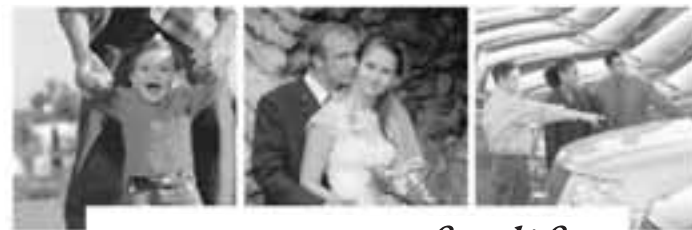
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‘Biscuit.’ It’s such a tranquil name, no?

A blur of fur and fury is all that I saw and I couldn’t help but wonder, “Can dogs be bipolar?”

Not that I am in the habit of making light of serious medical conditions, but bipolar is characterized not as a single disorder but an entire category of mood disorders. Anyone who has ever been owned by cat could tell you that this is the very definition of a feline.

However, I had always thought of loyal Fido as being slightly more stable. That is until last month.

Succumbing to the mind-numbing pressure of parental guilt, I opened my house and heart to the sweetest set of brown eyes you ever saw. Two-years old and of mostly Labrador retriever heritage, Biscuit spends the major-

ity of her day camouflaged as a speed bump. Her pale fur blends nicely with our carpet — a real plus for the maid. Yes, that means Mom.

Now there were no big surprises as our new pup negotiated territory and her place in the pecking order

against the stone-cold killer cat that also shares our domicile. A quick study, Biscuit

is wary of those well-

armed swipes of pure evil.

In true testament to her manic species, Milkshake can purr contentedly, bat her bedroom eyes, and draw blood — all at the same time. Worse, like a spi-

der, she’ll draw in unsuspecting victims with a simpering little meow and friendly cocked head . . . right before pouncing.

I’ve considered posting one of those signs at my door that reads, “Warning Attack Cat on Premises.”



Laura’s Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

It’s probably no wonder that I prefer to play with my daughter’s Webkinz kitten. Fast becoming my number one guilty pleasure, these fuzzy stuffed toys are your ticket inside a magical world

of internet games, chat rooms, and dress-ups. An award-winning computer program for children, I must confess its appeal works on big kids too.

My princess has amassed a collection of four pets; my son lags behind with only three. Each child has built their own cyberspace house, furnished with toys, appliances, clothing, food, even windows and gardens — all selected and purchased with points acquired by playing on-line games. I remind myself that my little darlings are learning valuable skills like budgeting, math, and reading. But of course, as a fellow addict — I know it’s all about having fun.

If only bathing, feeding, and exercising my real pets were so easy. And don’t even get me started on vet visits!

Luckily Biscuit arrived with a clean bill of health, though her behavior of late has left me thumbing the yellow pages for a doggy shrink.

An absolute angel while houseguests are seated, Biscuit’s latent herding instinct kicks in as soon as anyone walks or stands. Forgetting all her good hostess manners, she’ll growl, pace, and even on occasion nip at the offending ‘wolf.’

Though after years of sustained chronic fear of our predatory cat, most of my guests are fairly nonplussed to find I’ve also adopted a bipolar dog.

Maybe I should rethink that entrance warning sign, remove my Welcome wreath, and look to Dante for inspiration: “All hope abandon, ye who enter here.”

An open letter to the Lakes & Dams Committee

To put it bluntly, our Lakes & Dams Committee for better or worse, has been “hijacked” by our Board of Directors and Don Truesdell, who has yet another year left on his term and has been appointed to chair it.

Our President, Randy Zeilsdorf, has told us that, because we described ourselves as a committee, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA],

under his interpretation of its rules of governance, simply had to assume control of our group and assign a board member to it as chairman. Where this is written no one knows. We have also been told that had we named ourselves the Lakes and Dams Club, we would have been left alone.

Be that as it may, Don Truesdell then, in what can only be

described as a rather abrupt phone conversation, advised me that I was no longer welcome on the committee which I had helped initiate. Mr. Zielsdorf’s analysis of our current rules suggests that he has every right to do so.

Such a step sets a terrible precedent. It suggests that any new Board member, on little more than a whim, may arbi-

trarily fire any committee member who has dedicated time and energy on the community’s behalf. And, it sure encourages nepotism.

Because this is no longer the committee I envisioned and because irconcilable differences have arisen between Mr. Truesdell and myself, differ-

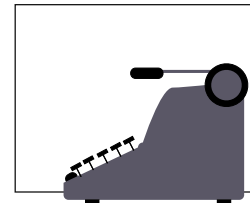
ences which are non-negotiable, I am taking what I call a “leave of absence”, effective immediately and to continue until such time as he no longer occupies that chair and can no longer dictate the committee’s structure, composition, philosophy, or direction. Hopefully next year we’ll see a new chairman, as well as a new philosophy.

I’ll miss your deliberations and your freedom of expression. Continue to assert it. Thanks to you all we accomplished a great deal in a very few short months, so much so that we were not allowed to continue. I

hope that in the next few days you accord each of our prospective engineering consultants the attention and courtesy they deserve. They are visiting us at their

Your Turn

Ron Erskine
Seven Lakes North



SEVEN
LAKES TIMES

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Inner substance . . .

What is it that can make one rivet attention on someone else?

Is it physical attractiveness or some subtle or outward mannerisms like gentle and approving responses to others, or just

tion of the uniqueness of many persons we run across is a blessing that is handed to us as a gift. Sure, there are lots of residents of our world who are imprisoned by a too routine or repetitive existence that virtually nothing unique seems to emanate from them.

But then there are those who are blessed with inner joy, and imagination, and feelings nurturing in a continually pleasing way the gifts they have inherited from God. It's uncanny but seemingly true that those who have such depth seem to instinctively let it benefit the spirits of others.

Depth of spirit is the secret, but it's not so easy to come by. That's a trait whose birth can often trace to the impact of one's generational history. Like remem-

bering and adopting without realizing it, such as that endearing trait of the widowed aunt you grew up with.

Isn't that the kind of friend

you'd like to have? Or already do? Learning from the best in others: a healthy assist on the road of life.



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

whole-hearted exclamations that can lift the spirits of those nearby?

An almost instant apprecia-

Thank you

Dear Friends and Extended Family of Seven Lakes,

Thank you for your support and comfort during this time of grief.

Your cards, visits, and calls are so appreciated since my son Sean Bennett died last Tuesday.

I just wanted to express my gratitude to the community for your outpouring of support and comfort during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Paul Hill and
Stephen Bennett
Seven Lakes West

Thanks for support

Dear Editor:

An Open Letter to Seven Lakes West Homeowners,

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Karen Milligan
Ron Shepard &
Ed Silberhorn

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Nancy Roy Fiorillo: District 2

(Continued from page 10)

the state's department of Commerce, where she first began working in land use planning. She noted that her position with the state gave her an opportunity to work with counties throughout the Piedmont and Sandhills regions of the state.

She served as Moore County's Planning Director from 1997 to 2002, during the initial creation of a county land use plan and countywide zoning. She served as Cumberland County's Planning Director from 2003 to 2005 and, having retired from that post, is currently the Chairperson of the Moore County Planning Board as well as a member of the Area A Small Area Plan Steering Committee.

Fiorillo also noted in an interview with *The Times* that she has small business experience, having founded and operated Sandhills Bridge Studio in Southern Pines. She sold the business last year.

Why run?

Asked why she decided to run for election, Fiorillo said she felt serving on the Board of Commissioners "is a logical extension of what I have been doing for my entire career."

"I recognized some years ago that Chairman McKenzie would not be holding his seat forever," Fiorillo said. "Someone is going to have to step up, I thought. Eventually, I realized that someone could be me."

"I am very proud to consider Chairman McKenzie as a friend, as a mentor, and to have his endorsement — to follow in his footsteps in District II."

Objectives, Issues?

Asked what she hoped to accomplish if elected to the board, Fiorillo replied, "When you're president you can have one agenda. When you're one of five commissioners, you have to look at what together the five of you can accomplish."

The number one issue facing the county "is growth and how we are going to handle that," she said. "Managing the growth and letting it occur in a responsible way."

"Planning is going to become very, very important where growth is concerned."

The number two issue is "the

decisions we are going to have to make about water," Fiorillo told *The Times*. We will have to work very, very closely with the recommendations coming out of the McGill study." Noting that she had seen the McGill recommendation presented a number of times, Fiorillo said, "I believe I would be a well-informed

commissioner — new, but pretty well informed. I will be able to be an asset to the team on this issue."

"The final issue is taxes," she said. "We saw the Land Transfer Tax defeated at the same time school bonds were overwhelmingly approved. What is the message the voters are sending?

Do voters want better services but don't want to pay for them? We have to find the right vehicle to pay for the things that voters have clearly said they want."

"I'm not going to single-handedly accomplish anything," Fiorillo said. "I'm going to be a team player work with the other commissioners. I have always been

a consensus builder — and I have never been seen as obstructive or difficult to deal with."

Water for Seven Lakes

"There's the quickest way and then, from what I am hearing and reading, there's the way

(Continued on page 31)



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Nancy Roy Fiorillo: District 2

(Continued from page 30)

that's the most effective in the long run," Fiorillo replied when asked the quickest and most effective way to get more water to Seven Lakes.

"Most efficient is just to get a line from Montgomery County down 211," she explained. But the longer term solution is to "get the Robbins plant back in operation . . . We're not sure what the bill is on that. But it would help Robbins, and it would help Seven Lakes. It would be expensive, but for long term it would be something we could count on for two million gallons per day."

"There are two solutions," she concluded. "Those are some of the difficult decisions that all five of the commissioner must make."

Looking beyond the needs of Seven Lakes to other parts of the county, Fiorillo said solutions chosen will need to take into account regulations governing the transfer of water from one river basin to another. Because the county's wastewater treatment plant discharges treated wastewater into the Lumber River Basin, that basin should probably be the first choice for new water supplies. "What makes sense for the long term is addi-

tional water from Drowning Creek," Fiorillo said, "so that we are not limited about discharge." Ultimately that means expanding water purchases from Southern Pines, she noted.

Any water planning on the part of the county will be better done in cooperation with the municipalities, Fiorillo said, praising the Moore County Summit as a very positive cooperative effort. "The Summit is probably the most encouraging means of communication I have seen for a long time," she told *The Times*.

Though she was working in Fayetteville at the time that effort was organized, "I took a vacation day to attend the first meeting of the Summit," she said. "I felt it would be something big. I remember when there was not a good relationship among the county and municipalities. Now there is an exceptional relationship and a dialog going on. When we look at the goal of preserving and protecting the county, we are all in this together."

Area A Plan

Asked how the Area A Small area Plan fits into the overall scheme of development ordinances, Fiorillo said the draft

plan contains two types of recommendations: "One type are discrete to Area A. The other type are recommendations that the committee felt would be good for Area A, but could be good for the county as a whole."

She noted that Area A has some features that are unique in the county: "No one else has a Seven Lakes Business District. No one else has the little hamlets like Jackson Springs and Eagle Springs."

"Nothing in the plan is law," Fiorillo said, "but the Commissioners have to think very carefully about endorsing the plan. They would be endorsing ideas that could only be implemented by changes in the zoning ordinance and subdivision ordinance. I'm not saying they would need to be ready to make all those changes immediately, but they should be in agreement with all the recommendations before they approve the plan."

That is particularly the case with the recommendations that are specific to Area A, she added.

"The Steering Committee

members have been looking at these issues and recommendations for over two years," Fiorillo said. "It won't be a quick process for the county to put these into a form that could become ordinances."

Asked whether she supports the Area A plan, Fiorillo replied "Yes. I do. I think it has some great potential and some great ideas that were thoroughly researched by people on the committee and endorsed by the people who live in Area A."

"But I'm not surprised that it has been sent back to the Planning Board. What we need to do now is present in a clearer fashion which recommendations are specific to Area A and which might require changes to countywide ordinances."

"There's no rush to approve it," Fiorillo added. "We have new ordinances in place. I'm very happy with those new ordinances."

She noted that the developer of one recently approved development in Area A — on Holly Grove School Road — has

already incorporated some of the Area A suggestions into his plan, even though the plan has not yet been approved.

A countywide water and land use plan?

Asked whether she would support rolling out the Small Area Planning process in other parts of the county, Fiorillo said she plans to suggest instead that the county mount a new countywide effort that would combine land use and water planning. Noting the de facto link between infrastructure expansion and development, she asked, "Why not do comprehensive water and land-use planning? What better way to encourage public input into land use as well as the future water plan?"

Recalling the work on the original countywide land use plan, when she was Planning Director, Fiorillo said "Ten years ago, we had twenty or more public meetings and gathered input from all over the county. It's a very staff intensive job, but the rewards

(Continued on page 32)



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Nancy Roy Fiorillo: District 2

(Continued from page 31)

would be tremendous. It would be a good opportunity to take crucial water and growth issues and put them both together."

"Water, sewer, and roads drive change," she continued. "We have an opportunity to do planning around water. I believe we should take this opportunity. I would suggest the idea to Board of Commissioners, should I join them in December."

"We have to make sure, if we have more water availability, that we stay true to our land use goals. The top goal the last time was to maintain the rural and agricultural culture of county. I would like to hear from county residents again. I don't believe the top goal would be to extend water throughout the county in order to have development sprawled all over the county."

"We need to have cooperative planning between the county and the development community," she concluded.

County building plans

Noting that her first office as County Planner was in the bottom of the historic courthouse in Carthage, Fiorillo says she can testify firsthand that the county needs a consolidated county administration building, in large part "for reasons of convenience to the general public." At one point the county planning and environmental health departments shared the same office, which meant builders and homeowners had to make only one stop for their permitting needs.

"There's nothing like being in the very same building," Fiorillo said. "It would increase efficiency."

Beyond the county's administrative needs, Fiorillo notes that the state and the courts have said the county needs a new jail and that the voters have approved building plans for the public schools and community college. "What the voters approve, we need to fund."

Tax impact?

Asked about the impact of these capital projects on the tax rate, Fiorillo said, "My understanding is that the tax increase to fund these improvements depends on which bonds get sold when — how many millions of dollars of bonds we sell

in which year. I'm not privy to those discussions at this point."

She noted that the impact on property taxes will also depend on whether the voters approve the proposed quarter-cent increase in the county sales tax.

Asked whether low taxes are

an important attractant for new residents, Fiorillo said, "I know what the taxes were on my mother's house in Massachusetts — a third the house for three times the taxes."

"I don't think that [a low tax rate] is always the draw. I think our

county is attractive for many other reasons: the rural ambiance, the small town charm, the golf courses, the equestrian opportunities, the atmosphere of our county — it's like one big small town. That's what I love about Moore County, and that's

what they love about it too. Did they all move here for low taxes? That's not necessarily the draw."

"I am not for increasing taxes just because we need to increase taxes," Fiorillo added. "If we have needs, we need to fund them."

(See "Fiorillo," p. 33)

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Nick Picerno: District 2

(Continued from page 10)

wanted to make their own way. They saw that if you were determined enough and set your dreams right you could achieve what ever you wanted to achieve. That attitude made a big influence on me."

Raised in Moore County, Picerno, who now lives in McLendon Hills, was a nominee for a Morehead Scholarship and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a degree in chemistry and math. "I came away from Chapel Hill

with a good background in learning how to think," He told *The Times*, "in learning how to solve problems."

"The key thing I learned was that you have to get all the facts before you start your analysis and make your decisions."

Picerno started teaching himself to program computers in 1979. His mother worked for the DA Kelly chain of clothing stores, and Archie Kelly, the chain's owner, hired Picerno to computerize his inventory. With that

project complete, he went out on his own looking for new programming assignments. He eventually formed Southern Software, Inc., which specializes in administrative and law enforcement software for local governments. His first customer was the Village of Foxfire; he computerized the municipality's utility bills.

The company now has more than 50 employees and hundreds of accounts all over the southeast. Picerno told *The Times* that he hired many Sandhills Community College graduates over the years and always told them that, if they worked hard, they would one day own a piece of the company. He made good on that pledge a couple of years

ago, when he retired from active involvement in the company and sold Southern Software to its employees through an Employee Stock Ownership Program.

Why run?

"I am really, really concerned about where our county is headed, financially, and planning-

(Continued on page 34)

Fiorillo

(Continued from page 32)

How else are they going to be funded? Having good schools helps maintain our property values. A few cents on the property tax is well worth it to have educated kids, reducing crime, reducing welfare dependency. Even if our rate were raised a bit, it would still be relatively low."

"The challenge in government is making sure that whatever tax money is spent, is spent wisely. Local government is the most accountable because it is closest to the people. . . . We have to be very careful about how we spend money. Moore County has been and will continue to be very fiscally responsible. That's just our nature in Moore County and I don't see that changing.

Final thoughts

"People all choose to serve their community in some way," Fiorillo said in conclusion. "Some choose to be tutors at the grammar schools, some pick up pinecones — the are a lot of ways to volunteer and help the community."

"Running for the Board of Commissioners is what I want to do to help community. Everything I have done in the last 24 years has led me to that. What I have been able to learn and do qualifies me to be a member of the Moore County Board of Commissioners."

Economic Development

Asked what else she had to add, Fiorillo wanted to talk about economic development in the county. "Partners in Progress does a very good job," she said. Their mission statement is to recruit small businesses and encourage entrepreneurship. That's great. New businesses should fit in with our existing businesses and our atmosphere."

"Is there room for a large industry in the county?" Fiorillo asked. "Yes, in the right place. Robbins would love to have some industry. Right now many people travel out of country to work at plants in other counties. I would love for Moore County to have an industry that would employ them."

"I am a supporter of economic development in the right way — and I feel Partners in Progress is doing it in the right way."

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Nick Picerno: District 2

(Continued from page 33)

wise," Picerno told *The Times* when asked why he had decided to run for the District II seat on the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

"We have good people working hard for our county. I haven't got any complaints about the quality of the county staff. But I think I can use my skills in problem solving to help develop a bigger picture. Where does our county want to be in 20 years? That's the question we need to be asking."

"My background and my values — those I learned from my Mom and Dad, learning how to think critically, at Chapel Hill,

passing on my company to my employees — those values will stand well in trying to answer that question."

"I want to be the kind of person that listens to people and then takes that voice to the county government," Picerno said. "I like it that I am not a so-called 'politician.' I am a citizen — who will endure the politics, so that I can serve the people. Politics is the 'no fun' part of this. What I like about the job of commissioner is to go in and help my county be the best county in the state."

"Everybody in my family lives here," Picerno told *The Times*, "I've got 'em scattered all over the county. So I have a vested inter-

est in the county, in seeing it grow and prosper and in protecting our natural resources."

Planning instead of reacting

Picerno said the county needs to plan better, so that it is not always in the "reacting" mode.

"It seems like right now we are reacting," he said, reacting to the water shortage, reacting to being out of space in our facilities. Those are the places where I see that we have to do a better job."

Picerno said he has been impressed with the level of cooperation among county and municipal leaders who are participating in the Moore County Summit.

"How about expanding that effort into a Moore County vision summit," he suggested. "We could use it to develop ideas to help guide the thinking at the county level. If we could get that kind of cooperation and vision, everyone could have a say in county government and where the county is headed."

But when planning for the future, it is important not to tread cautiously when creating new regulations, Picerno cautioned. "We have to be very smart in our vision so when we plan ahead, we don't create rules and regulations that have unintended consequences."

Involving the public in plan-

ning is important, but that also requires educating the public, Picerno told *The Times*. "I don't think we do a very good job of educating the taxpayers about where their money is going," he said.

"We had a big tax increase last year. We need to somehow find a mechanism where we let people know where that money is going, so they share ownership in county decisions. Let's make sure everybody in our county has a sense of ownership." He suggested including a breakdown on county spending in the annual tax bills that are mailed to residents.

(Continued on page 35)

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Nick Picerno: District 2

(Continued from page 7)

More water for Seven Lakes

Asked what the best way is to get more water to Seven Lakes, Picerno used the question to highlight his preferred approach to decision-making.

"When we faced a big strategic question like this in our company, one of the first things we did was find the best experts that you can find."

"The commissioners are not experts on water," Picerno said. "So, if you're not an expert, what you do is hire the very best you can find — you hire the very best and you empower them."

Picerno told *The Times* that the question about how best to bring water to Seven Lakes needs first to be answered by the county's own expert, Public Works Director Dennis Brobst. "The question needs to be directed to him. Let him respond, make the decision, and then empower him to get it done."

"I'm not a water expert," Picerno said, I'm an expert at getting things done, finding out how to pay for it, and educating the taxpayers about what we did with their money. We need to empower the people that know what needs to be done — the people that have all the facts."

Noting that there are a variety of water options, including a line down NC Highway 211 from Montgomery County or a line from the Dormie Club development on NC Highway 73, Picerno said, "With all the rules and regulations — and other factors — that have to be considered, it's the people that do it for a living who need to educate the people that make the decisions and then let them do it."

Asked whether he felt Seven Lakes could have more water by Summer 2009, Picerno replied, "If we empower our people. Let's quit talking, and let's decide what the action is going to be. Let's lay it out and get it going."

Area A

"Planning and zoning has its place," Picerno said when asked how the Area plan fits into other county regulations. "The reason I am in McLendon Hills, is that my neighbor in Carthage brought in a business beside of my home and forced me out. I had to leave

the home where I thought I would live the rest of my life."

"I know that zoning has its place," he continued, "but just like everything that our government tries to do for us, unintended consequences happen — some business or individual, gets hurt. We need clean water, and we need our environment kept where it is pristine. We need people to be able to come and play golf, ride horses. We need people to come visit our potters, museums, and historic places."

"I applaud the work of the Area A Steering Committee," Picerno said. "I know how much time they spent. They are citizens and they pretty much got it right. But the devil is in the little details that can come back and bite us."

"Preserving water, and protecting those things I mentioned are all critical, but how do we do that? There are professional people who know more about the water issues than an ordinary citizen will know. And unintended consequences could hurt — they could keep a first-class developer out."

"That's the way we need to be thinking," Picerno continued. "It's the Republican in me: we don't want more government and more regulation. We want enough to protect what needs protecting."

"Every vote on these things needs to be done with all of the facts before us," he added. "Not a few of the facts and lot of emotion."

Asked whether he supported the Area A plan, Picerno replied, "I support the effort and support the idea. I like visionary planning and looking ahead. What I would question is passing it without getting all the best information — before getting all the facts."

"Before we start restricting people's freedom, we need to have all the facts."

"Being Commissioner, you have to put a lot of time in," he added. "I'm willing, when elected to put the time in. I have the time."

County building projects

Asked whether the county really needs the new schools and other buildings it is planning, Picerno returned to the

importance of educating the taxpayers. "If we educate the people, and they say yes, then they recognize that they have to pay for it."

Picerno is a member of the county's newly appointed task force on government efficiency and said he learned that the county did a study of its need for office space and facilities in 2004 or 2005. Ultimately, the people in the best position to answer questions about the need for facilities are members of the county staff, Picerno told *The Times*. "The person who knows what we need at the jail is the sheriff," he said.

Ultimately, the decision rests with the taxpayers. "If there's not

enough money on hand, then you have to make a decision: do the voters want the space and are they willing to pay for it."

"Sometimes we make decision based on emotions," Picerno said. "But if we look down the road and are proactive in

our planning — saying, if we don't do it now, then here are the consequences — then we can make a better informed decision without the emotions getting in the way."

(See "Picerno," p. 36)

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Tim Sloan: District 4

(Continued from page 11)

"My joys in life are my family and working with children," Sloan told *The Times*. He uses some of the more exotic animals in his pet store — hedgehogs, boa constrictors, and the like — to put on educational programs in local schools.

"I love being involved in the community," Sloan said.

Why run?

Asked why he chose to run for a seat on the county Board of Commissioners, Sloan told *The Times* that he felt like there is a need for a change in Carthage.

"This time I just saw a need for a change in county government. In talking with people, I didn't hear that anyone else was going to step up to the table and run."

Though he's "always been interested in politics," Sloan said, "I'm not a politician, and I'm not pretending to be a politician. I'm a small business owner here in town, who knows what it is like to meet a payroll, and find and keep customers."

"Sometimes in government, people — because it's not their money — forget to do all the leg work they need to before spending tax dollars."

Objectives, issues

Asked what he hoped to accomplish if elected, Sloan told *The Times* that "Fiscal responsibility is a big point. I get frus-

trated when I feel my money is not being well spent. I don't mind paying taxes, but want to make sure those tax dollars are well spent. I'm not sure the government is always as responsible as it should be with the taxpayers' money.

"Controlled growth" is a second key point in Sloan's list of objectives. "I'm a proponent of growth," he told *The Times*. "If you're not growing, then you are growing stagnant. If you're not growing, you won't have the money to maintain the infrastructure you have," let alone expand it.

"I want a thriving economy here, because it helps small business owners like me and everyone like me," he added.

Asserting that county leaders over the past several years have not adequately planned for growth, Sloan said, "We need to come up with a short term plan that will get us through the fact that other folks haven't planned for growth."

Sloan sees value in bringing a more business-like approach to running the county. He said County Commissioners need to rely on the expertise of their department heads and staff. "As a business owner, I have found that you can't micro-manage people. You have to train them properly, rely on them to get the job done, and then reward them for good work."

The relationship between the

commissioners and county staff should be similar, Sloan said. As a commissioner, "You have to be a big picture person . . . It's all about planning and coming up with a plan and handing it off and having them go do it."

"Being an active business owner provides a different and needed perspective," he said. "I would like to take the business person's mentality and apply that to county government. I think [District II Candidate] Nick [Picerno] has the same mentality."

Finally, Sloan says he will take a sharp pencil to the county

budget before considering tax increases.

"I don't think we need to run around increasing taxes," he told *The Times*. "We need to find where money can be had other ways — by having people tighten their own budgets down."

His resistance to tax hikes doesn't mean Sloan sees no need for county spending. "We have some real needs with schools," he told *The Times*. "Having kids in temporary classrooms is not good," he said, not-

(Continued on page 37)



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Picerno

(Continued from page 35)

Tax increase

Asked what kind of tax increase Moore County can expect over the next few years, Picerno replied, "I don't have enough facts to tell you right now."

"Sitting on this [government efficiency] task force we are going to be able to find some of these answers out — figure out the best way to pay for it. Government is a big business. We need to run it as a big business."

"I don't want to take people's money unless they are willing to pay for it," Picerno said of taxes, noting that the state mandates require the county to pay for schools, the jail, and other facilities and services. "We need to educate folks . . . If people are

educated and told why we have to build jails, then it still may hurt, but you are more willing to pay for it."

Final thoughts

"In our election there is a real choice," Picerno said in conclusion. "What I am offering is a fresh perspective — problem-solving pro-active type of thinking."

"I'm offering leadership to help us get through a real critical time with all these capital needs. I intend to get people involved. I'm a strong believer in government for the people, by the people."

"I want to go serve. I want to go work."

Tim Sloan: District 4

(Continued from page 36)

ing that he planned to meet with Moore County Schools Superintendent Dr. Susan Purser in order to get her perspective on priorities.

"That will be my approach to all the departments in the county," he told *The Times*. "I plan to begin speaking with some of the department heads to get their feel for what needs to be done. That's what you have to do: Pull in their opinions and come up with an overall plan."

"I'm a very forthright person," Sloan said, "What you see is what you get. I hate to wear a tie, but I'm always willing to roll up my sleeves and do what needs to be done."

Water for Seven Lakes

Asked what is the best and quickest way to get more water to Seven Lakes and the rest of Area A, Sloan said he recently met with two members of the Robbins Town Council to discuss water issues.

"We want to sell water, they told me. It seems to make sense to me, if they want to sell and Seven Lakes wants the water, the we need to find out how to get it from one place to another," Sloan said.

Noting that he had attended a recent Moore County Summit meeting that including a full briefing on the countywide water study compiled by McGill and Associates, Sloan told *The Times*, "Their plan included short term and long term objectives and it looked very well done."

"The whole interbasin transfer problem kind of blew my mind," he added. "To think that we couldn't ship water from one side of the county to any other."

"That may take some help at the state and local level. We may need to get [Congressman] Howard Coble or [State Senator] Harris Blake to help us with that. If the water is there and it makes more sense and costs less to get it from there, we don't need unnecessary regulations standing in the way."

Asked whether additional water could be supplied to Seven Lakes by Summer 2009, Sloan replied, "I don't see why not."

"But money is a huge concern," he added, "and I don't know the specifics yet."

Area A Plan

"I haven't read the Area A plan yet," Sloan said when asked how the Small Area Plan fit in with the existing land use plan and development ordinances. "I haven't gotten to that yet."

Reacting to recent talk of development moratoriums in Southern Pines and Whispering Pines, he added, "I don't feel like moratoriums are the answer. There are a lot of builders and subcontractors that would get hurt by that. And the full impact is so far-reaching that its not just about the builders."

"Do we need to plan for and control growth? Yes, but we don't need moratoriums. Responsible change is where we want to go."

"We do need to come up with a plan," Sloan continued. "But I'm not sure that you can just pick a select area and make special regulations for it — especially because folks have bought land there with the intent of developing it. You have to watch that you don't trample the landowner's rights."

"Moore County is growing at a

very controlled rate," Sloan noted "at about the rate of the state as a whole. That's not that outrageous."

"We do need plans for the roads, plans for water, plans to help us growth responsibly at a rate of about one-and-a-half percent a year. If we don't grow then the tax bases won't be there to pay for the things we want. If you're not growing by one-and-a-half percent a year, then you're not growing your tax base enough to keep up with the impact of inflation."

County capital needs

"I believe we do," Sloan said, when asked whether the county needs new schools, a new jail, a new public safety building, and governmental center. "We have kids going to school in a temporary classroom."

He noted that he had visited Union Pines High School and found it very dated. "I was amazed at how dated it looked and how much the teachers and principals had to work to keep it in working order."

"I think the land purchase in

Carthage [for the jail and government center] was a very smart thing to do," Sloan added. "It has water, sewer, everything they need. It will be easy and cost-effective to transport people from the jail to the courthouse. It makes sense to have it there. We got a fairly decent deal on that land. It's going to be a great asset to the county. People will look back and say, 'Those people really were thinking ahead.'"

Turning to the cost of the new

construction the county has planned, Sloan said, "I don't want to tax if we don't have to. I want to look at other options. I would love to go talk to the people in the trenches to find ideas about how to cut costs. Let them give us ideas — and give them rewards to cut costs. If we can pay for things within the existing budget, we need to do that first."

"If we cut expenses by five percent, I bet we could pay for the buildings we need out there,"

(See "Sloan," p. 38)

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Tim Lea: District 4

(Continued from page 11)

hour a week job is. On the farm you put in the number of hours it takes to complete the task that you have in front of you."

Lea brought that same philosophy into his consulting business, HealthCare Systems Consulting, Inc., which works with hospitals in strategic planning and the selection and implementation of information systems.

Why run?

"I've learned a lot in the last three-plus years," Lea responded when asked why he decided to seek reelection, "and I would like to move forward on a lot of the projects we have under way and see the completion of those projects."

"I have been well-blessed, and I feel that part of our responsibility is to give back to those that are less fortunate and to our community. That's the farming life coming out. What you put into your crop is what you reap come

harvest time."

Water for Seven Lakes

Asked what he hoped to accomplish if elected to another term, Lea said his concerns were the same as when he ran three years ago: "water, schools, economic development, and providing more jobs for the people in Moore County."

"As far as water is concerned, we have done a lot to move that

forward on the agenda," said. But, as the recent drought has made clear, Lea said, "We need to step up and develop our own water source. The county needs to either build or own a water source."

Specifically, Lea believes developing the inactive reservoir and water plant in Robbins needs to be at the top of the county's water agenda.

"The cost to transport the

water from Robbins to Seven Lakes is \$3.6 million. The county needs to develop a partnership with Robbins to own all or part of their utility operation," he told The Times.

"We need to run a raw water line from Deep River to that reservoir, to have more capacity. That could provide as much as two million gallons per day. Seven Lakes at its peak is using

(Continued on page 39)

Sloan

(Continued from page 37)

Sloan added. "That's about what it would take. If you came to me as a small business and said 'You need to cut five percent' I'd figure out a way to do it. I bet the county staff could do the same."

Taxes and competitiveness

Asked whether the taxes in Moore County should be competitive relative to other counties, Sloan said "We should be competitive. I would never want to find out that we had the highest taxes."

"Moving from a big city, I believe that living in Moore County is awesome. we have the small town feel, but have access to good shopping as well. I love walking in downtown Southern

Pines. If you drive from here to the beach, and if you look at the downtowns along the way compared to ours, you think 'Wow! somebody did something right here.'"

"The majority of small towns in North Carolina are looking run down. We have thriving economies, beautiful buildings, and well-maintained streets."

What else?

Asked what else he would like to add, Sloan told *The Times*, "People are important. Being responsible with people's money is important. Listening to people, being there for them, is important."

"It's all about people."

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Tim Lea: District 4

(Continued from page 38)

800,000 to 850,000 per day right now. Foxfire has a problem with radium in its wells. With the extra water coming down from Robbins, We could extend a water line from Seven Lakes to Foxfire."

"Who will pay for it?" *The Times* asked. "The same as any other utility," Lea replied. "It will be paid for by the users."

"It concerns me that we are putting so much dependence on Harnett County," Lea added. The county is currently buying water from Harnett County to supply the east Moore Water District and is expected to bring into service in June a new water main and pump station that will bring Harnett County water to the portion of the county system that serves Seven Lakes and Pinehurst.

Lea told *The Times* that Harnett County depends on the Cape Fear River for the water that it supplies to Moore County — and the system that serves Raleigh is also dependent on the Cape Fear. That ultimately means Moore County will be competing with Raleigh for the scarce liquid resource. "It just doesn't make sense to push water all the way to Seven Lakes from Harnett County," Lea added.

Lea said he and Commissioner Cindy Morgan, along with county staff, had met with council members and staff in Robbins. Based on that meeting, Lea said, "It won't take as long as people think to get the Robbins plant back on line. And even while we are making the plant repairs, Robbins has water from Montgomery County it could supply to Seven Lakes."

"Robbins has some due diligence to do and then will bring it back to the table for the county and Robbins to work out," Lea said. "We know what the cost is to put the waterline in. It comes down to getting the ratepayers to pay for the cost of the project. We could move on the waterline issue before getting the deal done on the plant."

Asked if this strategy could get Seven Lakes more water before the Summer of 2009, Lea answered, "Yes, it could get done by the Summer of 2009."

Lea said he is not averse to having differing water rates across the county system, if that is what is necessary to pay for capital

improvements that benefit certain users. Noting that Pinehurst sewer customers will be footing the bill for extensive repairs to the wastewater treatment system that are currently underway, he said "There's nothing that's free. There's always a price. Very candidly, I feel like those getting the benefit ought to be those who pay for it."

Better planning, reserves needed

Lea said the county needs better planning — and needs to begin establishing a cash reserve large enough to help pay for major capital projects when the need arises.

"Moore County seems to be always in a reactive mode instead of a proactive mode," Lea told *The Times*. "We need to set aside funds so that we don't have to turn to borrowing to pay for everything. Most companies have twenty-five percent of their total annual budget as a minimum for reserves. The county is required to have eight percent. That equates to \$7-8 million. For a county with a \$100-125 million budget to have an \$8 million reserve — that is ludicrous."

"Imagine what would happen if we were hit by a major hurricane," Lea said. \$8 million wouldn't come close to helping recover from a Katrina."

"There seems to be an attitude in government," he continued: "Why worry? We can always raise taxes." But taxes seldom come down. We need to be fiscal conservatives, and more people need to hold government accountable."

Asked whether the county really needs the new buildings it is planning to build, Lea replied, "I think we do need a governmental building. If you do the search you'll find very little space available around Carthage. Some of the space we are renting is not very efficient. We could save hundreds of thousands a year on energy costs alone."

"The county hasn't built a building since 1988. We have renovated some buildings. That says something about how we tried to make do. But consolidation of resources in one environment can impact the productivity of the county staff," Lea added. "For example, when the Department of Social services staff was con-

solidated in one location, we were able to get some real productivity gains.

Area A Plan

"There seems to be a lot of confusion about Area A and what the original intent was," Lea said when asked how the Small Area Plan fits into the other county development regulations. Lea was chairman of the County Planning Board when the Countywide Land Use plan was developed and approved in the late 1990s.

"When we approved the Countywide Land Use plan the intent was to come back in five years and revisit it. There was even

some discussion about coming back in smaller areas."

"My feeling that ninety percent of what flies for Area A would be able to be applied to the rest of the county as well," Lea said. "Only about ten percent is different. There's not going to be a lot of difference. Everyone is expressing concern about things varying from one small area to the next — but the same thing applies to zoning. We already have different zoning districts in the county."

The Area A Small Area Plan is "no different than the land use plan," Lea said. "It's just an update to the land use plan. People seem to have gotten the whole

process out of context."

"In 1999, when we went forward with land use plan and countywide zoning, the homebuilders were big supporters," Lea told *The Times*. "By having zoning we would prevent the fly-by-night operators that were coming in a building a substandard product in the county. "We could upgrade the quality of what was being built in the county — and we did, to everyone's benefit."

The Area A "process has been just as open — if not more open — than the process we went through previously," he noted. "The steering committee had

(Continued on page 40)



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Tim Lea: District 4

(Continued from page 7)

open public meetings and allowed anyone to participate who wanted to."

Lea said he supports ninety percent of the Area A Plan as is. "The reason I made the motion to send it back is that ten percent needs to be fine tuned. We need to allow for a work session, so that anyone who feels they haven't had time to input into the plan in can have the opportunity."

"Everybody has had access to this way before now," he added. "The rough draft has been out there for anyone willing to take the time to take a look at it."

Lea said he would support carrying forward with the original

plan to create small area plans for other areas in the county, though the process will be streamlined because of the model the Area A effort has created.

Tax increase?

Asked where county tax rates are likely to go and how he feels about raising taxes, Lea did the math: "I'd like to tell you that the rate will go lower, but I don't know how that can happen. The voters approved a \$70 million school bond issue. One penny [on the tax rate] generates a little over \$1 million in tax revenue. One million dollars in tax revenue can finance \$10 million in debt. With \$70 million in debt,

you're looking at a 7-8 cent tax rate increase to pay for the bonds that voters approved overwhelmingly."

Beyond the face value of the bonds, Lea added, "nobody has talked about the interest on this debt. We're looking at \$51 million over 20 years. Add that to the \$70 million and were up to \$121 million." On top of that is the increased operating expense associated with new schools and new buildings at the college, which are expected to be \$1.75 million or more, Lea told *The Times*.

"The only way that we can raise revenue to pay any of these services or capital expenditures is increasing property tax," he

said. "The legislature controls what the commissioners can or can't do as far as imposing any sales taxes. Our hands are tied as to what we can or can't do."

"My position was to put both [the sales tax and land transfer tax] on the ballot and let the voters have a choice of either or none," Lea continued. "The decision was to go forward with the land transfer tax. At least three of the commissioners never came forward and said whether they were supporting it. Now we have the same situation with the sales tax. Voters can chose the sales tax to generate \$2.5 to 2.8 million per year or we can increase property taxes to cover that \$2.5 to 2.8 million. It's real-

ly going to be the decision of the voters. By approving the bond issues, the voters have told the commissioners that we want you to go find the financing to pay for it."

"I'm not comfortable with any tax increase," Lea said. "But the voters made that decision — not the commissioners."

"I would like to be proactive about setting aside money. We need to start building capital reserves . . . If we had start setting aside money years ago, we would have the money we need for these projects."

"We should run the county just like how people run and operate their own businesses.

(Continued on page 41)

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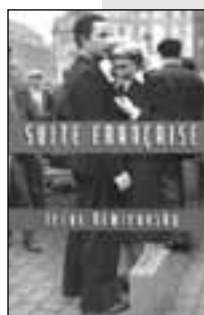
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Sandhills Book Club
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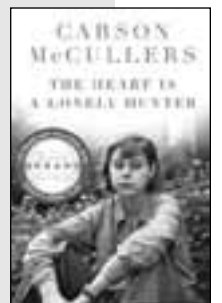
7 Lakes Bookies
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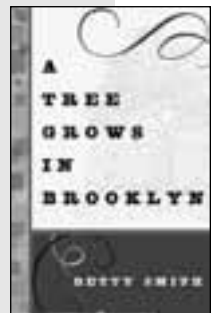
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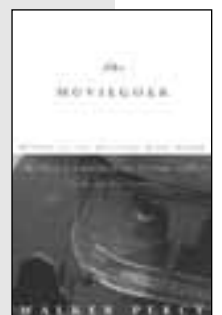
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Tim Lea: District 4

(Continued from page 40)

There are some basic business practices that could be applied that aren't being applied We

seem more concerned about just raising the tax rate rather than putting a plan in place to help eliminate that in the future.

"You don't have to hit me with a singletree between the ears to get my attention," Lea said. "Over 70% voting to approve the school bond issue sent a clear message that they want us to support the schools. Schools was one of my platform issues. We have only approved Phase 1 [of the school capital plan]. There are two more phases coming. We need to be proactive about determining how to fund that."

Economic Development

Economic development is critical to the future of the county, Lea told *The Times*. "One way that you are able to keep the tax rate lower is that you bring value to the tax rolls and bring new jobs into the county."

"People in Moore County can want the growth that we are experiencing to stop, but it is not going to stop," Lea said. "Moore County has an international exposure. . . . I am all for controlled growth. I am not for 'no growth.' We need to plan ahead and understand the infrastructure needs that growth will bring. We have major developments that are coming, and we do not have the infrastructure in place that would be needed to facilitate those developments."

Lea noted that the expansion of Ft. Bragg as a result of base realignment will have a big impact on the county, attracting new types of industry and new residents — some of whom may be here for a relatively short

period of time.

Final thoughts

Noting that he had former Commissioner Bob Ewing and former Sheriff James Wise as the co-chairs of his campaign committee the first time he ran for the Board of Commissioner, Lea said "They shared this with me: 'Remember this. You represent all the people in Moore County — not just those with Republican stamped on their forehead. Once you are through the election process, you are there to represent all the people of the county. I have tried to apply that philosophy to the decisions I have made at the Commissioners' table."

Westside

(Continued from page 27)

President Haggard said the road reserve fund is a primary concern for him.

Lakes & Dams

Director Mary Anne Fewkes said she will distribute a progress report detailing work over the last two years, including creating a boat registration database, drafting a preprinted form to facilitate database updates, and dam remediation work.

Dam engineer Dan Marks is a month ahead of schedule, reported Fewkes, and complete plans will be presented to the board in April. The amount Lake Auman will have to be lowered for dam remediation work will depend on the design, "However," Fewkes said, "there is a possibility that the level may only need to be lowered three feet or not at all. The engineer will present the plan to the public after we get state approval."

"The particulars of the remediation will be in the plan that the state approves but we won't have the facts until that approval," explained Fewkes. "Approval can take up to 60 days but we're hoping for 30 days so we will be able to move along with the project." Fewkes estimated the remediation construction process will take two to three months.

New boat registration will begin in May. Fewkes has a team of volunteers lined up to assist with the registration process. New registration stickers are dark blue and consecutively numbered. Both power boats and sailboats will be issued the registration sticker with no duplication of numbers.

At Johnson Point Fewkes said boat registration numbers will be identified at the slip also.

Legal Affairs

"We're standing on the shoulders of giants," was how Ed Silberhorn described the work of previous boards after his review of meeting minutes dating back to 1975.

Silberhorn said he will form a Legal Affairs Committee and is looking for appropriate volun-

teers. A new Community Advocate is also needed.

"Ideally the candidates will have a background in military or private law prosecuting case whether as professional or not," said Silberhorn.

"Absent that, we need someone who is analytical and reasonable — someone with the community at heart who is interested in our Rules & Regulations."

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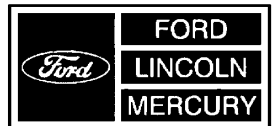
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