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Volume 24 Number 5

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

January 9, 2009

New bank cuts ribbon



Local and regional officials of CommunityOne Bank cut the ribbon — appropriately decorated with \$50 bills — at a Grand Opening celebration held at the new Seven Lakes Village branch on Wednesday, January 7.

Chapel bows out on range purchase

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Unwilling to meet Seven Lakes Country Club's [SLCC] asking price for its old driving range property, Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines has decided against purchasing the five-acre tract.

"An offer was presented by the Club, but the committee studying the project decided it was not for us," said Bob Jaeger, president of the Chapel's Board of Directors.

The sale of the range has been a point of controversy within the Club and within the Seven

Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] since the Club floated an initial ballot authorizing the sale in November of 2006 — with the understanding that the five acres would be sold to a developer for a small subdivision of patio homes. Though the SLLA Board was initially skeptical of the idea, months of negotiations and a change of the Board's make-up led to an agreement between the two organizations that the sale — and development — could go forward.

(See "Chapel," p. 29)

Residents urged to attend BoC session

The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board is encouraging residents to turn out for a Thursday, January 15, Moore County Board of Commissioners [BoC] work session to show their support for a North Carolina Department of Transportation [NCDOT] plan to upgrade the Lakeway Drive rail crossing, as well as one near West End Fire and Rescue, while closing crossings at Mode Road and Edgewood Terrace in West End.

"We need as many people from the community as can be present," President Mary Anne Fewkes said during the Board's Tuesday, January 6 Work Ses-

sion. "[Commissioner] Tim Lea said numbers do matter."

"It's very important that this move along," said Bud Sales, Long Range Planning Co-Chair. "I am encouraged that, under new leadership, the board is willing to listen to the project instead of blowing it off like they did before."

"But, if we can't get 200 to 300 people out, we could have a problem," Sales said. "I anticipate that, if the commissioners approve it, it is a done deal."

President Fewkes said she would contact the Area Reps to try to increase turnout for the work session.

(See "Crossing," p. 28)

SLLA fields landowner survey

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Calling it a critical planning tool for funding priorities in the short and long term, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board strongly encourages all residents, renters, and lot owners to complete a recently mailed survey questionnaire.

"The survey will be meaningless unless we get a good response from a broad section of the community," explained

President Randy Zielsdorf. "The purpose, from my point of view, is to find savings to pay for road paving."

Zielsdorf said while the Association has been able to build a "comfortable reserve fund," he believes the community must set aside at least \$200,000 annually for road maintenance.

"Paving all the roads at one time makes good sense and we also need to leave a minimum of \$350,000 in reserves available

for a dam emergency," said Zielsdorf. "If we do not realize cost savings and the consensus is to keep all the current assets, then the Board will be forced to look at a dues increase."

He continued, "I am very analytical and not a salesman. I speak direct and I don't want to sugarcoat the issue. There hasn't been a plan in place to pave roads and it's lacking funds."

The multiple section survey
(See "Survey," p. 28)

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Detectives pursuing leads in Westside burglary

Thieves entered an unlocked sliding glass basement door at 101 Vanore Drive in Seven Lakes West the night of December 17 and made off with a desktop computer, flat screen monitor, wireless router, and an audio mixing board, according to an incident report submitted by Corporal Mike Kantorowski and Detective Kip Dennis of the Moore County Sheriff's office.

Vehicles at nearby residences were broken into the same night, according to the incident report.

The equipment removed from the Barnes residence at 101 Vanore was valued at more than \$1,000, and the residence was occupied when the crime occurred.

The officers were able to collect fingerprints at the scene and obtained a serial number for the computer, which was entered

into the National Crime Information Center database for tracking purposes, should the computer be recovered.

Detective Dennis told *The Times* on Wednesday that he was wary of revealing many details about an on-going investigation, but said he was optimistic that the perpetrators could be

apprehended.

A reward is available from the Sheriff's office for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for

the burglary.

The phone number for the Sheriff's Office is 910-947-2931.

Corrections

The Times failed to identify Seven Lakes Landowners Association Maintenance Supervisor Bob Darr in a photo published in our December 24 issue. The Garden Club informs us that Barr was instrumental in facilitating the planting of willow oaks at Sequoia Point.

In several recent articles on the North Carolina Department of Transportation's plan to upgrade some area rail crossings while closing others, *The Times* has referred to NCDOT "District 8." Moore County is in fact part of NCDOT "Division 8," not "District 8."

The Times regrets the errors.

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
January 23	January 16
February 6	January 30
February 20	February 13
March 6	February 27
March 20	March 13
April 3	March 27
April 17	April 10
May 1	April 24
May 15	May 8
May 29	May 22
June 12	June 5
June 26	June 19
July 10	July 3
July 24	July 17
August 7	July 31
August 21	August 14
Sept. 4	August 28
Sept. 18	Sept. 11
October 2	Sept. 25
October 16	October 9
October 30	October 23
Nov. 13	Nov. 6
Nov. 24*	Nov. 19*
Dec. 11	Dec. 4
Dec. 22*	Dec. 17*

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

Westside Candidates Night

The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association, with the assistance of the Moore County League of Women Voters, will host a Candidates' Night on Monday, January 26 in the Great Room of the West Side Park Community Center.

The five candidates for three open slots on the Westside Board of Directors — Dave

Carter, John Goodman, John Hoffman, Jim Johnson, and Adam Wimberly — have been invited to attend to answer a set of prepared questions as well as questions submitted by audience members.

Ballots are scheduled to be mailed in late January; the election will be finalized at the Annual Meeting on March 15.

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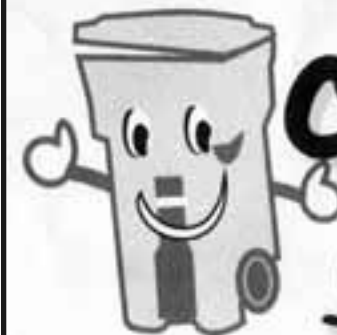
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Westside Board revisits mail delivery issue

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The SLWLA Board deferred action on a request from the Long Range Planning [LRP] Committee to spend up the \$5,000 to hire an attorney familiar with the US Postal Service to provide an assessment of the community's chances of having curbside mail delivery.

LRP has been working on the issue for years, in part due to the tireless efforts of

Gus Danielson, whom Treasurer Kathy Kirst called "a pit bull" on the issue.

Noting that the effort had met with some progress after enlisting the aid of Senator Elizabeth Dole's office — at least getting USPS District officials to visit the community — President Mary Anne Fewkes outlined the options for moving forward:

1. Do nothing. "We have a mailhouse," Fewkes said, "but it does not represent the community well. Noting that a prime objective of the Board is to protect property values, she added, "This mailhouse maybe doesn't meet that criteria."

2. Accept the USPS decision not to offer curbside delivery and upgrade the current mailhouse.

3. Do away with the current mailhouse and build two or three new ones to serve the community. "Long Range Planning has looked several times at spots" where new mailhouses could be located, Fewkes said.

4. Now that Dole is no longer a US Senator from North Carolina, the SLWLA could work with Newly-elected Senator Kay Hagan's office to try to move forward on home delivery.

5. "Another option is to hire an attorney who deals with the USPS to see what our options might be," Fewkes said. "Could we attain our goal by bringing suit against the USPS? We're looking at \$5,000 to find out."

Legal Director Ed Silberhorn cautioned that the \$5,000 figure would cover only an opinion from an attorney specialized in administrative law — and only if the Association had already done all the legwork in ferreting out any documents relating to an agreement between a past devel-

oper and the Postal Service on mode of delivery. That research might involve a Freedom of Information Act request for the US Postal Service file on the subject.

Any actual suit against the USPS would be far, far more expensive, Silberhorn said.

strating that curbside delivery is used in many similar communities in the surrounding area, including CCNC, Fairwoods on 7, Foxfire Village, Longleaf, McLendon Hills, Mid-South, National, Pinehurst #6, Pinewild, and Talamore.

Danielson said that Seven Lakes original developer Fred Lawrence told him the decision to use mailhouse delivery was made early on to avoid rutting on roadsides as delivery vehicles sidled up to curbside boxes. Lawrence recalled no formal documentation of that decision.

Referring to a 2006 letter from the USPS flatly refusing to change the mode of delivery in the community, Director Milligan said, "We started out several years ago with a firm no. We have wrapped around to 'No,

but this is why.' At what point do we just put that hanger in the closet. No we want to spend \$5,000 to talk with an attorney, which could open up a new process. At what point do we move to Plan B or Plan C?"

"That's part of the question," Director Kirst replied. "This was a goal for the 08-09 board — to resolve mail delivery. We have

been getting short shrift here. We've been getting 'No's' without anyone looking at things. We need to hear from the Postal Service 'What are your facts?'"

"Gus has the deadline of June 30," she added. "We're not going to wait another ten years on this."

Security Director Blaine Row-
(See "Mail," p. 28)

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The goal in hiring counsel would be "to see if someone has broken through this barrier with the USPS," Director Kirst said.

Danielson shared with the Board a presentation prepared for USPS representatives demon-

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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

"...when I take care of myself, everything else takes care of itself."

— Anonymous

Do you find yourself making the same New Years resolutions year after year? If so, here are some tips to help you break those bad habits for good and bring your life to the next level.

1. **Know Thyself** – Start by taking a good look at yourself in relation to your bad habits. For example, if you want to get control over your sweet tooth, ask yourself, "How many sweets do I actually indulge in on a daily basis?" It may be helpful to keep a journal of your sugar intake for 24-48 hours to get a real picture of your starting point. The more accurate the better!

2. **Know Your Weaknesses** – Take note of situations, events or people who lead you in the wrong direction. If possible, remove yourself from the things or people who make you weak. When undesirable situations or people are unavoidable, find or ask for help to get the support you need to get through those tough situations. Studies show that simply journaling for 15 minutes daily about the stressful situations in your life can significantly decrease the impact of negative stress and increase rates of success.

3. **Know Your Strengths** – Who and what motivates you and leaves you energized and feeling empowered? Whatever those things are, make it a priority to have more of those things or people in your daily life. No man is an island.

4. **Know Why** – What is the purpose and benefits of the life you desire to live in 2009. When you break those bad habits for good, what will be the positive effects on your life and of the lives of those

around you? Knowing why will keep you motivated even in the toughest of times!

5. **Know Your Vision** – What does success look like on you? Studies show that envisioning your success and envisioning yourself taking the steps necessary to achieve success creates a higher success rate. Never underestimate the power of the mind!

As we look back at the shortcomings of the past year, we aspire to do things better in 2009 and welcome in the New Year with open arms as we begin again in the New Year. We find hope restored to believe that we can achieve our dreams and overcome our bad habits for good!

Tips to remember:

Knowledge Is Power!

– Know Thyself

– Know Your Weaknesses

– Know Your Strengths

– Know Your Purpose

– Know Your Vision

To Your Success in 2009!

— Bobbie Miller

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— Jeremiah 29:11

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Board gets new long range planning tools

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Treasurer Kathy Kirst, who serves as the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board's liaison with the Long Range Planning Committee [LRP], presented two new planning tools during the Board's Tuesday, January 6 Work Session.

First, Directors will receive in their Work Session packets a monthly update on LRP progress on the Top Ten planning projects.

Second, Kirst presented a draft spreadsheet that projects SLWLA revenues and expenses out to 2020 — a tool that can allow Directors and LRP members to assess the impact of various projects on dues, reserves, and fund balances.

Kirst said the spreadsheet is the grandchild of one developed by former directors Joe Fellingham and George Eillis more than a decade ago. The Board discontinued use of that financial model three years ago; the new one will again give the Board a tool for running financial "what-if" scenarios.

The current top ten LRP projects, which were prioritized by the committee and the Board in a

work session more than a year ago, are:

1. The Lakeway Drive rail crossing.

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2. Resolution of the mail delivery question.
3. Land usage covenant change.
4. New boat storage facility
5. Development of LRP financial projections (presented at the Work Session)
6. Relocating the front gate guard house.
7. New front entrance.
8. Separation landscaping. (6, 7, & 8 are all linked to both the upgrading of the rail crossing and a decision about what to do with the existing mailhouse.)
9. Additional marina slips
10. Additional recreation facilities.

Also on the LRP agenda, but as "non-optional" items are road repaving and the replacement of a valve in the Lake Auman dam.

Director Mick Herdrich asked whether the LRP Committee had plans to solicit input from the community on these or other priorities. Kirst explained that many of these priorities were

generated through a 2004 survey of the membership, and LRP Co-Chair Bud Sales said the Committee is always interested in suggestions from the membership. "We put articles in the paper soliciting comments and input," Sales said.

"There is stuff coming in all the time," he added. The best example I can think of is the Loop the Lake trail. We evaluated it, presented it to the Board, it got

shot down. So we turned our attention to other projects." Kirst noted that the trail is still on the project list, but not in the top ten.

Herdrich suggested it might be time to update the 2004 membership survey. "If the Board wants another survey, we can do it," Sales replied.

Herdrich said the Board would be remiss in its duty if it did not itself spend some time on long

range planning, though he noted the move to a management company, and other immediate priorities, had made it hard to step back for a long view.

Sales said the LRP Committee provides an important continuity that is often missing from the Board itself, where members often serve a single three-year term. "The whole point is to provide continuity for a changing board," he said.

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BOB is an experienced tennis player and is currently teaching children's programs and an adult Cardio Tennis Class (Wed. at 6pm) at 7 Lakes Country Club

MARJORIE has been in the fitness field for 20 years, teaching aerobic and water exercise classes, personal training & providing nutritional counseling.

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Settlement of Terrill lawsuit 'imminent'

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

A settlement of the Terrill lawsuit is imminent, Legal Director Ed Silberhorn reported during the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Tuesday, January 6 Board Work Session, with nine of the ten attorneys involved having signed off on a deal that would end the involvement of the Association in the legal action.

The Terrills, who own property on either side of a Lake Auman cove, brought suit against the SLWLA and Accent Design Build alleging that both were responsible for excessive silting of the cove.

The Association filed a third party suit bringing in as defendants a number of other individuals and contractors involved in developing the area uphill from the cove.

"Significant progress has been made," Silberhorn told the Board. "We would pay approximately

20 percent of a settlement."

He did not indicate the size of that settlement, but did note that Accent is not a part of the agreement, so the legal dispute between the Terrills and that builder may continue.

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Dam Remediation Update

Director Mick Herdrich reported that plans for the remediation of the Lake Auman dam have finally reached the desk of a specific reviewer in the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources [NCDENR]. Approval of the plans had been held up while the shorthanded state department dealt with more urgent dam repairs.

The reviewer in question is a

recent hire, President Fewkes explained, but served in the same capacity decades ago, and reviewed the plans for the Lake Auman when it was originally being built. That may help speed the approval process.

The Board's original remediation plan envisioned receiving an approval this past Fall, and doing the work over the Winter months, well outside the Summer boating season.

The Times asked Herdrich whether the work would need to be delayed 'til Fall 2009 if the approval doesn't come soon.

The answer was no. Herdrich said the final remediation plan submitted to the state does not call for lowering the lake level significantly, so the repair work will not interfere with boating. "We plan to get started as soon as we get the approval," Herdrich said.

Lake Issues

Herdrich reported on several other lake-related issues:

- A new aquatic weed reported in a Lake Auman cove turns out to be illodea, common in Southern Lakes. It does not respond to treatment with the herbicide Diquat and so must be raked from the cove if it causes a problem for swimmers or boaters. The Association has a suitable rake that can be checked out at the Landowners Office.
- Last year the Association obtained a US Fish and Wildlife permit that allowed the adding of eggs of the non-migratory Canada Geese population. Herdrich asked for and received Board approval to repeat the program this year. He said the goal is to avoid the health risk associated with goose droppings.
- Over the Christmas holiday five pontoon boats were untied from their moorings at the Johnson Point boat slips and set adrift. The boats were recovered; the culprits have not been identified.

By-Law Amendment passed

During Tuesday's Work Session, the Board gave final approval to a change in the the SLWLA bylaws that will provide for formal public hearings on matters the Board deems to be "of significant interest to the membership."

Later in the meeting, during a discussion of the prospects for home mail delivery within Seven Lakes West, Secretary Ed Tuton said the initiation of mail delivery would be an appropriate matter to put through the new process — if the US Postal Service ever agrees to curbside delivery within the community.

Board tweaks budget

The Board approved some minor changes to the expense budget approved during their December work session. Director Ray MacKay had discovered that a \$20,000 budget for stripping on Longleaf Drive was \$10,000 more than is likely to be needed, so that line item was cut

(See "Westside," p. 27)

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BoC gets down to business in year's first meeting

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Plenty of business but very little controversy characterized the first meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners [BOC] in the New Year, held Monday, January 5, in the Historic Courthouse in Carthage.

The little controversy was provided by Elton Turner of Vass, who called on newly-elected Chairman Nick Picerno to resign. "We do not need a chairman who needs on the job training," Turner said, referring to the fact that Picerno was elected Chairman of the board in his very first meeting as a Commissioner. "We need a chairman who has the background, knowledge, and the ability to lead the county through difficult times."

Though Picerno interrupted Turner earlier in his remarks, in the midst of a litany of charges that cast an unfavorable light on Commissioner Larry Cad-dell and favored Commissioner Tim Lea, the Chairman made no comment on Turner's call for his resignation, instead thanking him for his input and turning to other business.

Subway lease in doubt

Among the items the Board considered on Monday was a proposed three-year renewal of a lease for the Subway restaurant located in Carriage Oak Shopping Center in Carthage, a county-owned property. The lease dates back to 1996; the proposed renewal would have extended it for up to three three-year terms.

Commissioners had asked whether the county needs to use the space during their December meeting.

County Manager Cary McSwain said he met with the restaurant's owner — Vernon Majors — and discovered that Majors and his son had recently purchased the franchise, had invested \$30,000 in new decor and fixtures, and had ordered \$10,000 in signage for the business.

Majors told the Commissioners that he had purchased the franchise last Spring and had made the investments after a conversation with the County Manager led him to believe the lease would be renewed. "Maybe

we made a mistake" in making the investment without a signed lease in hand, Major said.

He asked the Board to delay any decision on the matter until its February meeting, to give him time to scout other possible locations.

The County's planning department occupies the space adjacent to the restaurant, and Planning Director Joey Raczkowski told the Commissioners that the current staff fits comfortably into the space — but with no room for expansion.

Noting that the county plans to build a new governmental center to house county operations, Commissioner Lea asked, "If we are renting out space that we own, do we really need to build a new building?"

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to give Majors the scouting time he asked for and take up the matter again during their first meeting in February.

Other Business

In other business the commissioners:

- Heard a lengthy report from the accounting firm Dixon Hughes, which recently completed an audit of county financial records, rendering "a clean opinion without exceptions." Noting the length of the report that Dixon Hughes provided, Commissioners Lea and Cad-dell asked that next year's audit report be provided to the Board a few weeks in advance of the Dixon Hughes presentation, to allow time for a more thorough review.
- Adopted an agreement that allows county schools to act as an agent of the county when purchasing equipment, materials, and supplies. A 2005 action of the General Assembly in effect removed a sales tax exemption for local schools. By making the schools and agent of the county, the schools can purchase equipment and supplies under the county's sales tax exemption.
- Passed a resolution authorizing the Public Works Department to make application to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund for a \$2.8 million grant that will pay for a wastewater project that will elimi-

nate two small wastewater plants in Vass and Crystal Lake, replacing them with pumps and other infrastructure necessary to carry the wastewater to the county's regional treatment plant at Addor.

- Authorized an agreement to purchase water from the Town of Robbins for the Davis Community, which is served by the county water system. The rate Robbins is charging for the water, which it purchases from Montgomery County, was increased from two dollars to three dollars per thousand gallons.
- Learned that the County Manager had approved a \$3,000 grant to Environmental Impact Resource Conservation and

Development, Inc., a non-profit involved in attracting state and federal funding for conservation projects in the county.

- Heard a brief quarterly fiscal report on Sandhills Center for Mental Health from County Finance Officer Lisa Hughes.

- Appointed Chairman Nick Picerno to serve as the county's Legislative Liaison to the NC Association of County Commissioners.

- Appointed Chief Phillip Richardson of Aberdeen to the Emergency Services Advisory Committee.

Vietnam Vets sponsor program

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 966 will host NC Division of Veterans Affairs Cemetery Superintendent Robert Cox on Monday, January 19 at 7:00 pm. The presentation will be held in the Great Room of the West Side Park Community Center. Cox will speak on the rules guiding the State Veterans Cemetery Program, including eligibility of veterans, dependents, and other important information. Veterans and their spouses are urged to attend and the public is invited. For information, contact Joe Kristek at 673-4563 or navy1dad@aol.com

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SLLA's new online Blog goes to the dogs

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

The newly created SLLA Blog is in the doghouse this month — well, perhaps a Dog Park is a more apt description. The 'what ifs' and 'where ats' of this proposed amenity sparked several comments in the new online discussion forum hosted on *The Seven Lakes Times* website, beginning with this one:

"How about creating a fenced off area on some of the common ground so that dog owners can let their dogs run free?...We

have kept up and maintained our facilities well...but what can we do to provide new facilities and or ideas to keep us ahead of the property values game? If we are not to become an old out-dated neighborhood do we not need to keep reinventing ourselves to encourage new families into the North and South sides?"

Several forum participants weighed in with their own ideas, including:

"I have an ideal place for a

dog run in mind. As with all things good, material and labor must be considered and with the current economic condition of the Association and its search for ways to cut our costs, we must be prudent. Depending on the size, of course, to put up the enclosure and screen the fence I estimate a cost of about \$25 per ten feet for material. If you think you could get the labor, the cost could be around \$500 for a 100X40 run. Do you know of ten dog owners who would do \$50 a piece? I would also assume the Board would have to approve

in that it is on association property."

"I am in favor and would be one of ten in for 50 dollars."

"Seems a dog activity area might fit into the horse area and would be a miniscule one-time item in the annual stable budget."

"The Dog Park sounds like a great idea for the community's dogs and dog owners. A couple of thoughts, one list of Dog Park basics I found on the web sug-

gests a minimum size of one acre — about ten times the 40x100 size mentioned in this post.

The Moore Humane Society is working on — and raising money for — a three-acre dog park near the Moore County Airport. Selling memberships is a part of their strategy."

Want to get in on the conversation?

Visit www.sevenlakesnc.org or www.sevenlakes-times.net and look for the link to "SLLA Blog."



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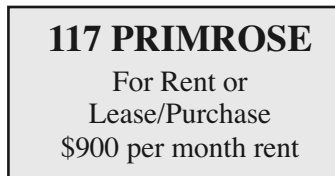
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Allen's business is all about Dee Oh Gee's

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

It's incredibly conspicuous and totally fun — the Dee Oh Gee Tail Waggin' has been generating talk and excitement since it was first spotted last Fall.

A corporate executive in the Northeast for thirty years, Cindy Allen said she needed a change, "I wanted to move closer to family and do something fun where I could include my dogs."

Dee Oh Gee, a phonetic pronunciation of her main clientele, opened for business in November and offers a wide range of services including the Tail Waggin' pet taxi, pet sitting, a puppy playgroup, and an off-leash adventure program Allen calls 'Outward Hound.'

Whether you need to let your pooch out for a bathroom break or a quick walk while you're at work or just away for the day, pet sit your animals when you're on an extended trip, pick up or drop off your buddy at the groomer's, vet's, or kennel, or take your active pup for an off-leash romp to expend some pent up energy, Dee Oh Gee can help, explained Allen. And while they are all about dogs, Allen said kitties are welcome too with both pet sitting and transport services available.

The Dee Oh Gee Ticket to Ride pet taxi service is a new service in Moore County and

has been well-received said Allen, particularly by elderly owners who have difficulty driving their pets for regular grooming and veterinarian appointments, and working adults who may not be available during the day. Airport pick-up and drop-off is also available.

The Tail Waggin', is Allen's specially outfitted Honda Element. With a utility interior of rubber flooring and secured pet crates, dogs and cats travel in safety and comfort — with fun as an added bonus.

The bright colors and graphics on the Waggin' feature enormous pictures of her own pets, French bulldogs Madison and Lexington, who themselves are frequent passengers.

"Dogs are pack animals and enjoy being around each other," explained Allen. "And Maddie and Lexie are always up for anything!"

Allen said keeping her four-footed clients happy is a top priority

and that Outward Hound has been a big hit. Utilizing the dog park in Southern Pines, Allen makes sure each dog gets plenty of fun and exercise during their one to two hour off-leash adventure. However, she does restrict Outward Hound to well-socialized dogs.

"A well-socialized dog means a happier pet and a happier owner," said Allen. She recommends introducing dogs, especially puppies under sixteen weeks, to as many situations as possible. "Take them downtown, to the woods, into dog-friendly stores, around wheelchairs — as many places as possible."

A longtime animal lover, Allen also shares her home in Seven Lakes North with Simon, Peaches, and Lucy — three kittens all rescued from a feral cat colony in the Boston area. Working with a local catch-and-release neuter program, Allen said she was proud to help stabilize and main-

tain that colony.

"I started working in an office building with a huge feral colony

behind it. When I left that job, the cats were all neutered and the

(See "Allen," p. 11)



Dee Oh Gee's Cindy Allen with her "Tail Waggin'"

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The Weymouth Center for the Arts & Humanities is proud to offer a three-part lecture series on how the mighty Atlantic Ocean has influenced and shaped the history of North Carolina from the ever changing coastline, the storms, the shipwrecks and the survival of our coastal beacons — the lighthouses.

Lectures will be held on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 pm on January 18, February 8, and March 1. These lectures are free and open to the public, and will be followed by a reception hosted by the Women of Weymouth. Please take this opportunity to personally meet the Authors and fellow attendees.

Warmed by the Gulf Stream, the North Carolina Coast is a friendly yet fearsome place. Friendly because of the 300 miles of beautiful barrier island beaches, large sand dunes and wetlands filled with wildlife and a variety of plants. Fearsome for the extreme sea-level rise caused by dangerous storms that batter the coast each year: friendly for tourists who seek out North Carolina's gallant light-houses to admire and, in some cases, climb, and fearsome for the very crucial need for these coastal giants that once sent their beams out to sea to warn ships of the rocks and currents along our fore-boding coast — from north to south these Lights are: Currituck [1875], Bodie [1872], Cape Hat-

teras [1870], Ocracoke [1823], Cape Lookout [1859], Old Baldy [1818] and Oak Island [1858].

This Series will explore the fragile nature of the coast and the gallant rescue teams that saved lives in dangerous waters. The defining characteristic of our unique coast is the Outer Banks, a chain of fragile barrier islands — 130 miles of unspoiled coastline surrounded by 900 square miles of water. And, in 1903, the Wright Brothers ushered in the era of flight on those same Outer Banks at Kitty Hawk. The area is also full of history, dating back to the 16th century, when the first English settlement was built — and then vanished, and there are also sites from pre-Revolutionary Days through the Civil War.

It is within this extraordinary

and vulnerable setting that the 2009 Series will be set.

Sunday, January 18 — Stanley Riggs begins the series with "Impact of Changing Climate, Sea-Level Rise and Storms on the North Carolina Coastal System: Past, Present and Vision for the Future"

Dr. Riggs is a coastal and marine geologist who has been doing research on modern coastal systems since 1964 in North Carolina, along the U.S. Atlantic coast, and in many other coastal regions of the world. He is a Distinguished Research Professor of the Department of Geological Sciences, East Carolina University, where he has been since 1967.

Sunday, February 8 — Dawson Carr will discuss "The History of the 150 Year-Old Hat-

teras Light House — One of North Carolina's Most Famous Symbols — and the Story to Move it from the Dangers of the Sea Itself"

A native North Carolinian, Dr. Carr earned his Ph.D. at the UNC — Chapel Hill, and was a professor at Sandhills Community College for twenty-seven years. He is the author of The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse: Sentinel of the Shoals, [UNC Press], and The Gray Phantoms of the Cape Fear: Running the Civil War Blockade, [John F. Blair, Publisher].

Sunday, March 1 — Kevin Duf-

fus will speak on "How Shipwrecks Shaped the Destiny of North Carolina's Outer Banks and Created One of the Most Unique Cultures in America"

Mr. Duffus has written three books and produced four award-winning films on Outer Banks history and in 2002 solved the mystery of the missing 1854 Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Fresnel lens, believed lost for 140 years. He is author of The Last Days of Black Beard the Pirate, a controversial examination of the seafaring rogue's final six months in N.C.

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Allen

(Continued from page 11)

colony had stopped growing," said Allen. "When controlled, there is an attrition rate that will eventually limit a colony as long as people don't continue to dump animals."

Her good works continue here in Moore County and Dee Oh Gee is already developing a great reputation for service. For more information, visit www.deehoggee.net or you can reach Cindy Allen at 986-0152.

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In memory of . . .

Juanita "Nita" Jensen, 82, of Seven Lakes, died Monday, December 8, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mrs. Jensen was born in South Haven, MI, the daughter of the late Harold and Esther Soergel. She was a graduate of Michigan State University and worked as a chemist for Upjohn Laboratories.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim.

Survivors include her daughter, Mary Beth Jensen Ebert, of Greensboro; a son, Christopher Jensen, of Arnold, MD; brother, Jerry Soergel, of South Haven, MI; sister, Peggy Kreps, of Orlando, FL; and grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 3:00 pm Saturday, January 10, at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines.

Memorials may be made to the Chapel in the Pines. The family is being assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

William Henry Zutt, of Seven Lakes, formerly of Goshen, CT, died at his home on December 16.

He is survived by his wife, M. Dolores "Laurie" Perregaux Zutt, sons William A. Zutt, of Garrison, NY, and Robert H. Mason, of Santa Fe, NM.

A memorial service will be held at the Chapel in the Pines in Seven Lakes today Friday January 9, at 2:00 pm.

The family is assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

Harlon "Bo" Jordan, 63, of West End, died Saturday, December 20, at Pinelake Health and Rehabilitation Center in Carthage.

A native of Moore County, he was a son of the late John Everett Jordan and Katie Barber Jordan.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Farrell "Buck" Jordan.

Mr. Jordan is survived by his wife, Brenda Garner Jordan; son, Everett "Evie" Jordan Jr., of Charlotte; daughter, Robin Jordan Sineath, of Carthage; sister, Lavonne Brown, of Greensboro; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 23 at Bethlehem Baptist Church, directed by Fry and Prickett Funeral Home.

Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Herbert Barnes, 60, of West End, died Saturday, December 20, at his residence.

Survivors include his wife,

Terry Barnes; three stepchildren, Katrice Heard, Biminii Heard and Kimyata Fairley, all of Southern Pines; two sisters, Mildred Campbell, of Aberdeen, and Gloria Odom, of Murfreesboro; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, December 26 at Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church in Southern Pines, directed by Pugh and Smith Funeral Home of Carthage. Burial followed at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Lorraine I. Connor, 87, of Seven Lakes, died Sunday, December 21, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

She was born in New York City, the daughter of the late

(Continued on page 13)

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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 12)

George and Elizabeth "Elsie" Kiely. After graduating from East Rockaway High School, she attended Blue Ridge College in New Windsor, MD, and later worked as a United Airlines reservations supervisor.

Mrs. Connor worked as a circulation supervisor for the Scotch Plains, NJ public library for ten years before retiring to Seven Lakes where she and her husband, Bill lived for the past twenty five years.

She a charter member of the Seven Lakes Country Club.

She is survived by her husband of sixty years, William E. "Bill" Connor; her son, William Connor, Jr., Southport, NC; daughters, Patricia Ferguson, Amesbury, MA, and Eileen Senke, Palm Beach Gardens, FL; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral mass services were held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Pinehurst on Tuesday, January 6. The Rev. James M. Labosky officiated. The rite of committal will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Sacred Heart Building Fund, P.O. Box 1768, Pinehurst, NC 28370-1768, or to the Seven Lakes Rescue Squad at, 969 Seven Lakes North, West End, NC 27376 or to a charity of choice.

The family was assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

Lynna Chriscoe Davis, 80, of West End, died Monday, December 22, at her residence.

A native of Moore County, she was a daughter of the late Andrew Lloyd Chriscoe and Lula Florence McNeill Chriscoe.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Betty Caddell, and brothers, Lloyd Chriscoe and J. R. Chriscoe.

She is survived by her husband of sixty years, R. W. "Bob" Davis; two daughters, Kaye Brown, of Carthage, and Amy Davis, of Carthage; two sons, Robbie Davis and Jason Davis, both of West End; five sisters, Louise Michael, Opal Blue, and Nancy Bibey, all of Carthage, Josephine Rowland and Shirley Forrest, both of West End; two brothers, Andrew Blue Chriscoe, of San-

ford, and Roger Chriscoe, of Robbins; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 24 at Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church, directed by Fry and Prickett Funeral Home of Carthage.

Memorials may be made to Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church Building Fund, 1444 Doubs Chapel Road, West End, NC 27376.

James Allen Bowman, 79, of West End, died Wednesday, December 24, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Bowman was born in Surry County, to the late Garfield and Rader Burkhart Bowman. He was an electrician. He was preceded in death by a brother, McKinley Bowman.

He is survived by brothers, Harvey Bowman, of West End, Harlis Bowman, of Candor, Mike Bowman, of Seagrove, and Gilbert Bowman, of Aberdeen; sisters, Marie Richardson, of Aberdeen, and Bessie Hines, of Gilmer, Texas.

Funeral services were held Saturday, December 27 at West End Cemetery, directed by Briggs-Candor Funeral Home of Candor.

Wimily Ronald [Bohog] Martin, 58, of West End, died Thursday, December 25, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Survivors include his wife, Charlene S. Martin, of West End; sons Shawn Smith, Royce Smith, Kent Smith, Jeremy Smith, Brandon Smith, Michael Sinclair, and Shawn Wall, all of West End; daughter, Erin Celeste Smith,

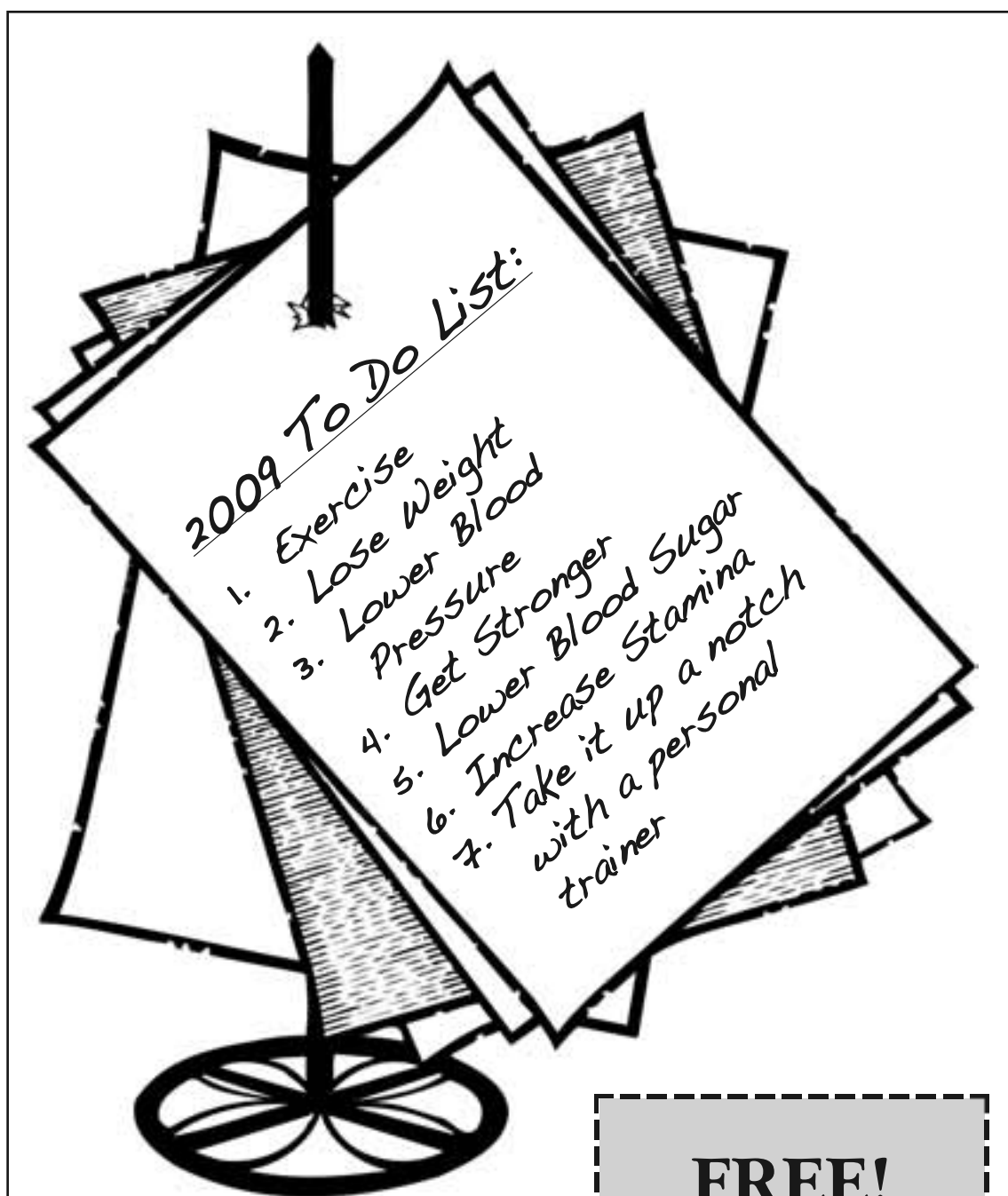
of West End; brother, Timothy Martin, of Asheboro; sisters Linda Moore, of Greensboro, and Marcie McBride, of Biscoe; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday, December 27, at St.

Ruth's United Church of God in West End.

Burial followed in West End Community Cemetery.

(Continued on page 14)



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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 13)

John Henry Richardson, 87, of Seven Lakes, died Sunday, December 28 at Pinelake Health Care & Rehab in Carthage.

Mr. Richardson was the son of the late Calvin Clay and Florence Stephens Richardson of Stone Mountain, GA.

He was a retired US Army Master Sergeant who served in both WWII and the Korean Conflict. Mr. Richardson retired a second time from the Department of Corrections as a Correctional Officer.

He was preceded in death by a brother C.J. Richardson, and two sisters Reba Saseen and Glenna Ruff.

Mr. Richardson is survived by his wife Josephine Rackley Richardson of Seven Lakes; a son John Henry Richardson II Charleston, SC; three daughters, Barbara Bouldin of West End, Cynthia Lynn Czarnecki of Smithfield, NC; Teri Jeanine Kissiah of Mt. Pleasant, NC; a brother W.C. Richardson; sisters, Inez & Polly Richardson.

Graveside services were held at Buffalo Cemetery on Firetower Road in Sanford on Friday, January 2. The Rev. Donald Ballinger officiated.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Army Emergency Relief Fund at 200 Stovall St Room 5-N-13 Alexandria, VA 22332-0600.

The family was assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

Edward James McCardle, 79, of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, December 31, at Manor Care Nursing Facility in Pinehurst.

Mr. McCardle was the son of the late Edward J. McCardle and Rose [Horan] McCardle of Kingston, NY.

He retired from the U.S. Army where he achieved the rank of Corporal. He was a graduate of Seton Hall University. He completed graduate work at NYU and SUNY at Cortland. He served many years as Athletic Director, Physical Education Teacher, and Coach at Westhill High School in Syracuse, NY and served in similar positions in Tannersville, NY and Bellport-Long Island, NY. He was a member of the New York State Coach-

es and Athletic Directors Associations and the Tuscarora Golf Club in Camillus, NY.

He retired 1994 and he and his wife moved to Seven Lakes. He was a member of the Beacon Ridge Country Club, an active member of the landowner's association Board of Directors, and volunteered with Road to Recovery of the American Red Cross and American Cancer Society.

Survivors include his wife of fifty-four years, Muriel (Hoyt) McCardle; three children: Kevin McCardle of Shaker Heights, OH; Karen Hyman of Asheville, NC; and Nancy Yambem of Wapinger Falls, NY; a brother James T. McCardle of New Bern, NC; sister Rosemary Kuhnel of Naples FL; six grandchildren.

Funeral Mass will be held at Our Lady of The Americas church in Candor on Saturday, Janu-

ary 10 at 3:00 pm with Father Ricardo Sanchez officiating. The family will welcome guests in the church community room following the service. The rite of committal will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to FirstHealth Hospice and Palliative Care at 150 Applecross Road Pinehurst, NC 28374 or Our Lady of the Americas 298 Farmer's Market Road Biscoe, NC 27209.

The family is being assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

May B. Hannon, 86, of West End, died Wednesday, December 31, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Born in Sweden, Mrs. Hannon was a daughter of the late Knut and Ellen Bergendal. She

and her husband lived in Rhode Island before moving to Moore County. A homemaker and member of the Eastern Star, Carthage Chapter No. 154.

She was preceded in death by her son, Paul Hannon.

Survivors include her husband, Norris Hannon; a son, Allan Hannon, West End; daughter, Darlene Peterson, Galt, California; three grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were held Monday, January 5 at Bethlehem Baptist Church. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

The family was assisted by Fry and Pickett Funeral Home of Carthage.

Dorothy Deen Short Williams, 81, of Eagle Springs, died Friday, January 2, after a prolonged illness with Alzheimer's disease.

A native of Moore County, Mrs. Williams was born in Highfalls the daughter of Charles Ross and Ella Lou Scott Short. She graduated from Highfalls School as senior class valedictorian. She furthered her education in High Point at Jones Business School, where she received an Associate's degree in business.

She was an active member of Bensalem Presbyterian Church, an elder, clerk of session, and on many committees. She

(Continued on page 15)

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In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 7)

received the Presbyterian Women's Honorary Lifetime Membership award for her invaluable service to the church.

Her interest in the welfare of the community led her to participate on the Moore County Planning Board, the Regional Library Board, precinct judge for Board of Elections, and she was active as a leader in 4-H club youth activities.

She is survived by her husband of fifty-nine years, Foster Lee Williams; children, Michael Williams, Melody W. Connor,

Lisa W. Alexander, all of Eagle Springs, Lydia W. Conard, and Cynthia W. Leach, of Foxfire Village; Scott Williams of Kinston, NC; her sisters, Ruby S. Fuller, of Pinebluff, Shelby S. Phillips, of Highfalls; and brother, Clarence Short of Highfalls; eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held Sunday, January 4 at Bensalem Presbyterian Church in Eagle Springs.

Memorials may be made to FirstHealth Hospice, 5 Avimore Drive, Pinehurst NC 28374 or

to Bensalem Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 157, Eagle Springs NC 27242.

Phillips Funeral Home of Star assisted the family.

Jessie Hartsell Willams, 84, of West End, died Sunday, January 4, at her residence.

A native of Moore County, Mrs. Williams was the daughter of the late William and Hessie Steele Hartsell. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lee Williams.

She is survived by daughters, Judy Williams, of Raleigh, and

Brenda Frye, of Pinehurst; sons, Ronnie Williams, of Carthage, Curtis Williams, of Matthews, and Gary Williams, of Carthage; sister, Polly Garner, of West End; brother, Willie Hartsell Jr. of West End; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 7 at Culdee

Presbyterian Church. Burial will be private.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Floor 17, Chicago, Ill. 60601-7633, or Culdee Presbyterian Church, 916 NC 73, West End, NC 27376.

Fry and Pickett Funeral Home assisted the family.

Chocolate roses for Valentines

Habitat for Humanity is helping all the men in the Sandhills region this Valentine's Day by taking the guess work out of gift shopping.

The home-building organization is selling chocolate kiss roses to raise money for the Fall 2009 Women Build. Bouquets of roses made of chocolate kisses are available now for pre-order and a limited quantity will be sold in the Moore Store on Valentine's Day. Bouquets will be sold by the dozen and half dozen, for \$10 and \$5 respectively.

and communities. Women Builds provide an environment in which women can feel comfortable learning construction skills they might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn.

Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills nurtures, recruits, and trains women to build and maintain decent, healthy, and affordable homes.

Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills is a Christian, housing ministry that is able to offer interest-free mortgages to

individuals in need of simple, decent housing.

They partner with families, volunteers, churches, and community organizations to work toward their goal of ending substandard housing in the Sandhills.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved with the Habitat Women Build please contact Judie Wiggins at 910.295.1934. Habitat is currently seeking volunteers and supporters of all kinds, visit www.sandhillshabitat.org


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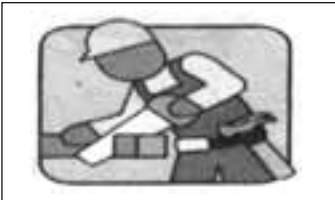
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

- **Standard First Aid + Adult CPR/AED** – 8 am – 2 pm, Moore County American Red Cross, Southern Pines. Certification fee \$60. Registration, 692-8571.
- **Christmas Tree Recycling** – 9 am – 3 pm, corner of Hwy 15/501 and Murray Hill Road, Southern Pines. Event to be held beside Tripps Restaurant, Keep Moore County Beautiful will chip Christmas trees into mulch that can be taken home and used around trees, gardens and flower beds. Information, Joan Neal at 947-3478 or jneal@moorecountync.gov
- **Pinecrest Players: A Night at the Copacabana** – 6:30 pm, Fair Barn, Pinehurst. Featuring the Pinecrest Culinary program, Copa is a six-course dinner theatre featuring music and characters from the 1940's and 1950's. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased from the Arts Council of Moore County at the Campbell House, 482 E Connecticut Ave in Southern Pines [closed for holidays, reopen January 2]. Information, Adam Faw at afaw@mcs.k12.nc.us or 715-1931. Tickets are limited.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

- **NARFE Meeting** – 10:30 am, Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett Street, Southern Pines. The National Active & Retired Federal Employees Sandhills Chapter 1895 welcome all Federal, including US Postal Service, active employees, retirees, spouses and surviving spouses to monthly meetings. Information, Vilma Geisert at 215-5898 or George Sandoval at 246-9881.
- **Moore County Literacy Council: Tutor Orientation** – 1 pm – 2 pm, Emmanuel Youth House, 385 E. Indiana Ave, Southern Pines. Learn how to become an adult literacy tutor. Twelve hour training workshop will be held Tuesday and Thursday, January 20 & 22, 9 am – 4 pm, Chamber of Commerce Building, 10677 US Highway 15/501 South. Donations accepted. Register by phone 692-5954 or email pammcl@nc.rr.com
- **Sandhills Photography Club Meeting** – 7 pm, Christ Fellowship Church, corner of Mid-

land and Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. Newcomers welcome. Information, www.sandhillsphtoclub.org.

- **Moore County Board of Education Meeting** – 7 pm, Schools Central Office, Carthage.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes** – 3 pm, Game Room, Seven Lakes North. Jim Anderson will discuss optimizing Win-



ance using Windows and Vista.

- **Foxfire Village Council Meeting** – 7:30 pm, Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

- **Shag Dance Night** – 7 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Sponsored by the Seven Lakes Shag Group, admission is free. Review the beginner steps, learn some new steps, maybe a line dance or two, and hopefully just have some fun. Beginners welcome. Information, 673-8180.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** – 8:30 am, SLLA Conference Room.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Work Session** – Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 4:30 pm, West Side Park Community Center. John Lynch, chief market analyst for

What's When Calendar

Evergreen Investments, in Charlotte, will address the influence of Wall Street activity on mortgages and credit; the resulting effect on international monetary systems and financial processes; and how your personal financial security is affected. All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend.

- **Standard First Aid Review** – 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Moore County American Red Cross, Southern Pines. Prerequisite required. Certification fee \$25 Registration, 692-8571.
- **MOCAR Meeting** – 7 pm, lower level of the Moore County Emergency Operations Center, Carthage. The Moore

County Amateur Radio Society will finalize activities for 2009 including communications support for area activities, planning for the Technician and General Class licensing courses, VEC licensing examinations, and participation in SkyWarn, Amateur Radio Emergency Services, Moore County Emergency Services, and American Red Cross Disaster Services. All are welcome to attend. Information, James Johnson at 400-3019.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

- **Mixed Paper Recycling Drive** – 9 am – 3 pm, Kangaroo Station in the Fresh Market Shopping Center, Southern Pines. Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. will accept anything that is paper: paper grocery bags, flattened boxes, telephone

books, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, flattened corrugated cardboard, office paper, and newspapers. Also any type of household batteries and Inkjet cartridges and cell phones. Information, Joan Neal at 947-3478 or by email at jneal@moorecountync.gov.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

- **Weymouth Center for Arts & Humanities Lecture Series** – 3 pm, Weymouth Center. Dr. Stanley Riggs presents the "Impact of Changing Climate, Sea-Level Rise and Storms on the North Carolina Coastal System: Past, Present and Vision for the Future." A coastal and marine geologist who has been doing research on modern coastal systems, he is Distinguished Research Professor of the Department of

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MONDAY, JANUARY 19

- **Martin Luther King Day**
- **Interfaith Food Pantry Clothing Drive** – 10 am – 1 pm, 110 Knight Street, Aberdeen. In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who encouraged Americans to take part in their communities to make their world a better place in which to live, come help sort and size clothing, restock shelves, or donate gently used clothing and bedding. Sponsored by Moore County RSVP, for more information call 215-0900.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners Meeting** – 6 pm, Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Veterans Presentation** – 7 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Moore County Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 966 host North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs Cemetery Superintendent Robert Cox. He will speak on the rules guiding the State Veterans Cemetery Program and eligibility of veterans and dependents. Veterans and spouses are urged to attend and the public is invited. Joe Kristek, 673-4563 navy1dad@aol.com

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

- **Inauguration Day**
- **League of Women Voters Meeting** – 11:30 am, Table on The Green at Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Road, Pinehurst. Dr. Lori Heim, President-Elect of the American Academy of Family Physicians will speak on 'The American Health Care Delivery System - What we can learn from the US Air Force.' The public is welcome. Cost is \$12.00, includes lunch. Reservations, Charlotte at 944-9611,.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10 am – 3 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. We will continue to work on blankets. We have new fleece and lots of children waiting for the blankets. This is a great time to come in and see what Project Linus is all about. Drop by for an hour or for the day. Bring a snack or lunch. We hope you will join us. Information, Pat Weber at 673-1457.

- **Professional Rescuer CPR /AED Review** – 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Moore County American Red Cross, Southern Pines. Equivalent to BLS for Healthcare Provider. Prerequisite required. Certification fee \$25. Registration, 692-8571.
- **Foxfire Village Planning Board** – 7 pm, Town Hall.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

- **January Birthday Club** – 12 pm, Table on the Green, Southern Pines. For all January Birthday Club ladies, your check is your reservation. Information, Ginny Horchler at 673-0776
- **Standard First Aid** – 6 pm – 9 pm, Moore County American Red Cross, Southern Pines. Certification fee \$35. Registration, 692-8571.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

- **Adult/Infant/Child CPR + AED** – 8 am – 1:30 pm, Moore

County American Red Cross, Southern Pines. Certification fee \$55. Registration, 692-8571.

- **Cooking with Carmela and Marjorie: Classic Italian Dishes** – 1 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Featuring popular, classic Italian dishes, such as Osso Bucco with creamy polenta and mushrooms, chicken Piccata, prosciutto and basil roulade with the mozzarella, and a demonstration on making fresh mozzarella. Recipe packets are available, and everyone will partake in the tasting of all the dishes. Registration begins Thursday, January 15, call 673-5314. The cost of the program is \$12.50 per person.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

- **The O'Neal School Enrollment Open House** – 2 pm – 4 pm, Bradshaw Hall, The O'Neal School, Southern

Pines. Tour the campus, meet faculty, and learn more about The O'Neal School. Information, Alice Droppers at 692-6920 ext 103, or adropers@onealschool.org

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

- **Sandhills Natural History Society Meeting** – 7 pm, Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd, Southern Pines. Presentation about the diverse aquatic life found within Sandhills streams, rivers, and watersheds with staff from the Fort Bragg Endangered Species Branch. Visitors are welcome! Information, 692-2167 or visit www.sandhill-snature.org

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

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



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New bank gives to WEE



Sherri Adams, CommunityOne Bank's Community Office Manager in Seven Lakes presents a \$500 check to West End Elementary Principal Johnnye Waller and West End students Erin & Kylie Bridgman. The donation will help fund a Parent's Night program that provides students with a their own book to take home and keep.

which to live. The Corporation for National and Community Service is encouraging Americans to make January 19 a day on, not a day off.

In recognition of this goal, the Moore County Retired Senior and Volunteer Program [RSVP] has teamed with the Interfaith Food Pantry, to hold a clothing drive to raise awareness that every day offers the opportunity to volunteer and make a difference.

The goal is to enable Moore County residents who may have this day available to make it one of investing their time and efforts locally.

Donations of gently used and outgrown articles of clothing and bedding are encouraged and may be brought to the Inter-

faith Food Pantry site. This drive will be conducted from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Monday, January 19. The Interfaith Food Pantry is located at 110 Knight Street in Aberdeen.

Due to the economy and the temperatures, the Pantry has seen a huge increase in the numbers requiring food and clothing. All donations no matter

how small will be gratefully accepted.

If you have a half hour or hour to spend, the Pantry would welcome anyone wishing to help sort and size clothing, or restock shelves.

For more information, call Moore County RSVP at 910-215-0900.

Shag Dance Night

The Seven Lakes Shag Group will be having shag dance night starting Wednesday, January 14 at 7:00 pm, upstairs at the West Side Park Community Center. Admission is free.

Come on out and review the beginner steps, learn some new steps, maybe a line dance or two, and hopefully just have some fun. Beginners are welcome.

For further information, contact Paul at 673-8180.

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The Sandbox Players, a new community theater group serving Moore County, will present "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [abridged]" by Adam Long, Jess Winfield, and Daniel Singer. The Sandbox Players presented "Moon Over Buffalo" in October, and the same creative team that produced "Moon" is again preparing to hit theater-goers with a slam-bang, roll-in-the-aisles comedy.

"'Complete Works of Shakespeare' is a spoof," said producer Don Bridge. "We call it 'Monty Python performs Shakespeare'. There is nothing serious going on here. The premise is three guys get up on stage and attempt to fake their way through every play written by Shakespeare."

"This is a show for everyone who would rather have a colonoscopy than have to sit through a real Shakespeare play," said Bridge, "and the prepa-

ration is far easier, as well."

Lisa Bridge, recently seen as Charlotte Hay in "Moon Over Buffalo," will direct the show. "Trying to keep order among the loonies," as she calls it.

In addition to Don Bridge, performers will include Robert Gay, who is known to Moore County audiences this season not only for directing "Moon Over Buffalo," but also for stepping into a supporting role at the last minute.

Most recently, he directed "Plaid Tidings" for Moore OnStage.

Mike Raab will join the troupe as the third actor. He lives in Fuquay-Varina and is the founder of The Jailbreak Theatre Company.

"I met Mike when he and I did 'The Robber Bridegroom' in Raleigh last summer," said Bridge. "I knew that we needed to do something seriously silly together. Just wait until the audience

sees him as Juliet with me as the world's oldest Romeo."

Scenery will be designed and constructed by Ron Gordon, who produced the five-slamming-door set for "Moon Over Buffalo." For "Shakespeare," he will transform the interior of Southern Pines' Sunrise Theater into Shakespeare's Globe. Lauren Beecher will stage manage.

"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [abridged]" will be presented at the Sunrise Theater in Southern Pines February 6 - 15, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Reservations are not necessary, and all tickets are general admission [open seating].

Seven Lakes Forum takes on Wall Street mess

Wall Street and your financial security are the featured topics at the Seven Lakes Forum to be held Thursday, January 15 at 4:30 pm at the West Side Park Community Center.

John Lynch, chief market analyst for Evergreen Investments, in Charlotte, will address the influence of Wall Street activity on mortgages and credit; the resulting effect on international monetary systems and financial processes; and

how your personal financial security is affected.

All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend.

In February, the Forum will address The Primary Care physician: How patients will be affected by the anticipated changes in the manner in which personal medical care, with guest speaker Dr. Lori Heim.

Digital Camera Class at WEE

Did you get a digital camera for Christmas and aren't sure what to do now?

Learn enough basics in this 4 hour class to begin taking pictures.

The class is limited to 12 students and there must be at least 8 students in order for the class to be taught.

Bring your own camera!

The Absolute Beginner - Digital Camera class meets Tuesday, January 13th and Thursday, January 15th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the computer lab.

Call Sandhills at 910-695-3937 to register. Course section is 12022 -- Corinne Walls is the instructor.



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NOTICE OF A CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF SR 1148 (CHAPPELL ROAD) AT-GRADE HIGHWAY / ABERDEEN CAROLINA AND WESTERN RAILROAD (ACWR) CROSSING IN EAGLE SPRINGS

**TIP Project No. Y-4808B
Moore County**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold the above Citizens Informational Workshop on Thursday, January 22, 2009, between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., at the Eagle Springs Fire Department, 1932 NC Highway 211, Eagle Springs, 27242.

NCDOT representatives will be available in an informal setting to answer questions and receive comments about the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions also will be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours. No formal presentation will be made.

NCDOT proposes to close the existing ACWR at-grade highway / rail crossing; Crossing No. 466 255K, at SR 1148 (Chappell Road). This proposed closure is part of an effort to reduce the number of redundant and/or unsafe rail-highway at-grade crossings statewide.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Ms. Nancy Horne, Rail Division, Engineering & Safety Branch, 1556 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1556, phone (919) 715-3686, or email nhorne@ncdot.gov.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Ms. Horne as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

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The Times
Call 673-0111**

Chamber graduates leadership class

Moore County Leadership Institute [MCLI] celebrated its twentieth year at the graduation ceremony held at the Pinehurst Resort, Donald Ross Grill on December 2. This year's class is the largest class the program has seen with twenty-six participants. Over forty-four applications were received from interested individuals to participate in the program making the selection very competitive.

MCLI was led this year by Linda Criswell, REALTOR® & Broker In Charge for Prudential Gouger O'Neal and Saunders Real Estate in Seven Lakes and Stephanie Rogers, Administrative Director of Risk Management for FirstHealth of the Carolinas, both graduates of the 2007 MCLI class.

There is a universal need for leadership. We only have to look at today's headlines internationally, nationally, regionally, or locally to know that this is true. While the Chamber may not be able to impact the world issues, it can certainly impact those issues that occur in Moore County by developing effective local leaders. The Moore County Chamber of Commerce understood this in 1989, when the Moore County Leadership Institute was developed. The goal is to develop a broader base of informed, committed, and qualified individuals capable of providing dynamic leadership and work for positive community change in Moore County. To date there are over 350 MCLI graduates.

The objectives of MCLI are 1) Understanding Moore County, 2) Expanding Business and Personal Networks, 3) Building Leadership Skills, and 4) Find-

ing a Place to Serve within our community. Class participants explored various leadership topics and engaged in team building exercises over a twelve-month period. In addition they reviewed and discussed local issues affecting education, government, agriculture, tourism, and health care. An important part of MCLI is developing class projects that address community

issues raised during the year. These projects were presented in November and have made a significant impact on our community.

The 2008 MCLI Class Graduates are: Teri Alesch, Moore County; Dr. Anita Alpenfels, Moore County Schools; Eli Arroyo-Allen, Moore County; Patrick Barry, First Citizens Bank; Jeff Batton, Village of Pinehurst;

Scott Boucher, Roly Poly; Douglas Brooks, Moore County; Chad Campbell, Pinehurst, LLC; Adele Chestnut, SCC; Heather Clemens, Pinehurst, LLC; John Crichton, FirstCarolina Care Insurance Company; Kathy Desmond, Sandhills Children's Center; Lisa Gibbs, Wachovia Mortgage; Rodney Hardy, Town of Southern Pines; Sally Larson, Seagrove Area Potters Association; Andrew Lyons, First Bank; Eric Porter, Moore County Schools; David Sinclair, The Pilot, LLC; Emily Sloan, FirstHealth of the Carolinas; Shannon Stites, FrontGate Properties; Crystal Taylor, Moore County JobLink – Employment Security Commission; Kathy Taylor, The O'Neal School; Carmen Villaronga, BB& T; Sandy

Waterkott, UNC-Pembroke; Carla Williams, Pinehurst, LLC; David Zmiewsky, Fidelity Bank.

"MCLI helps participants understand the dynamics of effective leadership and decision making," said Patrick Coughlin President & CEO of the Moore County Chamber of Commerce. "Participants study our community infrastructure, analyze their own individual leadership styles/roles, and further develop their leadership skills. MCLI challenges emerging and existing leaders in our community to expand their professional network, develop a systemic understanding of how our community works, and examine potential solutions to the important issues that impact Moore County's future."

Woof Woof Open raises funds for Pooch Park

The Woof Woof Open, to be held Saturday and Sunday, February 7 – 8 at The Club at Longleaf and The Pit Golf Links, benefits the Pooch Park in the Pines, a three-acre fenced dog park at Hwy 22 and Waynor Road.

The tournament format is Best Two Balls of Four with a shotgun starts at 12:00 pm on

Friday and 11:00 am at The Pit. Entry fee is \$75.00 per round, play one or \$125 for both days. Tournament favors are two complimentary Green Fees at Longleaf and The Pit Golf Links per day – eight Green Fees for two rounds.

Entry forms are available in local pro shops and online at www.poochparkinthepines.com



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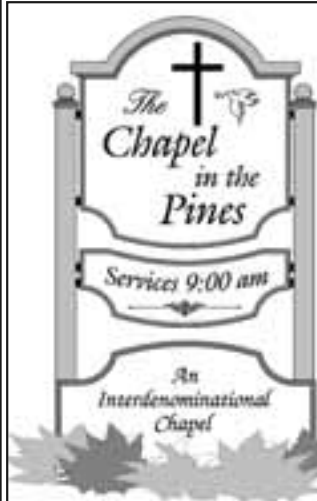
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Moore Onstage mounts 42nd Street

Moore OnStage and Taylor Dance will be presenting one of the most spectacular musicals Broadway has ever produced – “Forty-Second Street.” This is the story of dreams and success spurred on by talent and determination and a lot of hard work.

The tap numbers are exceptional and never has this type of show been presented in its entirety here in the Sandhills.

Leading off the starring roles is Cassandra Vallery, just recently seen in Moore OnStage's production of “Sisters of Swing.” Newcomer K. C. Holliday is Cassandra's “replacement” who gets her big break on Broadway as a result of another's misfortune. Playing opposite her will be Gary Taylor of Taylor Dance, in a role you've never before seen him play.

The big producer of the show, Julian Marsh, will be played by another newcomer, Ken Griggs, a regular performer at Cape Fear Regional Theater.

All of these performers will be flanked by the talented dancers of Taylor Dance as well as other seasoned performers, such as Rebecca and Michael Jones, Randy Rime, Melvin Tunstall, III, who will also be directing the show, and Marijo Brown.

You don't need to go to Raleigh to see incredible theater because it's here in the Sandhills.

This show is huge and will be playing for five nights only in Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College, beginning Wednesday, January 28 so call early for your tickets.

Tickets are available by calling 910-692-7118 and are \$20 for adults and \$12 for students eighteen years and under.

All seats are reserved.

“Forty-Second Street” is sponsored by Dogwood Dental and Boles Funeral Home.

Third-graders publish their own book

The third grade students in Mrs. Gorenflo's and Mrs. Cain's class at West End Elementary recently wrote and published a book called “Celebrating Our Differences: A Classroom Guide to Accepting Yourself and Others.”

The book was the culminating task of a unit of study designed by Mrs. Gorenflo to promote respect and acceptance of all people.

Mrs. Gorenflo's students proudly shared the book with one classroom in Kindergarten through fifth grades, with WEE Principal Mrs. Waller, and Assistant Principal Mr. Matthews, and Mrs. Locklear, WEE's media specialist.

A copy was donated to the school library for other students to read.

Mrs. Gorenflo's students also

received a copy of the book for themselves and their families.

Mrs. Gorenflo worked with Ann Brewer at Harris Printing

on the layout, design, and printing of the book.



Mrs. Gorenflo & Mrs. Cain helped their West End Elementary third-graders publish their own book.



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O'Neal students contribute



Every year, O'Neal lower school students participate in "Shoebbox Christmas." Shoeboxes of small toys, toiletries, school supplies, and more are made to be given to underprivileged children in Moore County via Sandhills Children's Center, The Moore County Coalition for Human Care, and Guardian Ad Litem.

One hundred forty shoeboxes were given this year.

At left Amanda Duffy's first grade class with April Ferrell of Guardian Ad Litem.

Red Cross January Blood Drives

Wednesday, January 14 – 10 am to 3 pm, Sandhills Community College, Blue Hall. Appointments, go online www.membersforlife.org/cbsr/schedule Search sponsor code 1769

Friday, January 16 – 1:30 pm to 6 pm, Sandhills Cycle Center, Hwy 15-501 North. Appointments, 692-8571

Tuesday, January 20 – 2:30 pm to 7 pm, Moore Co. Red Cross Train House, 482 E. Connecticut Ave, Southern Pines. Appointments, 692-8571

Thursday, January 22 – 10 am to 2:30 pm, First Health Fitness Center, Pinehurst. Appointments, 715-1834

Tuesday, January 27 – 1:30 pm to 6 pm, Penick Village North Building, Southern Pines. Appointments, 692-8571

There is no longer an upper age limit. Donors must be at least seventeen years of age and weigh at least 110lbs. To reach a Donor counselor call 866-562-7156

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Want to be a HAM?

The Moore County Amateur Radio Society will offer Technician, General, and Extra Class licensing examinations to the public throughout 2009. All courses will be held Saturday mornings: January 17, March 21, May 23, July 18, September 19, and November 21 at 10:00 am with check-in at 9:30 am.

Classes will be held at the Meeting Room of the Moore County Library in Carthage.

Individuals wishing to take any test must have a valid driver's license or other govern-

ment issued picture ID, a Social Security card, and a copy of both documents, front and back on a single page. If the candidate currently holds an amateur radio license issued by the FCC they must also bring the original license and a copy.

No reservations are needed but handicap candidates should call to assure that they can be accommodated. The fee for each examination is \$12.00, cash only.

For additional information, contact Charles Wackerman at 947-2707.

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Real Estate

By SANDY STEWART

REALTOR

You've Got A Nice Face . . . BUT

Do you know what I consider one of the greatest drawbacks of the seller who tries to sell his own home? The fact that most prospects will not confide their objections to the seller's face. I've found that the great preponderance of buyers are gentle, polite and caring individuals. That's the problem. They don't want to insult you.

You may have the nicest face on the block, but a promising buyer may have abruptly decided that he couldn't afford the price of your home and left. He didn't want to hurt your feelings. On the other hand, price is a subject that they WOULD discuss with our agent (they do it all the time)

who could then show them how it could possibly be financed within their means.

A nice prospect wouldn't dream of telling a nice seller that the carpeting was worn or certain rooms need to be repainted. They'd tell this to us though, in which case we could arrange to make minor financial adjustments or repairs and save what could have been a lost sale.

• • •

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

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Crawfords planning Summer tour of Ireland

The Emerald Isle will be the destination of the 19th annual trip that Dudley and Peggy Crawford have organized for Seven Laker. They are especially enthusiastic about this Summer's trip, since Ireland is one of their favorite destinations.

"Ireland not only touches your senses, it touches your soul," quotes Dudley, a retired Presbyterian minister who loves photography.

"Ireland has so much to offer," said Peggy, "from dramatic landscapes, charming people, thatched-roof cottages, and mag-

nificent castles to literary wit, Christian heritage, and traditional music and dance. The history of the republic of Ireland is inspiring — a proud nation that struggled for generations for its freedom from England."

The tour to Ireland is scheduled for June 19 to July 2, with transportation from Seven Lakes to the airport in Greensboro. If you are interested, the Crawford's can be contacted at 673-0680 or peggycrawford@nc.rr.com for information about the trip to Ireland.

Previously, the Crawford's have led tours on a Baltic cruise, and

to Bavaria and the Alps, Greece, Spain and Portugal, Italy, Alaska, Australia and New Zealand,

Scotland and England, Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, Northern France, a Rhine cruise and the

French Riviera.

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Learn to cook Classic Italian

The next edition of Cooking with Carmela and Marjorie will feature Classic Italian Dishes

This program will feature popular, classic Italian dishes, such as Osso Bucco with creamy polenta and mushrooms. Other dishes will include chicken Piccata [a more economical choice in place of veal], and a demonstration on making fresh mozzarella. Carmela will make a prosciutto and basil roulade with the mozzarella. Recipe packets are available, and everyone will partake in the tasting of all the dishes.

All cooking programs are held at the Westside Park Community Center in Seven Lakes West and are sponsored by the West Side Recreation Committee. Classic Italian Dishes will be

held Saturday, January 24 at 1:00 pm.

Registration begins Thursday, January 15, call 673-5314. The cost of the program is \$12.50 per person.



Happy travellers from the Crawford's last trip — to the Baltic.



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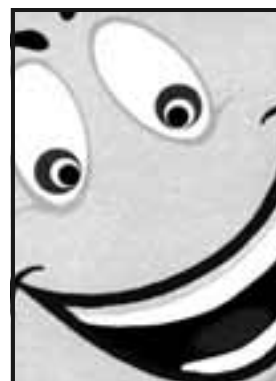
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Alzheimer's Memory Loss Support group

The Seven Lakes Alzheimer's /Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Chapel in the Pines on Seven Lakes Drive.

For more information, call 673-5493.

Advertise in The Times

Old acquaintances, forgotten or not

Should old acquaintance be forgot...hmm, right month wrong song. Perhaps I'd better go with J. Geils ode to innocence lost, "My blood runs cold. My memory has just been sold. My angel is the centerfold."

That darned internet: who needs rumor mills or the gossip vine when you've got Facebook? Surfing around looking for old classmates, Darling Hubby discovered the shocking truth about little Natalie. And let's just say those early years of Catholic schooling didn't take.

Personally, I fared much better online this week and found a long lost friend who is both gain-

fully employed *and* fully attired!

Quickly and perhaps all too easily, today's technology and the web provide a unique platform to track down old cronies. With just a few clicks, you can find that cute boy who sat behind you in history — or was it English? And, as an ex-military brat, I have quite an assortment of past institutions and crushes to which I lay claim — though I expect my brief presence in those halls was even less memorable to the locals than to myself.

Darling Hubby falls hard into that locals category — with only three alma maters versus my dozen or so. Perhaps that's why

he can actually recall and search for elementary school friends while I have trouble remembering the names of the schools themselves!



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

Trinity, IEI, Seventh District, Glen Ogilvie, Carr, Sowers, CCA, Mount Vernon, Douglass — the school that is, not me. It's a long

list.

Not that my memory has ever impressed Hubby.

A typical exchange:

Him: Do you remember that great hike we took in Vermont? It was a Tuesday. It rained a bit and later we stopped for lunch near a waterfall.

Me: I've

been to Vermont?

Crushed, he shakes his head and walks away. Occasionally Jim will come back with photo-

graphic proof of such adventures or unearth a souvenir T-shirt. While I appreciate the effort, it's probably misspent. I've decided over the years that I must have situation saturation, reduced recall, or perhaps a really potent dose of auld lang syne.

A poem masquerading as a Scottish drinking song, I understand that affection for days gone by — even if I don't remember them.

So with my apologies to the great state of Vermont and to all those cute nameless boys in classes long forgotten, I'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne.

Thousands wasted in SLLA Admin costs

[This letter was slated for inclusion in the December 24 edition of *The Times* but was inadvertently omitted. *The Times* regrets the error.]

Dear Editor:

There are three of us who came here from Sanford in 1973 and worked hard starting this community. I am responsible for the Seven Lake Landowners Association being an independent organization. In the early years, we the developer controlled the Association both financially and by our seats on the Board. To protect the property owner from developer finan-

cial problems, I fought successfully to make the Association stand independent from the resources of the developer.

There is going to be a transition team appointed to lead the community into new management. This is a very important task that will set the stage for either the transformation of our community or continuation along the path that is leading us to be a fourth class subdivision.

Before the transition team can make sound recommendations, they must know what the administrative expenses of our community should cost.

Not what they do cost, but

what they should cost. Until you know that number, you will not know how outside "contract" services relate to what our operation should be. You will only know what "contract" services will cost compared to what we are now spending.

For the last 25 years, I owned and operated a construction company in Seven Lakes. In my company, there was a higher volume of revenue, more invoices and vendors, more detailed analysis of cost breakdowns and more frequent payroll than in the Seven Lakes Landowners Association book-keeping. My cost for accounting

my last full year in business (2007) was about half what the SLLA incurs.

I can assure you that based on my business experience and my knowledge of the operation of our Association, we are spending at least \$80,000 to \$100,000 more a year than we should be spending in administration. Additionally, we should be getting better — much better — management for the lesser sum.

According to *The Seven Lakes Times* there is going to be a survey that is going out. The residents are going to be asked to grade the facilities as to their importance. Rest assured that this Board will use that survey to support cuts in the operation of the community amenities if they do not get a dues increase. It will be sad if we start cutting amenities because of excessive cost versus revenue.

The community has a 25-year

history of not touching administrative positions, I encourage you to pressure the Board of Directors to operate the community like all private business is forced to operate to stay in business.

Waiting a year and wasting \$100,000 is not something that would be an option in the private sector; it should not be here. Amenities, when kept and operated in top condition, enhance our property values and should not be closed or ignored. Our facilities could see a \$100,000 increase in current budgets without a dues increase.

A transition team should be named now. It should go to work at something other than glacial speed and changes should be implemented within 45-60 days. Our system is broken and it needs to be fixed now.

D. Alan Shaw

Seven Lakes South

SEVEN
LAKES TIMES

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William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker



Letters to the
Editor

**Your letters
welcome!**

The Times welcomes letters from our readers, and we print most all we receive. You will need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached. See the box at left for all our addresses.

SARL apologizes for PetSmart snafu

Dear Editor:

I would like to apologize to the loyal supporters of Sandhills Animal Rescue League [SARL] who came to PetsMart on Saturday, December 13 to have a picture made of their pet with Santa Claus.

I booked that date in September with the store manager. It came to my attention through *The Times* on November 26 that another animal welfare organization was listed to have their Santa. I called the store and was assured SARL was listed on

the calendar for that date.

Again, I saw announcements for the other organization and was later told by the store manager that SARL had not booked that date. However, I was told that I could come on Sunday, December 14 because I had spoken to

the other group and the director agreed that my Santa and volunteers could come.

This was a red flag to me that someone knew a boo-boo had been made.

I had booked the Santa two months previous and volunteers to assist on Saturday, December 13. Changing schedules during the busy holiday season proved impossible and I had to cancel the Santa at the last minute as well as the volunteer who had agreed to help.

I feel this situation was unfair

to SARL — to be bumped from a fundraiser that we have participated in each year since PetsMart opened in Aberdeen. Each September, dates are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Thank you all who support SARL and any rescue group because it is very hard, heart-breaking work but also rewarding when a rescued pet gets a forever home and becomes a part of a loving family.

*Lou Atkins, Founder
Sandhills Animal Rescue*

Pondering disaster

One person's reaction to a devastating event: five hundred miles away, yes, but emotionally overwhelmed.

It's those alternating stabs of sadness, disbelief, anger, and compassion that flow over you, bringing a slow, seeping eruption of tears that tells me that lady floating face down and lifeless will never see the years that I've enjoyed.

I took a swing at a tennis ball this morning. Why was I so blessed, while her bloodied form lies there?

Why do hurricanes spawn? Why do death and misery descend on innocent members of God's vast community?

Yes, I'm safe. But sitting here beset with sadness. Lives snuffed out, like blowing out a candle, or spiritually derailed for the remainder of life's journey, with too many memories to bear.

Yes, that bewildered woman, with a rag held over her streaming eyes and her husband's sheet-covered body alongside. The future? What future?

A boy hanging onto a rescuer as they dangle in the air, grasping a lifeline beneath an Army helicopter.

I'm still seeing the utterly blank and hopeless countenances of people with little hint of what the future will hold.

Through the maze of fear and despair, a little patch of humor does manage to peek through, unbelievably.

Like the weary Good Shepherd who, with his friend and a small fishing boat, putted up and down streets-turned-rivers and took aboard load after load of marooned residents, including one on a second-floor balcony who was told, "You got ten minutes. The cruise line's leaving!"



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

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FirstHealth funds childhood obesity projects

The number of overweight children in the United States has doubled in the last two to three decades. According to the National Institutes of Health, one child in five is overweight and the numbers are increasing.

Locally, the figures are even more alarming. Data compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicate that fifty-seven percent of all North Carolinians are either overweight or obese – up eighty-two percent from 1990-2002. In addition, according to the North Carolina Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System [NC-NPASS], twenty-nine percent of young people age twelve to eighteen and twenty-five percent of children age five to eleven are overweight or obese.

Although there are many causes of obesity, including genetics, the primary factors are overeating and lack of activity. This epidemic of poor nutrition coupled with lack of exercise not only increases weight, but also contributes to related health problems such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke and some forms of cancer. As a result, today's children are likely to be the first generation ever to live shorter, less healthy lives than their parents.

FirstHealth of the Carolinas has teamed up with community leaders, school personnel, and medical professionals to make a difference for children in the mid-Carolinas. Through special projects and programs, these groups are working together to increase awareness about the childhood obesity problem and taking steps to ensure that young people in local communities stay fit and healthy.

In October 2008, FirstHealth organized and hosted a Childhood Obesity Summit that attracted nearly one hundred participants. During the event, which was funded through a special grant from the Moore Regional Hospital Auxiliary, participants learned about the far-reaching effects of childhood obesity and had the opportunity to share their own ideas about how to address the problem at the local level.

According to keynote speaker Dr. Meg Molloy, executive director of N.C. Prevention Partners, "FirstHealth's summit to reverse childhood obesity helped connect local resources and partners so they can share common problems and solutions."

In addition to promoting awareness of the issue, FirstHealth set aside a portion of the Auxiliary grant to fund community-based projects generated through the event.

"These project proposals demonstrate community collaboration and encourage participants to continue working together to address obesity," said Barbara Bennett, administrative director of FirstHealth Community Health Services. "The summit overall served as a call to action within our region and will result in providing the seed money and the collaboration among community partners to implement these special projects."

FirstHealth received five proposals for related community-based projects. The proposed projects are as follows:

A Moore County proposal to pilot a farm-to-school fresh produce program to provide produce purchased directly from local farmers for three targeted schools and a day care center. Through the program, children will have access to fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables. Project planners hope that the project will highlight the value of providing locally grown foods in school cafeterias and encourage additional farm-to-school efforts.

A second project in Moore County to create a downtown Southern Pines Walking Trail that will encompass businesses, the downtown park, and the community's Campbell House

and grounds. The trail will be available for area residents, visitors, and town employees, and will also be used in day camp and after-school programs sponsored by the Southern Pines Parks and Recreation Department.

A Hoke County program for a school garden planned, planted, tended, and harvested by third-graders. The sponsoring group will also create a walking trail at each local school and support a competition among the students

to encourage use. An award will be provided for the elementary school with the most miles walked collectively. Grant funds will cover the cost of the garden, the marking of walking trails and the purchase of pedometers for the children.

A Montgomery County Health Department and Montgomery Partnership for Children collaboration to offer Montgomery County's seven day care centers the opportunity to start a Nutri-

tion and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care [NAP-SACC]. This obesity prevention program is designed to help child care facilities improve their approach to nutrition and physical activity by changing policies and practices. The centers will conduct a pre-assessment, hold an action-planning session, send personnel to five educational sessions, implement action plans, and conduct a

(See "FirstHealth," p. 27)

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FirstHealth

(Continued from page 26)

post-assessment to determine the impact of change as well as additional areas for improvement. The grant money will be used to offer centers incentive funds to implement action plan

items.

A “Family Fun Day” to be offered by the Montgomery County Partnership for Children on Saturday, April 18, at the James Garner Conference Center in Troy. Originally conceived by

members of the Montgomery County Local Interagency Council in collaboration with the local Smart Start Partnership, the event will provide health and developmental screenings for preschool children as well as

offer education and information about local community resources for young children and families in a fun and interactive setting.

“FirstHealth’s Community Health Services team is offering invaluable assistance to help

combat this epidemic in North Carolina, where youth obesity rates are the fifth worst in nation,” said Dr. Molloy. “They have showcased the breadth of the problem in their region, where rates are alarmingly higher than across North Carolina. FirstHealth exemplifies the kind of civic responsibility and leadership we need in all levels of government and private industry if we’re going to turn the corner on obesity.”

For more information about childhood obesity and how you can become involved in making a difference, contact FirstHealth Community Health Services at 715-1925.

Westside

(Continued from page 7)

by \$10,000.

President Fewkes suggested using \$3,000 of those savings to purchase two automated external defibrillators [AEDs] for use at West Side Park. The Board heard in November a presentation on the AED units — and Project HeartSmart, which is encouraging organizations throughout the county to purchase the units for installation in public spaces.

The Board supported Fewkes suggestion an allocated \$3,000 toward the purchase of the units’ The remaining \$7,000 savings in the road projects line item was moved to the road reserve fund.

Other Business

- In other business the Board:
- Decided in an executive session discussion that local businesses will not be allowed to “sponsor” Recreation Committee events but that an event could be “made possible through a generous donation provided by” a business.
 - Heard from Treasurer Kirst that CAS efforts to collect delinquent dues payments are already bearing significant fruit in the form of additional revenues — and that CAS financial reporting facilitates the collection process.
 - Learned that it will be necessary to spread more pine bark mulch in the playground area at West Side Park to ensure that the special mulch used there is at the required depth. The mulch spread last year cost \$2,500 Recreation Director Milligan told the Board.
 - Learned that Community Manager Frost is implementing a number of cost-saving measures, including eliminating the postage machine from the Landowners Office, reducing

- the cost of the cellphone contract, changing the photocopier, and investigating the need to a maintenace contract with Embarq. Commenting on Frost’s efforts, President Fewkes said, “Everyone on the Board has seen a very positive start and feels very good about that.”
- Heard from Legal Director Ed Silberhorn that the developer is very close to approving the new architectural standards.
 - Heard from Silberhorn that an agreement is nearly finalized that will bring the Clubhouse Commons development near Beacon Ridge into the SLWLA.
 - Approved Infrastructure Director Ray MacKay’s request for approval of a \$19,575 contract for crack sealing on Westside roadways. This was the low bid in a group that ranged up to \$51,000, MacKay said.

- Heard from Security Director Blaine Rowland that the back gate arm was broken twice on New Year’s Eve. Also over the holiday season, two unlocked cars were entered, lawn decorations were tipped over, and a home at the corner of Vanore and Longleaf was burglarized.
- Heard from Recreation Director Karen Milligan that the 2009 Recreation plan includes the continuation of Yoga, Ta Chi, Flip & Fun, and children’s craft classes, as well as Cooking with Carmella and a new monthly Recreation calendar will lay out the events for each month and will be available in clickable form on the SLWLA website.
- Heard that progress is slow on a proposed land swap that would trade a one-acre tower site owned by the Associa-

tion for a one-acre inactive wellsite owned by the county.

- Heard from Community Manager Frost that the ability of Treasurer Kathy Kirst to pull financial reports locally from the CAS computer system is



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Crossing

(Continued from front page)

She said she had spoken with one of the owners of the old Stanley Furniture plant — Moore County realtor Ron Myers — about any opposition he or his partner Jon Giles might have to the Mode Road closing. Myers said, according to Fewkes, that the issue was tractor-trailer

access to the loading docks at the plant — which are located adjacent to the railroad crossing. Myers said he and Giles would take a truck to the site and test the access issue.

Fewkes also said she had spoken with Westside developers Peyton Gentry and Bob Van Houten about the project. Both

indicated their support of the NCDOT plan and expressed an intention to be at the Board of Commissioners Work Session, according to Fewkes.

She said she had had positive responses from three of the five commissioners but had not heard from the other two. She said Commissioner Cindy Morgan

told her the plan would likely be voted on by the Commissioners in their Monday January 20 meeting; the Commissioners typically do not vote on matters during a work session.

Sales noted that the most recent traffic counts on the intersections in question show Edgewood Terrace carrying 114 vehicle per day, Mode Road carrying

800, and the Lakeway Drive crossing carrying more than 4,000 per day, including 16 school bus crossings.

The Board of Commissioners work session is scheduled to convene at 5:00 pm on Thursday, January 15 on the second floor of the Historic Courthouse in Carthage.

Survey

(Continued from front page)

includes Part Three which directly addresses several assets and approximations of potential cost savings if identified changes are made. Zielsdorf explained that taken individually, the savings are a drop in the bucket but collectively they could represent significant savings.

"These four questions are ones that I proposed because I feel they are the most obvious starting point for future decisions," he said. "However, I want

to reiterate that this is a planning tool and does not constitute a binding vote."

While specific in nature, the questions are far-ranging in impact — with community safety, appearance, and recreation all up for discussion.

"We need to know how the community feels about these assets — all of them," Zielsdorf said. "I didn't want to have any sacred cows. We should not be afraid to ask the questions."

Notably absent from the survey is any discussion related to personnel issues or the anticipated transition to a new Community Manager later this year.

Zielsdorf told *The Times* that personnel issues were important but not a matter for a public vote.

"Personnel discussions have always been held in Closed Meetings. As a Board, we want to look at everything — both management firms and individuals — as we move towards the transition. We are determined to take the time to make the right decisions."

He continued, "I expect we'll hear about personnel, but clearly we could not include that on a survey like this. As we move into next year and we look at the six-month maintenance department report, personnel costs and decisions will be examined."

The surveys were mailed this week. If you have questions or did not receive the survey, contact the Seven Lakes Landowners Association office at 673-4931.

Mail

(Continued from page 4)

land said he was opposed to curbside delivery for safety reasons. "We have narrow roads, hills, and turns," he said. "That's damn near a death trap out there," he said he would not support home mail delivery without a safety survey that established it will be safe.

Director MacKay said he felt allocating money for an attorney was premature, though he encouraged the mail delivery committee to proceed with gathering the documentation that would be needed for such a consultation.

The consensus of the Board was to support MacKay's decision and to await documentation before approving an expenditure on attorney's fees.

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Chapel

(Continued from front page)

That agreement spawned a lawsuit that brought together three landowners — including then SLLA Treasurer Steve Hudson — and Alan Shaw, once a partner in Peter V. Tufts and Associates, which developed the South Side and Country Club.

A Superior Court ruling against the plaintiffs — and the opening of a mostly-completed new driving range — led the SLCC Board of Directors to return to their membership with a new ballot asking again for permission to sell the range and to borrow up to \$150,000 to meet cash flow needs until the land could be sold. Adding an eleventh hour twist to the referendum, the membership of Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, the non-denominational church which sits across the South side

entrance road from the old practice range, voted to make its own offer for the range.

The Chapel — not unlike the Club itself — finds itself with an aging membership despite its location in a community that is growing increasingly younger. The church's sanctuary has no complementary facility for Sunday School or other youth-oriented activities. The five-acre range was under consideration as a place that could provide a location for that, as well as additional parking and green space to be enjoyed by the community as a whole.

However, negotiations appear to be permanently stalled because the Club's price is more than the Chapel is willing to pay. Club President Gordon Zeller failed to respond to requests made by The Times asking for comment.

Jaeger said a committee, distinct from the Chapel's Board of Directors, had met and investigated the Club's proposal, and determined that, should the

Chapel need to expand, construction of a two-story building addition contiguous to the existing Chapel was a better option than buying the practice

range.

"If the day comes we want to expand, we have all the property we need to do that," said Jaeger.

Literacy Council offers workshops for tutors

The Moore County Literacy Council will offer a twelve hour workshop for volunteers who would like to become adult tutors.

Volunteers are required to attend Orientation prior to a training session.

Orientation will be held Monday, January 12, 1:00 to 2:00 pm at Emmanuel Youth House, 385 E. Indiana Avenue in Southern Pines.

Tutor Training will be held Tuesday and Thursday, January 20 & 22, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Chamber of Commerce Building, 10677 US Highway 15/501 South.

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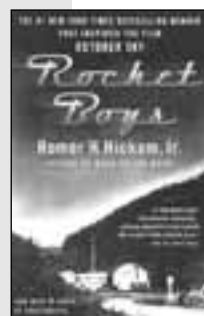
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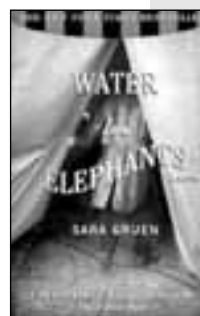
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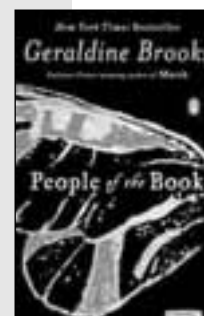


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WOODFARM CARPENTRY & LANDSCAPING INC. – Additions-New Construction-Remodeling-Foundations-Drainage-Driveways-Backfilling as well as all landscaping needs. Resident of Seven Lakes. Free Estimates 673-2733 or 695-2005 (c).

TREE SERVICE — ALLEN & SON TREE SERVICE. Topping, trimming, complete removal, clean-up, insured, 24 hour service. Free estimates, senior citizen discounts. Call James M. Allen at 910-974-7629 (Home) or 910-572-6818 (Cell). *tfn 12/7*

PERSONAL & MEDICAL CARE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE – refer. include medial, corporate & personal. 910-639-0279. *4tpx 1/9*

JOHN KELLY MAINTENANCE & REPAIR LLC— 25 yrs of experience, no job too small. Seven Lakes resident. Call 673-1605.

J&L HOME SERVICES — “A Handy Man and More.” Interior/Exterior Home Maintenance & Repairs. Call today for Free estimates. Your Seven Lakes Neighbor. Call 673-3927.

SEVEN LAKES DENTAL STUDIO – Repairs of dentures, acrylic partials, and relines. Same day service available. All work will be done only through your local dentist. Tom Wasilewski, 336 McDougall Drive, Seven Lakes. 673-1613.

CREATIVE CUSTOMWORK – “The Decorator’s Workshop” Custom made Window Treatments, Bedding, Cushions, and Slipcovers. All made right here with the attention to detail demanded by the best designers! Pam Wasilewski, 336 McDougall Drive, Seven Lakes. Call 673-2500.

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CEDAR PINES LAWN AND LANDSCAPE SERVICE INC. – Pine straw and pine mulch sales, Spring and general cleanup, brush removal, shrub additions and removal, small tree pruning and trimming. Bobcat services, grading, resurface, and gravel driveways. Yard preparations for new homes. Complete lawn maintenance, pest control for lawns and shrubs. Please call for Spring & Summer mowing. N.C. Pesticide #18967. Call Rick@910-673-3405 or 910-639-5206.

SEVEN LAKES HOME & LAWN SERVICE – Home and yard upkeep services. Now full lawn care including fertilizing and weed control. N.C. Pesticide #026-25656. Mowing, hedge trimming, mulch and pine straw. Regular maintenance or project work. Dock and deck maintenance, trim painting and small repair jobs. Roof & gutter cleaning. Call Rich at 638-8081 or Lindsay 638-2387. Lic. & insured.

BOATS FOR SALE

NEW & USED PONTOONS AND SKI BOATS — Call Seven Lakes Marine. 673-1440. *tfn*

TURN YOUR USED BOAT INTO CASH — People are looking to purchase good condition used boats. Let us connect you to the prospective buyers. Call Jeff at 910-673-1440 or Lynn at 910-690-8695.

BOATS FOR SALE


DONATE YOUR BOAT TO THE NONPROFIT MATTAMUSKEET FOUNDATION – Tax deduction for fair market value. No middleman. Call Lewis Forrest at 252-746-4221.

BOATS FOR SALE – Need a boat? Choplin’s Got It! Ski-Wakeboard-Deck-Pontoon-Bass and Saltwater Boats. Full service to Seven Lakes area only a few minutes away. Choplin Marine in Sanford. Call 919-776-1004 or www.choplinboats.com

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220 FIRETREE LN, SEVEN LAKES NORTH, \$159,000

3 Bd, 2 Ba, 1.5 story home with attractive new aluminum roofing. Freshly painted interior and new carpeting! Vaulted ceiling in living room offers large windows for plenty of natural lighting. Motivated sellers want your offer!



122 SMATHERS DR, SEVEN LAKES WEST, \$317,900

Super floor plan on this 3Bd/3.5Ba home. Vacant and move in ready! Bonus room has its own full bath. Complete with solid surface counter tops, hardwoods, eat in kitchen, and large master suite with sitting area. Located only a short walk from Lake Auman. Don't miss this great buy!



1092 ESTHER RD, WEST END, \$164,900

Secluded 6 acres with one bedroom, one bath farm house. Home needs some TLC but offers small barn and several other out buildings. Large workshop attached to house could be additional living space.



165 WEDGEWOOD DR, 7 LAKES WEST, \$234,900

Three bedroom, two bath located in The Pinnacle. This glorious home is "up to date" and offers hardwood flooring, split bedroom plan, fireplace, heated garage and cement terrace. A real beauty!



6 GREEN VALLEY • FOXFIRE • \$319,000

New Golf Front Construction! 4 Bd/3 Ba with appr. 2600 sq ft & full walk out basement. Brick & shingle craftsman cottage with open floor plan, island kitchen & breakfast bar, granite, wide pine flooring & custom cabinetry.



188 PAULA COURT, SL WEST, \$415,000

Better Than New! All brick, golf front home, meticulously maintained with upgrades galore. 3 Bd, 2.5 Ba, with finished bonus rm. Situated on 10th fairway, high ceilings, crown mouldings, custom cabinetry, hardwood & tile floors, large master, split BR plan.



13 WILDWOOD LN, FOXFIRE, \$349,900

All brick, golf front beauty! New construction. 3 Bd, 2.5 Ba with large master. Hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, granite counter-tops, open floorplan and fabulous golf course views.



4915 BEULAH HILL CHURCH RD, WEST END, \$225,000

Charming cottage style home on 2 acres. All new; tile floors, kitchen countertops & appliances, and carpet. New heat pump in 2006. Fresh interior paint. Move in ready!

OUTSTANDING HOMESITES

TBD Beulah Hill Church Rd
Over ten acres of land with pond. Topography is level and has plenty of trees. Recent survey on file. **\$132,000**

TBD Richmond Rd • Foxfire
Over 31 acres of prime property zoned for multi-family. Site plans available for 120+ unit build plan. Within walking distance to all community amenities. **\$896,000**

121 Harwich, 7 Lakes South
1.25 acre golf front lot **\$69,900**

46 South Shamrock • Foxfire
.7 acre level lot with golf view of 2nd & 3rd holes of west course. **\$55,000**

110 Otter Ct, 7 Lakes West
Cul-de-sac, water view lot with past perk for 4Bd home. Short walk to community center and pool. **\$137,000**

138 Andrews Drive • 7 Lakes West
Water-View building lot. Great Value! **\$65,000**

110 Otter Ct, 7 Lakes West
Cul-de-sac, water view lot with past perk for 4Bd home. Short walk to community center and pool. **\$137,000**

TBD Ridge Rd, Foxfire
Over 11 acres ready for development. Electric and water accessible. 4 lots at the end of 2 planned cul-de-sacs. **\$336,000**



1 FOXHILL CT, FOXFIRE, \$159,900

3 BR, 3 BA, two-story condo with golf course view. Largest condo available in Foxfire. Wrought iron staircase, walk in closets, and balcony. Master bedroom can be on main or second level. Don't miss this bargain!



105 TEAGUE DR, 7 LAKES WEST, \$299,000

Fabulous Value! 4BR, 2.5 BA home within walking distance of Johnson Point. 22 foot ceilings in living room, master bedroom with private sitting room on main level and three bedroom upstairs. Hardwoods, solid surface counter tops, formal dining and plenty of storage. A must see!



86 N. SHAMROCK DR, FOXFIRE, \$239,900

Near Foxfire Country Club on .82ac lot with golf view. Vaulted ceilings, living room/dining room combo, oversized master. Neutral décor, Anderson storm doors and windows, HVAC less than 2 yrs old. Immaculately maintained.

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