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Volume 24 Number 24

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

October 2, 2009

## Her Grace



**Sarah Davidson of Seven Lakes North was recently crowned 2009-2010 Junior Miss North Carolina State TarHeel.** [See story on page 2.]

## Sequoia Dam may have a clogged French drain

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

A clogged French drain may be to blame for a piezometer test hole that overflowed with water during a recent test at Sequoia Dam.

"This is not good news," Com-

munity Manager Dalton Fulcher told the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors during the Open Meeting on Wednesday, September 30.

Piezometers have been  
(See "SLLA Meeting," p. 19)

## Three NC firms in the running to manage SLLA

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Information -- without detailed proposals for staffing or costs -- from the three management companies under consideration by the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors was made available for public review at the office on Monday, September 22.

The three companies are Asheville-based IPM, Talis Management Group of Raleigh, and Community Association Services, Inc., which currently provides community management serv-

ices to the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association and has its headquarters in Pinehurst.

Director Kent Droppers reported in August that the Board had a clear favorite among the companies based on their initial presentations. However, for a fair cost comparison, each company will also be asked to submit a second proposal with equal staffing levels.

Using a two-pronged approach to the decision on new management, the Board will also be interviewing several hand-picked

individual candidates for the position -- including Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane.

Speaking to *The Times* on Tuesday, President Randy Zielsdorf said the Board was wrapping up the first stage of the search: interviewing management companies.

"We are in the process of asking questions to get clarifications on the initial proposals. Then we are looking forward to starting the second round of the search through interviews with  
(See "Management," p. 29)

## Neighborhood Watch is underway on West Side

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

The West Side's Neighborhood Watch program is underway, with a crew of twenty-eight volunteers trained and authorized to use the red Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] pickup truck to patrol the neighborhood, on the lookout for suspicious activity.

Safety and Security Director John Hoffmann reported during the Association's Tuesday, September 22, General Meeting that the patrols had been in effect for about two weeks.

"We are spreading ourselves out across the spectrum of the clock," Hoffmann said, "because we want you to see that truck in daylight hours, too. We want you to see us at the front gate, at the back gate . . . we want you to see us at Johnson Point on the weekends . . . so that you get a better sense that somebody is out there trying to deter people who may have our homes, our property, as targets."

The volunteers involved in the patrols are strictly observers, who report any suspicious activity noted to the Sheriff's Office,

which was involved in helping establish the program. Volunteers are not allowed to leave the truck while on patrol, let alone interfere with or attempt to apprehend those they suspect of engaging in criminal activity.

### Liability concerns raised

Despite those safeguards, retired Whispering Pines Police Chief Louis Gregory, who lives in Seven Lakes West, raised concerns about the danger in which the program places patrol members and the potential liability.  
(See "Westside," p. 26)

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# Business Guild's Fall Festival is October 10

Booths featuring scores of local vendors, live music, plenty of fun for the kids, and great refreshments — including the traditional fall bratwurst — promise to make the Seven Lakes Area Business Guild's First Annual Fall Festival and day not to be missed.

The action starts at 11:00 am next Saturday, October 10, in the field beside of MasterKleen at the corner of Trade and Grant Streets.

More than five dozen booths will offer everything from face-painting to massages, from help

with your computer, to help with your hearing.

It's a great opportunity to get to know local merchants — and have a great time with the family.

An Oompah band is on the bill, along with local musicians that will set your toes-a-tappin'.

The menu includes brats, franks, sauerkraut, chips, and soda.

The festivities continue until 3:00 pm, so load up grandma and the kids and head to Seven Lakes Business Village next Saturday!

## Car Wash benefits Scouts

There will be a car wash and bake sale on Saturday, October 3, 9 am to 1 pm, at Carolina Car Care on McDougal Drive.

Friends of the West End Scout Lodge will be raising funds to help with the rebuilding of the West End Scout Lodge, which was recently destroyed by fire.

Stop by and have your car washed and vacuumed while enjoying a treat from the bake sale.

All proceeds will benefit the building fund for the Scout Lodge.

If anyone would like to volunteer or donate baked goods for the event, call Heidi Rabstejnek at 673-4002.

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## Sarah Davidson wins crown

Dance, cheerleading, fast-pitch softball — Northsider Sarah Davidson has quite a range of talents for a girl of just eleven years.

No doubt that was on the minds of the judges who in July crowned Davidson Junior Miss North Carolina State Tarheel. [See photo on front page.]

And not only did she walk away with a crown — she also

won awards for best sportswear and best "pretty-in-pink" wear.

A student of ballet and tap-dancing since she was three years old, Davidson performed a jazz dance in the talent competition.

Earlier this year, her Junior

Dance team won two elite golds in small group jazz dance at the Revolution National Talent Competition in Greensboro.

A sixth-grader at West Pine Middle School, Sarah is the daughter of Scott and Vicki Davidson.

### 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 888-806-2572, or e-mailed to [mail@sevenlaketimes.net](mailto:mail@sevenlaketimes.net).

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
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.

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# Stimulus funds help schools weather state cuts

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Moore County Schools [MCS] faced a shortfall of \$6.9 million in its funding from the state of North Carolina this year, but with the aid of federal stimulus dollars and a little borrowing from the fund balance, they were able to moderate the impact of state funding cuts on the classroom.

That was the message that Moore County Schools Superintendent Dr. Susan Purser and Finance Officer Michael Griffith carried to the Moore County Board of Commissioners during their Monday, September 21 meeting.

"Last year at this time, began to work on figuring out how to save money," Purser told the Board. "We trimmed positions throughout the year when vacancies occurred. We realigned, reassigned, re-did everything that could be re-done."

Purser said she had the diffi-

cult task, at the end of the school year, of meeting with ninety employees to let them know they would not have a job with MCS in the coming school year. Making matters, worse, they could not be sure of funding from Raleigh until two weeks before school started.

In the end, Purser said, they were able to save 35 teaching positions.

"Even though we suffered severe reductions and millions of dollars in cuts," Purser added, "we looked after our fund balance. I hovered over that like a hen with brand new egg. We guarded it carefully, and we fed it carefully throughout the year. . . In the end we were able to tap that fund balance to put back in place some critical functions."

The fund balance is the unspent money the MCS — or the county, for that matter — has left over at the end of the year. It can function something like a savings account for pub-

lic institutions.

Griffin explained that state funding for MCS was cut from \$64.8 million in 2008-2009 to \$57.9 million this year. The largest single cut was \$3.3 million in funding for non-instructional personnel: janitors, cafeteria workers, maintenance, etc. Ultimately, federal stimulus dollars replaced all but \$100,000 of that cut.

The state also cut \$1.7 million in various state-mandated spending — for things like central office expenditures, textbooks, staff development, and at-risk students.

Another \$1.9 million in local discretionary funding was cut by the state. "It was our decision what to do about those cuts," Griffin said. "Our focus was to save teaching positions."

The county held its funding for schools even with last year, at \$24.9 million.

Griffin explained that MCS pulled \$1.8 million from its fund balance to restore some of the

areas cut by the state, including information technology for classrooms, staff development at schools, a FirstStep program with Sandhills Community College, and some critical maintenance projects.

The budget included no raises in personnel salaries, though it did include an increase in contributions to the employee retirement fund and a nine percent increase in the cost of employee health insurance — both increases mandated by the state.

"We really appreciate the support from the Commissioners,"

Purser said in conclusion. "Next year doesn't promise to be any better. We've already been notified that we will lose another million dollars in state funding."

"All of the federal money is two-year money," she noted. "We have invested that heavily in people, which is the right decision to make when you are dealing with educating children."

## Other Business

In other business during their Monday, September 21 meeting the Moore County Board of (See "Commissioners," p. 18)

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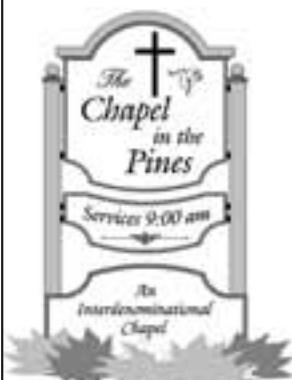
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# Mason Gould muses on 90 years with words

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Trying to pin down that definable moment when his life's passion began, Mason Gould looked to grade school.

"My kindergarten teacher said something about my writing. I don't remember exactly what it was - but it was good. So I decided to make a living at it," he reminisced.

A job writing for the school

newspaper led to an early career in journalism and then military service during World War II as an interpreter.

"Once they found out I had a language background with five years of French, they thought I could learn Italian too," Gould said of his years stationed first in North Africa then back in the states working with prisoners of war.

A lifelong athlete, Gould was

a star pitcher at the University of Michigan and a member of the top four pitching staff when they won the Big Ten championship during his senior year.

"Being my size I had to resort to throwing what I call junk," Gould said. "Obviously I can't throw a 100 mph fast ball, so I'd throw a curve ball and then a change-up and then throw something at the batter's head!"

Tennis was another great passion, and Gould said that quitting because of health concerns was one of the hardest decisions he ever made.

He made his professional home in the Hartford, Connecticut

area in the field of public relations. Working for firms both big and small, Gould oversaw several divisions, retiring as president of Reynolds/Gould.

Together with his wife, Gould moved to Seven Lakes North in the late 1980's. After losing Janet to the ravages of Alzheimer's disease, Gould again sought out writing as a creative outlet.

"I express myself through words. As a writer you learn about people and then have the ability to spread that knowledge out a bit," said Gould.

In addition to writing freelance feature articles and Mason's

Musings, a regular column for The Times, he is an active member of the North Carolina Writer's Network and The Sandhills-Seven Lakes Writer's Group.

"We meet once a month or so to critique each others literary efforts - very politely," Gould joked.

"I so much enjoy when people say that just a few little sentences that I wrote perked them up," he said. "I've seen so much, I just want to relay a few thoughts I have in the hope that someone will be perked up. Then I feel pretty good."



Mason Gould celebrates his 90th birthday with daughter Nancy



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# Computer woes? Call experts at G&D Computers

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Quality and affordability are two words that come up frequently when best friends Doug Roskamp and Craig 'Gio' Castrogiovanni talk about their new business venture, G&D Computer.

"We saw a need here in the community for our friends and neighbors," Roskamp said. "In today's economic climate, people can't afford to be bringing their machines back and forth to a big box store for service. It's a waste of time and gas."

Instead they suggest calling G&D Computer for your computer needs. With over fifteen years of professional computer experience each, Roskamp and Castrogiovanni offer comprehensive residential and business computer solutions.

"Let us come to you — we live here, we work here, we're part of the community," said Castro-

giovanni. "We are a complimentary team with diverse backgrounds and skill sets. Our professional experience allows us to offer a broad spectrum of services."

The two friends first met as students and then later coworkers at Briarcliff College in Long Island, New York. Eventually, both went to work with a major internet service provider before Castrogiovanni transferred to Verizon in Cary, where he continues to assist Federal agency clients.

Roskamp jokes that he was a little more delayed waiting to sell his house, but soon was able to follow the Castrogiovanni family to Seven Lakes West.

Together again, Roskamp and Castrogiovanni are excited to go into business for themselves while also providing a valuable service to their community.

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Doug Roskamp and Craig 'Gio' Castrogiovanni of G&D Computers.

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### Monday, October 19

1:30 pm - 6 pm  
First Baptist Church  
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### Monday, October 19

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# Bortins Building going up in 7 Lakes Village

The Bortins Building, a new 6,000 square foot commercial building under construction in the Seven Lakes Business Village will offer 2,000 square feet of finished office space and a 4,000 square warehouse with two fully air-conditioned garage bays.

Located on McDougall Drive near Seven Lakes Assisted Living, the building's first tenant

will be Classical Conversations, a business owned by Robert and Leigh Bortins of Seven Lakes North. But space is still available for other businesses interested in locating in the Village.

This will be the third Seven Lakes location for Classical Conversations, but the Bortins said keeping their successful and

growing business in Seven Lakes is a top priority.

"It is important for us to be able to walk to work and also to support the Seven Lakes area," said Leigh Bortins.

Classical Conversations is an educational bookstore that distributes materials nationwide through the internet. Bortins said, as a national business,

they could live anywhere, but chose Seven Lakes.

"The business keeps doubling each year. Most of our employees are Seven Lakes residents and they also appreciate the close location," said Bortin. "We love it here and think it is just a great place," she said.

Classical Conversations does

not operate a retail bookstore, however literature classics in paperback are usually available for purchase. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For additional information about space availability in the Bortins Building or Classical Conversations, call 687-0288.

## Phone cards for troops

Fort Bragg's USO (United Service Organizations) and Womack Hospital, which serves soldiers from all over the United States, distribute domestic and international phone cards to soldiers to allow them to call their loved ones. USO staff reports they have recently turned down two army units requesting cards, because they had none to give them.

You can actively support our troops by providing them an opportunity to call home, from hospitals and bases all over the world. Phone cards are a small, but significant, investment in troop morale.

For six years, the Democratic Women of Moore County have sponsored this project, but as the need for cards has grown the effort is being expanded to all citizens of Moore County.

Phone cards allowing soldiers to call within the U.S. and internationally can be purchased for as little as \$5.00. Red, white, and blue collection boxes are located in the following locations:

Prescription Shoppe, 120 MacDougall Dr, Seven Lakes  
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Democratic Headquarters, McNeill Street, Carthage  
McNeill Oil, Hwy # 1, Pinebluff  
Exxon, Hwy #211, Olmstead Village, Pinehurst  
Coffee Shop, Main Street, Robbins  
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# St. Mary Magdalene completes remodel

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

A major interior renovation last year of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church is simply the most recent sign of growth and progress for this small mission.

"When I first visited, I was immediately struck by how warm and welcoming this church is to newcomers," said Vestry member Mercedes Herdrich. "We were trying to mirror that spirit of warmth and welcome in our facilities."

Founded in Troy in 1980 by Dr. William and Bette Hanham of Seven Lakes North, the church later relocated to Seven Lakes Drive, occupying the brick building that formerly housed the Seven Lakes Baptist Church.

Now awash with cream-colored walls and warm wood tones, the renovation created a calm space for worship with seating for one hundred. The kitchen was also updated and the renovation extended to include a library, and organized space for offices, the choir, and the children's Sunday School program.

The church's focal point – the altar – is complimented with recessed lighting and a hand-crafted wood cross and one-of-a-kind Paschal candle stand both designed and created by local builder Chad Stites, in memory of his father.

The church also houses The Gallery at Seven Lakes, an art space for local photographers and artists, and meeting rooms for various community businesses and organizations including a weekly donation of space and equipment to the Moore County Literacy Council.

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church is a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion, a Christian body which is both Catholic and Reformed.

"Catholic in that it prizes and enjoys an unbroken continuity of Christian life and witness within the framework of an Episcopal, sacramental church; and Reformed in that it is heir to the liberating insights of the Reformation," explained the Rev. Bob Brown.

Father Bob, as he is called, is one of two priests that serve the church on an alternating schedule.

"Both Father Fred and Father Bob are very good. They are both very different in the way they preach – but it's nice to have a variety of styles," Herdrich said.

Brown explained that Anglicanism – and the Episcopal

Church – hold a tradition with a distinctive interpretation of the old faith.

"We delight in Scripture as a life-giving resource and as the only authority essential for Christian doctrines," he said. "We are uneasy with the idea of Biblical inerrancy. Scripture is holy but must be wrestled with. We approach the Bible with reverence, affection, and caution."

The Episcopal Church follows the 'Great Commission,' that is to

go forth into the world, baptizing and spreading the teachings of Christ. St. Mary Magdalene hopes to outgrow their current facility and buy land to build a new, larger church and obtain parish status by 2013.

"We are trying to grow our church because that is what Jesus wants us to do," said Brown.

Each Sunday the morning worship service is held at 9:30 am followed by a coffee hour. A scheduled Coffee & Contemplation program offers a more in-depth study of the Scriptures, and many of the members also share fellowship through a monthly Supper Club.

Sometimes called "The Raisin Church," St. Mary Magdalene

members collect and deliver boxes of raisins for the Backpack Pals program, as well as weekly donations to the Sandhills/Moore Coalition for Human Care, the Episcopal Thrift Shop in Southern Pines, and the Sandhills Animal Rescue League. Other outreach activities include a healing prayer group, prayer shawl knitters, and the handy man "A Team," among others.

In addition the church actively supports their missionaries in Tanzania, Africa, the internationally known artist Jessie Stuart Mackay and the Rev. Tally Bandy.

"We believe that Christianity is caught not taught," said Brown. "There is room for all in our church."



**The altar at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Seven Lakes.**

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# Successful raffle supports VVA mission

Veterans Helping Veterans. That is the underlying purpose of the fund-raising efforts of Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, West End, NC. This year's fundraiser raffle was a huge success, enabling the Chapter to continue to support programs and needs related to fellow servicemen and women in our local communities.

Winners of the donated raffle prizes were presented with their prizes the week of September 7. Howard Schubert, of Southern Pines won the Pinehurst Number 8 Golf Package, Yvonne Harrell, of Southern Pines won the Mid-Pines Golf Package, Kathy Bergquist of Seven Lakes won the handmade quilt featuring the names of each of the golf courses in Moore County and made by Heartbeat Quilts in Hyannis, MA.

Winners of the six pieces of Seagrove Pottery were: Dorothy Rogers, Aberdeen and Paula Garrison, West End (Ben Owen Pottery and Boyd Owen Pottery), May Patterson, Carthage (Sandra O'Quinn Pottery), Betsy Quilling, Aberdeen (Will McCanless Pottery), Janet Baker, Seven Lakes (E. J. King Pottery) and James Woods, Southern Pines (Fat Beagle Pottery).

Each Christmas, the Chapter adopts military families with special financial needs providing

them monetary assistance and distributes phone cards to troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Chapter supports the Wounded Warrior program with a significant contribution at their annual golf tournament. They

sponsor quarterly Bingo games and send birthday cards to veterans at the VA hospital in Fayetteville and co-sponsor a Stand Down in Fayetteville, a program to assist homeless veterans with practical needs. The

first baby born on Veterans Day at Womack Army Hospital is awarded a \$50 bond, a flag which has flown over the Capitol, and a certificate

On Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and POW/MIA Day, a wreath is placed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Carthage with services conducted by the Chapter. American flags are provided to local schoolrooms and the Chapter arranges for proper retirement and disposal of

American flags from the community.

Chapter 966 meets the first Monday night of each month at the Westside Community Center in Seven Lakes West. Visitors are welcome and new membership is invited.

Anyone who did not serve during the Vietnam era may join as an associate. For more information contact Joe Kristek, President, at 910-673-4562 or navy1dad@aol.com.



Betsy Quilling and James Woods receive their raffle prizes from Jim Schrum, retired Army Lt. Col, Director/Chairperson for the VVA fundraiser.

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# In memory of . . .

**Ronald Glenn Richmond**, 83, of Seven Lakes, died Friday, September 25. Mr. Richmond was born in Pontiac, MI, the son of the late Glenn William Richmond and Dorothy May Holds Richmond.

During WWII he served in the Army-Air Force. After the war, he had a successful career for over forty-three years as a Master Salesman with General Motors. He and his wife Ginny traveled extensively, visiting many different areas before retiring to Seven Lakes in 1993. He was a lifelong member of the Elks and the Masons and was also a member and past president of the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club. As an active member of these organizations, he was always involved in various charity events and blood drives. Mr. Richmond enjoyed volunteering their time by reading with second graders at the West End Elementary School.

A memorial service will be held at the Chapel in the Pines in Seven Lakes on Saturday, October 10, at 11 am with the Rev. Ben Wilson officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to: Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club, 477 Longleaf, 5577 Seven Lakes West, NC 27376.

Ron was preceded in death by his brother, Kenneth Richmond.

Survivors include his wife of sixty-one years, Virginia (Ginny) Smith Richmond of Seven Lakes, a son, David Richmond of West-

bury, NY, a daughter, Nancy Mackey of Shohola, PA; two brothers, Dale of Ortonville, MI, and Robert from Pontiac, MI, a sister, Maxine Haskill of Gulf Shores, FL; four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is in charge of arrangements.

**Byron Williams Cole**, 72, of Eagle Springs died Wednesday, September 23, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Mr. Cole was the son of the late David Evander Cole and Veronica Mae Williams Cole of Moore

County.

Mr. Cole was owner and operator of Cole's Rewinding for over fifteen years and a former member of Doubs Chapel United Methodist Church and a US Army Veteran.

Funeral services were held Saturday September 26, at Big Oak Christian Church, Eagle Springs. The Rev. Robert Dennis officiated. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

He was preceded in death by brothers Everette Addison Cole, Floyd Cole, Carlton Cole, Howard Cole, sisters, Edith Cole, and Ethel Cole and a grandson,

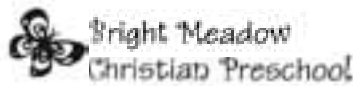
Aaron Casey Bolton.

Mr. Cole is survived by his wife of 49 years Shirley Ann Moore Cole of Eagle Springs. A son, Craig Moore Cole of Eagle Springs; a daughter, Sherry Michelle Cole-Bolton of Seven Lakes, NC; a brother, Clarence Cole of Macclesfield; two sisters, Hazel Bates of Idaho and Mildred Boyd of Durham; and two grandchildren and one great

grandchild.

Memorials contributions may be made to: Big Oak Christian Church at 3627 Bensalem Church Road, Biscoe, NC 27209 or The Sandhills Children Center at 1280 Central Drive Southern Pines, NC 28387 in memory of Byron Cole.

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



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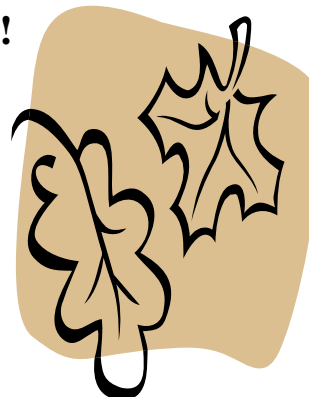
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# In memory of . . .

**John Nelson Young**, 92, of Seven Lakes, died Wednesday, September 23, at Kingswood Nursing Center in Aberdeen. Mr. Young was the son of the late Malcolm Clifford Young and Estelle Werntz of Philadelphia, PA.

Mr. Young retired from John Hancock after thirty-eight years in Quincy, MA and Binghamton, NY as a District Manager. After

retirement the family moved to Cape Cod in 1977 and later moved to Seven Lakes North in 1999. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pinehurst and the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club.

A Funeral Mass was held Monday, September 28, at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Pinehurst. The Rev. James M. Labosky officiated. A Rite of

Committal followed at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Mr. Young was preceded in death by his wife Ruth Canavan Young.

Mr. Young is survived by his son John Young of Fayetteville; three daughters, Sandra Hess of West End; Catherine Brown of Morongo Valley, CA; and Laura Resciniti of Fayetteville.

Memorials may be made to: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Foundation 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215.

Family was assisted by Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines.

**Barbara Rudd**, 88, of Seven Lakes, died Monday, September 21, at her home. Mrs. Rudd was born in Auburn, Maine the daughter of William Dwight Barrell and Addie Stephen Barrell.

Mrs. Rudd made Seven Lakes her home for over twenty three years. She was a member of the Seven Lakes Tennis Club, the Seven Lakes Garden Club, and The Chapel in the Pines.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, September 24, at The Chapel in the Pines. The Rev. Donald J. Welch officiated. Burial was private at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Mrs. Rudd was preceded in death by her brother Dwight Barrell.

Mrs. Rudd is survived by her husband of sixty three years Lonie Edgar Rudd of the home; her daughter, Linda Rudd Wentworth of Raleigh; a son, Lawrence Rudd of Henderson, NV; three granddaughters and a great-grand daughter.

Memorials donations may be made in memory to: Keep Moore

County Beautiful Campaign, PO Box 1807, Carthage, NC 28327.

Family was served by Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

**Jean M. Bright**, 76, of Seven Lakes died Friday, September 18, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

She is survived by her husband George Bright of the home, one son; Stephen Bright of West Palm Beach, FL, one daughter; Janette Hurley of Geneva, NY, one brother; John Turner of Storrington, England, two sisters; Vivian Palmer of Manchester, England, Jill Ridyard of Winkley, England, and one grandchild.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the Family.

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# Presbyterians mount mission to Mexico

by Pastor Larry Lyon  
West End Presbyterian Church

West End Presbyterian sent ten youth and seven adults this summer on a "life-changing" mission trip experience to Chetumal, Mexico.

The West End Presbyterian church has a long sister church relationship with the Ichthus Presbyterian Church in Chetumal, which is in the state of Quintana Roo, along the border of Mexico and Belize. The relationship goes back almost a decade.

"Our mission trip to Mexico changed my life by creating a stronger bond between God and myself," said Doug Clark, a recent Pinecrest Senior High School graduate, who is now a freshman at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. "It also opened my eyes to how fortunate we are here in America and how much we take for granted. I hope all youth are given the opportunity to partake in this extraordinary event in the future."

The ten youth and seven adults spent each morning at the church, building a ramp. This involved mixing concrete by hand, pouring a foundation of rock and dirt, and building walls of concrete block and cement filler. The ramp will provide access to a second story sanctuary.

Members of the Ichthus church worked alongside the West End

Presbyterian group, which also led a Bible School for approximately 90 children each evening. The WEPC youth led games, taught hand bells, put on a puppet show, and led on arts and crafts during the Bible School.

"Simply put, mission trips are life changing," said John Wilson, of Seven Lakes West, who was one of the adult participants on the trip. "They give us countless opportunities to see and experience things in a way that we

could never have imagined.

"One short week in Mexico equals ramps built, crafts created, lots of wonderful Mexican food, much laughter, many tears, lots of games, worship services," Wilson added. "All of these were amazing, but the relationships formed between the team members and the people of Chetumal – that's priceless."

The group also visited historical sites in the area, the beach, and marketplaces.



Volunteers from West End Presbyterian Church help build a ramp at Ichthus Presbyterian in Chetumal, Mexico.

West End Presbyterian Associate Pastor Chip Pope said "the youth and adults on this mission team worked extremely hard all week, from building the ramp to leading Vacation Bible School each evening. However, just as important as the construction, the teaching and the singing, was the amazing relationship our youth built with the youth from Chetumal. Along with the new relationships, was a new understanding of what it means to be brothers and sisters in Christ."

Those who went on the trip prepared for months in advance of the July trip. Beside preparation meetings and orientation sessions, the WEPC youth held a yard sale and spaghetti dinner

and silent auction, which was supported by the church's congregation and the local community.

The youth making the trip were Doug Clark, Wes Huddleston, Emily Kline, Charlotte McDonald, Logan McDonald, Ali Miriello, Michael Pigg, Siena Shute, Karen Smith and Allie Van Vliet.

The adults included Holton Easter, Sandra Easter, Chip Pope, Noreen Sawyer, Anna Stevens, Archie Stevens and John Wilson.

West End Presbyterian is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). The church is located on Knox Lane, one block south of Highway 211.



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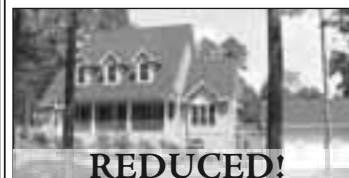
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# Vietnam Vets conduct POW/MIA Service

September 18 was the nationally recognized POW/MIA Day of remembrance for those serving in the military who are prisoners of war or missing in action. Moore County Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America conducted a remembrance ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park

in Carthage on Friday evening with members from other veterans' organizations in attendance. Among the speakers was John Mims, a former POW and survivor of the Bataan Death March in the Philippines in 1942.

The ceremony included the POW/MIA Remembrance Table

set for one, the missing soldier, with each symbolic item representing and honoring the sacrifices of these soldiers and their families. The names of soldiers

still listed as missing in action were read with a bell tolling each name. The end of the ceremony was marked by the placing of a wreath at the memorial.

For more information about membership or activities of the Vietnam Veterans of America, contact Joe Kristek at 910-673-4562 or navy1dad@aol.com.



**Bataan Death March Survivor John Mims speaks at the Annual POW/MIA Observance.**

## Master Gardeners cookbook

The monthly meetings of the Master Gardeners of Moore County start with a potluck supper. It's a tradition and a guarantee that the meetings are well attended. "Who made that garden fresh salad with the spicy dressing?" "Who brought the sweet potato pie?" "Can I get your recipe?"

This is typical dinner conversation each month. In order to simplify the recipe exchange process Master Gardeners Linda Hamwi, Alexis Pohlmeyer and Linda Querec undertook the task to compile and publish a cookbook – Our Favorite Recipes.

Not only do these folks know

how to grow plants and vegetables, they know how to cook. You'll find 300 of their favorite recipes in this new book. Try a fun appetizer like Chipotle-BBQ Meatballs at your next cocktail party. Dinner guests will really enjoy Meaty Moussaka or Sally's Brisket. For dessert Sticky Toffee Pudding will get everyone's

attention.

Hot off the press, the cookbooks can be purchased for \$10 at the Agricultural Building, 707 Pinehurst Avenue, Carthage. Call 947-3188. All proceeds go towards future educational programs for Master Gardener Volunteers.

## WSL Social Crafters

The Women of Seven Lakes Social Crafters meet every Monday at the SL Northside Clubhouse, 10 am to 12 noon. Getting ready for Autumn and Halloween – Learn how to make Pumpkins, Ghosts, Ghouls, Scarecrow Pails. Learn a craft or bring your own project (knitting and sewing). Coffee, cake and great camaraderie. Join in and have fun.



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# Wounded Warriors Tourney results

On September 11, a Golf For Wounded Warriors outing was held at Beacon Ridge Country Club with 132 players participating.

Thanks to the generosity and support of the players, private donations, and local businesses, \$8600 was raised for the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization that provides services and support to troops return-

ing home to a hospital bed.

Special thanks to Bill Smith Ford of Southern Pines for donating a Mazda and \$1000 cash prize for the hole in one contests.

And thanks to all the committee members included Steve Auditore, Jim Tobias, Mike Keenan, Norm Dyson, Mike Foreman, Dick Halpin, and Larry Sizemore who helped make the event successful.



**Wounded Warriors Golf Tournament First Flight Winners** — Jim Hildebrand, Ron Workman, Jennifer Johnson and Rick Wartman.

## WSL Fall Fundraiser

The Women of Seven Lakes will hold their Fall Fundraiser on November 5, 11:30 am to 4 pm, at the West Side Park Community Center. PIK-N-PIG will cater the luncheon.

The Fashion Show will feature clothes from The Clothes Horse in Pinehurst.

A Craft Fair will precede the luncheon with fantastic local Crafters participating. Each Crafter will donate a prize to be raffled at the luncheon. After all

the festivities you may stay to play any game of your choice. The price for is \$20 per person.

Call Tinkie Petterson at 673-1742 or email dtpett@nc.rr.com to make your reservation. Take-out food will also be available with advance reservations for \$8 per plate.) Please have your complete table reservation and make checks payable to Women of Seven Lakes. Reservations close for the event on November 2.



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## Chili for hot dogs

Recently, I saw a recipe somewhere for chili for hotdogs and hamburgers. It was quite complicated, and I was reminded of another one, that is very simple and very tasty.

### Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground meat (with right much fat in it)
- 1 can condensed tomato soup
- 3 to 4 heaping tablespoons chili powder

Brown ground meat well. Add soup and chili powder. Mix well. I divide this in several servings and put in small freezer containers.

I freeze the extra containers for use later.



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102 Parker Ct.	SL West	\$47,500
Lot 16, 17, 18 Falls Dr.	Cedar Lane (West End Area)	\$50,000 ea.
134 Smathers Dr.	SL West	\$55,000
239 Longleaf Dr.	SL West	\$55,000
423 Longleaf Dr.	SL West	\$55,000
148 Otter Drive	SL West	\$65,000
105 Edwards Ct.	SL West	\$74,000
Carriage Park Drive	Quiet wooded street with 3/4 acre lots	\$75,000
Lot #'s 8003, 8004, 8027, 8028, 8029, 8036, 8037, 8038, 8039		
124 Andrews Dr.	SL West (Water View)	\$84,900
Carriage Park Drive	Quiet wooded street with 1+ acre lots	\$85,000
Lot #'s 8031, 8035		
210 Morgan Trail Ct	6+ Acres	\$124,500
630 McLendon Hills Drive	McLendon Hills (Water Front)	\$335,000
119 Callis Circle	SL West (Water Front)	\$350,000
156 Swaringen Drive	SL West (Water Front)	\$370,000
Meredith Lane	Arbor Creek Lots 8, 9	\$78,750
Meredith Lane	Arbor Creek Lots 12 & 14	\$235,000



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**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2**

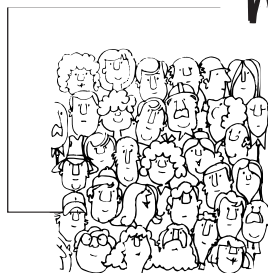
- **Junior Futures Tennis Tournament** – at Seven Lakes Country Club Tennis Center, tournament will continue through Sunday, October 4. Tournament sponsored by McDonald's of Seven Lakes, Tracy's Carpet, Moore Tennis Association and Seven Lakes Food Lion. Public encouraged to stop by and enjoy this fun and exciting tournament. Contact SLCC Tennis Center at 673-1096.
- **West End Elementary School Fall Festival** – 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Enjoy the food, games and prizes and support the PTA in this fundraiser. For more information about Fall Festival at WEE or to volunteer to help contact Heidi Patti, Chairperson for PTA Ways and Means, at 255-0679 or Kay Miller 673-2932.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

- **Car Wash and Bake Sale to Benefit West End Boy Scouts** – 9 am to 1 pm, at Carolina Car Care on McDougal Drive. Stop by and have your car washed and vacuumed while enjoying a treat from the bake sale. All proceeds will benefit the building fund for the Scout Lodge. If anyone would like to volunteer or donate baked goods, call Heidi Rabstajnek at 673-4002.
- **Open House at Seven Lakes Fire House Station** – 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Demonstrations and displays as well as representatives from Moore County Public Safety, NC Forestry Services, Seven Lakes EMS, and the Moore County Sheriff's Department. Hands on activities for adults and children, free refreshments and a chance to meet members of your volunteer fire department. All area residents are invited to attend and enjoy the day with your Seven Lakes Volunteer Fire Department.
- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 to 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At least five types or varietals to educate your palate. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza, next to Peking Wok.
- **NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Moore County** – 7 -9 pm, "Pathway to Awareness" Weekend at the Village of Pinehurst Assembly Hall Complex. Events is free and open to the public.

NAMI-MC host Patricia and John Gallagher, authors of the recently released book, "No More Secrets" in the Village of Pinehurst Assembly Hall. Call (910) 295-1053.

- **14th Annual Pottery Plus Auction** – 5:30 to 8:30 pm, Country Club of North Carolina,



Pinehurst. To benefit the FirstHealth Hospice Foundation, supporting the work of FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care and the construction of the new Hospice House. Silent and live auctions, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. \$50 per person.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4**

- **NAMI-MC 4th Annual "Pathway to Awareness" Weekend** – 12-1:30 pm, Book Sign-

ing by the Gallaghers and "Meet and Greet" 1 – 3 pm. "Ask the Psychiatrists" Forum w/Drs. Cobos and Gardella; 3:15 pm. ½ to 2 mile Walk around Rassie Wicker Park at 4:30 pm. "Candles in the Sky" Observance. Call (910) 295-1053.

- **Art exhibit and opening reception** – 3-5 pm. "Celebrating the Works of Women Artists" an

exhibit and sale of artwork of the women of the Artists League of the Sandhills held in conjunction with the Artists League's participation in the Habitat for Humanity Women Build project. Exchange Street Gallery, 129 Exchange Street, Aberdeen. Exhibit through October 30. Mon. – Sat., noon–3 pm. 910-044-3979.

- **Eddie Barrett and the Goodman Legacy Orchestra** – 3:30 to 6 pm. At Mr. P's, 155 Hall Avenue, Southern Pines.

## What's When Calendar

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- **West End Presbyterian Church Adult Academy and Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines** – lecture series on *Faith and the Environment*. At 6 pm, Presentation of the DVD, "Renewal" a production of Interfaith Power and Light. The DVD deals with what people of different faith traditions are doing to combat the devastation of God's creation. Program held at West End Presbyterian's Crawford Center on Knox Lane, West End. Series will continue on October 11, and October 18.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7**

- **Seven Lakes Village Gallery** – open 1-4 pm. Fine arts, photos and needle art show theme "Seeing is Believing" St. Mary Magdalene Church, Seven Lakes Drive.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8**

- **Seven Lakes Village Gallery** – Final day for the Village

Gallery art show "Seeing is Believing." Open for viewing 1-4. Artists may retrieve and submit new works on October 12, 3-5 pm. St. Mary Magdalene Church, Seven Lakes Drive.

- **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – 7:30 pm the SL Northside Clubhouse. Delores Muller, Master Gardener Volunteer for fourteen years, will present "Successful Gardening in the Sandhills." Muller will cover all the aspects of gardening in our area. Topics include how to improve your soil and what to plant to have something blooming twelve months of the year. She will also discuss growing roses and crape myrtles, which are best and how to prune them. Bring your gardening questions, for the question and answer time.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.



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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10**

- **Sandhills Horticultural Society** – 8 am to noon, Fall plant sale. Perennials, woody plants and daffodils will be for sale at the Huetie Hall area of Sandhills Community College. Pre-order call 910-695-3882.
- **Moore County Historical Association** – 9 am to 3 pm, Shaw House Fair, a sale of vintage collectibles and antiques, on the grounds of the Shaw House, corner of Morganton Road and Broad Street, Southern Pines. Held rain or shine. Admission free. Raffle and silent auction. Food, refreshments (910) 692-2051.
- **Fall Festival** - 11 am to 3 pm. Seven Lakes Business Park, corner of Trade and Grant St. Come and enjoy the fun. Food, Live music and booths featuring local merchants and businesses. Sponsored by SL Business Guild.
- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 - 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At least five types or varietals to educate your palate. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza, next to Peking Wok.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11**

- **Blessing of the Animals** – 12 noon, Have your pet (dog, cat, bird, hamster, family pet) blessed at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. Please have your dog on a lease and cats in a carrier, and other pets in carriers for convenience and

safety for all. Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

- **West End Presbyterian Church Adult Academy and Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines** – 6 pm, lecture series on *Faith and the Environment*. Dr. Tim Beach-Verhey: "Take and Eat: Food, Faith and the Environment." Sandhills Farm to Table Cooperative and Moore County Farmer's Market will also present. West End Presbyterian's Crawford Center, Knox Lane, West End. Series concludes October 18.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 12**

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** – 8:30 am, Conference Room.
- **National Active & Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Sandhills Chapter 1895** – 10:30 am special meeting, Sandhills Community College, Ball Gardens Visitor Center, 3395 Airport Rd., Pinehurst. Dolores Muller, Master horticulturalist will give a tour of the gardens, following a short general meeting. Vilma Geisert (910) 215-5898 or George Sandoval (910) 246-9881.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13**

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Work Session** – 9 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 9am-1:30pm, Moore Co. Employees, Agriculture

Center, 707 Pinehurst Ave., Carthage. Appt. call 947-6362

- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes** – 3 pm, Game Room, Seven Lakes North. Guest speaker, Thomas Moshe from Best Buy's "Geek Squad" presenting information on What's New In Computers and Peripherals. Guests welcome.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15**

- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 4:00 pm, West Side Park Community Center. "Pulling the plug on Grandma" and 'death panels' have caused a great deal of concern for those persons who are approaching mortality. Dudley Crawford will address these issues in his presentation entitled Death with Dignity. All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. Contact Bill Mamel 673-8970.
- **Halloween Dress-Up Bingo At Our Lady Of The Americas Bingo Night** – dress in a costume. Prizes. Early Bird Bingo 7 pm. Regular Bingo 7:30 pm. Minimum purchase \$15. Doors open 6:30 pm. 910 974-3051. 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211, Candor.
- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.

- **Temple Theatre's – *Stones in His Pockets*** will run October 15 - November 1. *Stones in His Pockets*, by Marie Jones, is the story of a Hollywood film crew descending on a small rural village in Ireland to film an epic historical film. Two of the villagers, one of whom dreams of becoming a scriptwriter and the other one an actor, see this as their opportunity to break into Hollywood by becoming extras in the film. Sad, hilarious and irresistible tale. Lots of laughs. Tickets, call 919.774.4512 x-221, the Box Office at 919.774.4155.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16**

- **Our Saviour Lutheran**

**Church Annual Benefit Bazaar** – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, big yard sale, café w/breakfast and lunch menu, handmade crafts and bake sale. Proceeds donated to local programs. Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 1517 Luther Way, Southern Pines.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17**

- **Chapel in the Pines Annual Rummage Sale** – Doors open at 8:00 am and close at 2:00 pm. Please mark this date on your calendar and make plans to attend this great event. Call Butch Allen (673-3312) or Don Truesdell (673-1509).

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# Commissioners

(Continued from page 3)

Commissioners:

- Held a public hearing on and approved minor changes to the Zoning Ordinance which Planning Director Joey Raczkowski explained were "simply to correct some language or duplications. There are no regulation changes in this list," he added.
- Held a public hearing on and approved a request from the Planning Staff to rezone a 32 acre Eagle Springs parcel from Rural Agricultural to Light Industrial. The land, near the intersection of Flowers Road and NC Highway 211, is the site of the TH Blue mulch business, which has operated in that location since 1976. Raczkowski explained that, when countywide zoning was implemented, the maps created "got the shape of the parcel wrong."
- Deferred a public hearing and decision on another proposed rezoning — a 95 acre parcel in the eastern portion of the county that would be rezoned from Rural Agricultural - 40 to a Rural Agricultural - Conditional Use District to allow it to accommodate a business that would train bomb-sniffing dogs for the military. Raczkowski explained that the Planning Board had met for more than three hours earlier in the day to consider the request, heard from a number of residents of the area around the parcel, and generated more questions than answers. He explained that the Planning Board would take up the request again in its Thursday, October 8 meeting. The Commissioners will reconsider it during their October 15 meeting.
- Called a Public Hearing for

Monday, October 5 on a Partners in Progress request that the county provide a \$15,000 incentive to assist the Eaton Corporation in relocating their headquarters to Moore County.

- Recognized Karen Wicker who retired from the North Carolina Cooperative Extension service in July.
- Proclaimed September as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in Moore County.
- Learned that the county realized over \$60,000 in Fiscal Year 2008-2009 from the sale of surplus vehicles, computers, and other equipment on the GovDeals website. The Commissioners voted to continue using the GovDeals program.

Approved a new set of bylaws for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board subject to a review by the County Attorney.

- Accepted a Board of Health recommendation to write off \$2,800 in uncollectable fees. Also wrote off \$38,000 in EMS and \$1,200 in Fire Inspection bad debts.
- Approved an amendment to a contract with the NC Rural Center that gives the county and a developer more time to complete water system improvements associated with the Dormie Club subdivision between Seven Lakes and Eastwood.
- Delayed a decision on a Public Works proposal that the county develop a plan to allow

homeowners to make installment payments in order to afford the \$1,900 fee to tap onto the county water system.

- Tabled until their Monday, October 5 meeting a request from the Finance Department to move the county's banking business from BB&T to RBC Centura. Finance Officer Lisa Hughes explained that, last year, the county paid BB&T more than \$65,000 in fees.
- Reappointed Dick Fortman and Ann Robson to the Aging Advisory Council and George Reynolds, Jr. to the Sandhills

Advertise in The Times

## Watercolor, oil & acrylic classes

Andrea Schmidt's art classes in watercolor and oil/acrylic will continue through October.

Each class meets once day each week over four weeks at the West Side Park Community Center. The cost is \$25. Space is limited, so signup early at the WSPCC office. Schedule: Monday Watercolor October 5, 12, 19, & 26 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon; Wednesday Watercolor October 7, 14, 21, & 28 from 10:45 am to 12:45 pm; Friday Oil/Acrylic October 9, 16, 23, & 30 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

If you have questions regarding the classes, call Andrea at 673-1210.

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# SLLA Meeting

(Continued from front page)

installed at the top and bottom of the dam face. The problem area is located on the lower, western portion.

"We wanted water in the pipe — but further down," Fulcher explained. "When we took the cap off, we had an artesian well."

The French Drain on the eastern side of the dam was replaced in 1986, Fulcher said, but the drain on the western end of the dam was not included in that repair. According to Fulcher's report, the Western drain is not functioning properly. He said the Association's dam engineer, S&ME, would prepare a report for the State and warned the Board that a mandate was possible.

"I don't know what the State will require or what the engineers will recommend to the State but it will be based on how the upper pipe tests," Fulcher said.

## New Management Search

Despite a fairly large crowd, few landowners offered input on the SLLA management search during a public comment period set aside for that purpose.

Director Kent Droppers reported that he has received detailed proposals from the three management companies under consideration — CAS of Pinehurst, Raleigh-based Talis Management, and IPM of Asheville — and that he would prepare a spreadsheet comparing them for the Board next week.

In addition, interviews have been scheduled with two of the three individual candidates under consideration — including Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane.

During public comment, Northsider Jordan Rhodes railed against the Board's resistance to holding a vote of property owners on the decision about future management.

"I feel the community manager [position] is a huge job in this facility. You had no problem with asking members to vote on a dues increase," he stated. "I also read a comment that not enough turn out to vote — only thirty percent: I find that lame. A thirty percent turnout is far in excess of what is sitting here. I don't understand the resistance to why Chad Beane could not be given a trial period or to allow a vote on management."

However, Helen Simpson, also of Seven Lakes North, countered that voting privileges carry responsibility.

"I don't see why landowners stay away from these meetings. Why should they have a right to vote if they don't participate," she argued.

Also during the comment period, Erik Wilderson said the front office staff had been extremely helpful and responsive and hoped their positions would be considered. Fellow Northsider Charlie Oliver commended Droppers and the Board for their efforts and for the management companies they have selected for consideration.

"I took time to read the brochures and was impressed with each," he said. "They are resident-oriented."

## Road Repaving Project

At the September 14 Work Session, the Board unequivocally recommended moving forward with road repaving — on schedule — with work commencing in September 2010.

"The Board was unanimous in stating that we need this community to present the best image it can," Treasurer Denny Galford said. "We want to make it clear that the overall appearance of this community will be enhanced."

He reported that the Road Repaving Subcommittee will

(See "SLLA," p. 20)



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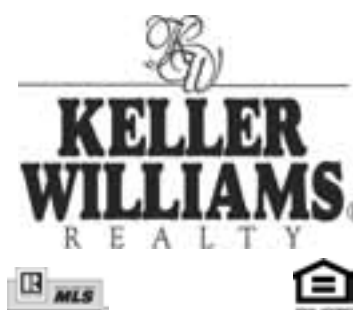
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# SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 19)

determine in October what major repair projects should be prioritized and when paving of the twelve miles of primary roads is recommended.

Specifically, Galford identified as priorities repairs along areas of Dogwood, Lancashire, Cardinal, Edgewood, Devonshire, Hastings roads, as well as a portion of Echo Dam, and curbing at the main Northside common parking lot.

Road crack sealing will commence in January and February 2010. Galford explained that crack sealing is much more effective during the cold, Winter months.

## Security

Director Gary Caulk presented a numbers-laden report on security activity over the past two months.

Over 9,000 vehicles passed through the North and South gates in August; however, September saw a fifty percent reduction in traffic. Currently there are 3,124 active barcode stickers.

Roving Patrol daily activity logs indicate frequent, scheduled checks of both unoccupied residences and common area facilities, including the yard debris site, maintenance shed, boat storage area, mail rooms, offices and North Clubhouse, and Sequoia Point.

In addition, Roving Patrol responded to nearly eighty dispatched calls and as many violations, including five vehicles stopped for excessive speed. In August, twenty one groups were unable to present guest passes upon request and were asked to leave, while only one such violation was reported in September.

"Things are moving along pretty well," Caulk said.

## Maintenance

A comparison report of in-house versus out-sourced maintenance costs was prepared by Bob Darr and presented to the Board in a Closed Session on September 14, reported Director Bud Shaver.

The Maintenance Committee has reviewed the report and is also now compiling and categorizing all additional projects.

"Maintenance does a lot of other stuff that most don't even

know about. I have a list of fifty-seven items just from September . . . from installing a ditch to picking up a dead goose," said Shaver.

In addition, the committee inspected the boat storage and identified eleven unregistered boat trailers.

"If you haven't checked [your boat or trailer], you better go on out there," recommended Shaver. "It may have been relocated."

## Recreation

With a record-setting enrollment of 104 students, the Seven Lakes Dance youth program is

off to a great new season, reported Director Bruce Keyser, Jr.

Other recreation programs underway this Fall include adult aerobics on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, a trip to the NC State Fair on October 20, the children's Halloween Carnival on Saturday, October 31, and an outlet shopping trip to Smithfield.

Assistant Manager Beane said both pool and day camp activities had gone very well and thanked everyone for a good and safe Summer season.

## Community Standards

With major road paving on the horizon, Director Droppers encouraged residents to take a look at their home's roof.

"Road and roofs are the big things that date a community," he said.

Notable community standards violations reported include boats parked at residences. Beane reminded residents that boats should be strategically placed in an unobtrusive location near the home.

Twenty-one unkempt properties were reported in September, and six of thirty-three August

violations are still unresolved.

"We encourage everyone to take pride in their property," Beane said.

Another concern is the number of homes that can not be readily identified, especially at night or during an emergency. Beane recommended purchasing a reflective address sign which can be obtained through a new fundraising initiative of the Seven Lakes EMS. A sample sign and order forms are available at the office.

Shaver reminded residents that an emergency blinking light

(See "SLLA," p. 21)



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# SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 20)

is also available for purchase through the Seven Lakes EMS squad.

## Finance

The annual CPA audit and report is complete and available for review at the office, Treasurer Galford reported. In October, the Finance Committee will begin reviewing the proposed budget.

Galford also commended the Recreation Committee for their selection of playground equipment recently installed at Northside Park.

"It is a fine-looking piece and seems to be very well-used," he noted.

The Finance Committee also drafted a System of Governance organizational chart which was distributed to the Board for discussion at the October 12 Work Session.

## Manager's Report

Community Manager Fulcher reported revenue from dues was running below expectations — with ninety percent collected.

"It should be higher, but I know there are problems out there. We have a lot more people on payment plans," he said.

Total general income stands at eighty-five percent and capital expenses were reported to be on target at forty-two percent, with pool expenses notably under budget at 81 percent.

Fulcher said e.Coli tests conducted at swimming areas before Labor Day had reported good results. Closing out the Summer season, eight additional test samples were collected on September 30.

Concluding his report, Fulcher addressed frequent criticism of himself and SLLA staff.

"A lot has been said over the last three years . . . on how bad the Association has been operated, but I believe the appearance of Seven Lakes compared to eight years ago is just the opposite."

Fulcher detailed many significant projects and improvements including new signs, lighting, barcode system, and remodeled gate houses at the entrances; new restrooms, general landscaping, and playground at Sequoia Point; new fencing, surfacing, and kiddie pool improvements on the North Side; in addition to mail house projects, tennis court resurfacing, and upgrades to the primary community playground.

"The Boards have spent a lot of money and the staff has done a lot of work to improve Seven Lakes over the last eight years," Fulcher said, noting that there has been only one dues increase during that period — and that adjusted salary increases amount to only \$5,000 increase.

"I've heard a lot of comments that staff is not professional enough, but don't believe every-

thing you read or hear. The bottom line is that people should not be saying, 'What have you done lately?' but rather, 'I can't believe what you have done over the last eight years!'"

## Architectural Review Board

Director Sally Kindsvatter reported approval of one new house, four roofs, and one trellis. In addition, ARB granted a setback variance of less than twelve inches and listened to a proposal on SIPS, a new type of construction.

Don Fentzlafl was appointed to serve on ARB.

## Other Business

In other business, the Board:

- Heard from Fulcher that a proposal was anticipated to close Cedar Lane — an undeveloped road in Seven Lakes North — to create one or two very large residential lots. The Association would need an easement to allow continued adequate access to Timber

Dam.

- Approved a request by President Randy Zielsdorf for an additional \$50 towards start-up and incorporation expenses for the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council.
- Approved a request to recombine lots 2366 and 2367 in Seven Lakes South.
- Heard from Northsider Bob Racine that the condition of the Sequoia Point boat dock was unsatisfactory.
- Heard from Northsider Elaine Wilderson that amplified noise levels at Sequoia Point were unacceptable. "I'm not sure what the rules are, and maybe security doesn't either," Wilderson said, noting that Roving

Patrol seemed unable or unwilling to intervene.

- Heard from a resident of Edgewater Drive that, despite repeated requests, Fulcher had not resolved his complaint that a clogged pipe installed by the Association was not allowing water to drain properly on his property. "I only get a song and a dance that they will look into this but I'm still waiting. I haven't gotten satisfaction," he said.
- Appointed Ken Keating and alternate member Bob Racine to the Judicial Committee.
- Appointed Director Bruce Keyser, Jr. to chair the Nominating Committee.

## Blessing of the Animals

Have your pet (dog, cat, bird, hamster, family pet) blessed on Sunday, October 11 at 12 noon at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. Please have your dog on a lease and cats in a carrier, and other pets in carriers for convenience and safety for all. St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church is located on Seven Lakes Drive in Seven Lakes.

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# Too late to trade this clunker for cash

It's official: flu season has begun. That sniffing, sneezing, aching, coughing, stuffy-head, fever, so you can't possibly rest time of year when the pharmacy's cold remedy shelves empty almost as fast as the classrooms.

"Dropping like flies," the teachers will say.

Silly me, and I thought it was just Fall.

But as a mom, I have to wonder: why do kids share germs so easily and not their toys?

Wouldn't it be great if that endless chorus of "it's mine, mine, mine" carried over to those nasty little strains of bacteria and bugs?

Heck, I'd have the healthiest house on the block.

Alas, there was no such luck around the Douglass manor last week. In fact, Fall fever seemed to leap straight through the kid-germ-barrier to infect our cars too.

First, I had the dubious pleasure of ordering my fourth set of tires for my five year old mommy-van. Then, real tragedy struck: the Jeep died.

In case you're wondering, that sound you just heard is our closest neighbors cheering. You see, Darling Hubby's vehicle of choice was not exactly transportation that went quietly into the night — or the morning.

Bladdity, bladdity, grrrind, vrroomm, puck, puck — and that was when it was idling.

By the time he hit third gear, whether or not the radio was playing was a moot point. Or should I say mute point?

Weekly oil transfusions tamed the beast for awhile but eventually — that is to say last Friday — the end drew fast.

At least I can sleep easier knowing that the world's dwindling

fossil fuel supply is just a bit safer with 'Jimmy's Jeep' rusting in peace.



## Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

Though for extra clunker credit, he's had the privilege of driving the company Cadillac for the last few days while we sort out family finances. Flashy and dated, this corporate perk is

affectionately known around the office as 'Pimp Daddy' or simply, 'The Hooty'.

Remember that old Cadillac ad, the penalty of leadership? Yeah . . . not: at least not in this case.

Darling Hubby is more of a 'Jeep. There's only one,' kind of guy. So there's little doubt that a new rumbling off-road king is in our future.

The only difference is I've been lobbying hard for the family-sized four door version this time around.

Now if we could just get a decent trade-in for this flu germ.

# Boards make mistakes; let's avoid this one

To The Residents of Seven Lakes:

It is a proven fact that all boards make mistakes. This board is about to make another whopper by not allowing the residents of Seven Lakes to choose their next form of community management.

Here are a few past errors in good judgment made by previous boards:

1. Closing the yard waste area.
2. Allowing our amenities to be used by the residents of McLendon Hills for a nomi-

nal fee.

3. Retention of our company police department.

Due to public outcry, the first two items were speedily rescinded. Item three was decided by a public referendum in which the residents voted by more than a two to one margin to close our company police department. Recently, in the dark of the night, without public comment or discussion, members of this board voted to give Community Manager Fulcher a "sweetheart retirement contract" of between

\$70,000 and \$75,000. This amounts to between \$58 and \$62 per household for an unwarranted expenditure of our hard earned dues.

In recent weeks, Director Kindsvatter insulted the whole of Seven Lakes, when in so many words, she thought our residents did not have the brain capacity to absorb the information required to make an intelligent decision regarding our next form of community manage-

ment. To the contrary, I believe most Seven Lakes residents are considerably smarter than the average bear. Otherwise, why would we be living here?

Director Zeilsdorf also commented recently about the small percentage of residents who vote in our elections and then determined on his own that the 30% turnout was meaningless. Let me remind Director Zeilsdorf that he was first elected to the board with only 18% of the

residents voting for him. Does Director Zeilsdorf consider his own election meaningless?

The membership of our board is of a transient nature. The makeup changes every year. Next year's board might make an entirely different decision than this year's board.

We, the permanent residents of Seven Lakes, should be the ones making this long-term decision. The board needs to separate the wheat from the chaff and present us with only the vital facts required for us to make an intelligent decision.

More and more our board is mirroring the politicians in Washington. They believe they know what's better for us than we know for ourselves.

If you believe you know what's best for the future of Seven Lakes and want to fully participate in this major, major decision instead of letting only one-half of one percent of the residents make that decision for you, now is the time to insist of the board that all Seven Lakes residents be given the right to vote in determining exactly how we want to be managed.

Please don't wait, do it now before it is too late.

## Beane deserves the chance to serve

Dear Editor:

I usually *hate* clichés, however I must say: "The Time Has Come for All SLLA Residents to Take A Stand! The future of our community is at stake!"

Life As We Know It Will Change Forever here in Seven Lakes If we, the residents, allow This Board to hire a Management Company!

We as residents, need to make sure that Chad Beane is allowed the opportunity to run this community for a one year trial period.

We have had Dalton for how

many years? What harm would it do to allow the one man who knows almost all of us, to have his fair chance?

What does Chad currently do? Almost *Everything!* ARB, Recreation, Community Standards, Dog Complaints . . . you name it, and I'll bet Chad does it *and* has done it for *Years* . . . and with a gracious, caring Attitude.

*Please, Sign The Petition! Chad Deserves The Chance!*

Amanda Keller  
Seven Lakes North

Loren Swearingen  
Seven Lakes North

## SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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# Landowners deserve vote on management

Dear Editor:

This shouldn't come as a surprise to most property owners in Seven Lakes, but at this writing, the Board will not allow the property owners to vote or have a voice in who or what management firm will be the next community manager.

So under the pretense of being "open to all options" the board moves forward with their desire to have a management company supply the next community manager. Their reasons are both insulting and lame.

One board member stated that the property owners were not

informed enough to vote on the new community manager, that's insulting. While President Zielsdorf stated that, "in a vote, only thirty percent participate, which is not a big enough cross-section." That's lame.

If Zielsdorf is correct about the thirty percent, that would be about 360 property owners that would vote. If the board has a majority of 4, that's less than one-per-

cent of the "property owners" making the decision. Makes me wonder what percentage Zielsdorf received to become

President of the Board, if thirty percent wasn't a big enough cross-section to participate.

I didn't hear any complaints about the per-

centage of the vote to raise the annual dues. It's obvious this Board isn't concerned about representing the property owners or giving them an opportunity to have a choice, regardless of what the choice may be – individual or management company.

This Board chooses to follow their own agenda, just as the Board members that voted to award \$70,000 to our "consultant." (By the way, who does the "consultant" consult with? The Board?) It's obvious that the majority of this Board is much

more involved with keeping the "elitists" of Seven Lakes happy, than offering a vote to the property owners to see who they prefer as community manager.

Here's a solution, since the Board is so set on hiring a management company and completely "cleaning house" let the management company take over. Abolish the Board. Let all major decisions, when to pave, when to raise dues, when to perform major repairs – be decided by the property owners by vote.

We could still have our "sub-

committees" but since the Board doesn't pay any attention to their recommendations anyway, the voters could choose to pay attention or not. After all, we will have an Elite Management Company in here to "run things" for us uninformed property owners, and if only thirty percent vote on the problems, so what – it's still better than having less than one percent decide what's best for the rest of us.

Jordan Rhodes  
Seven Lakes North

## Vets say thanks

Dear Editor,

Chapter 966 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, West End, NC sends its sincere appreciation to the entire community for supporting our recent 2009 fundraiser raffle. Your participation and generosity far exceeded our expectations. We are now in a better position to support programs and activities for fellow servicemen and women who have unmet needs.

The Chapter sold raffle tickets for donated prizes at the Chili Cook-Off in Seven Lakes, Springfest in Southern Pines, Buggy Festival in Carthage, Farmers Day in Robbins, Golden Corral and Harris Teeter in Aberdeen, the mail houses on the North, South, and West sides of Seven Lakes, the Moore County Agricultural Fair, Gully's Garden Center in Southern Pines, and Medleyanna's in West End. Thanks to all of you for your support in this effort.

If you are a veteran of the Vietnam era or interested in becoming an associate member, we welcome you to attend Chapter monthly meetings held at 7 pm the first Monday night of each month at the Westside Park Community Center in Seven Lakes West.

Contact me for more information at navy1dad@aol.com or 910-673-4562.

Joe Kristek, President  
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# Zany thoughts: The source of creativity

As the hint of an idea gently gave birth to itself as I was emerging from the bathtub, I quickly dried myself off and raced to my note pad and pencil resting patiently on my bed table.

My zaniest ideas for articles arise somewhere in the subconscious, or simply when I'm in a wakeful period in bed between 3:00 am or 4:00 am, rather unlike my sane friends whose most imaginative impulses occur in broad daylight while checking the thermostat or gazing dis-

passionately at the kitchen floor that needs cleaning.

The other day while competing in a tennis match, I was

about to serve when a ridiculously absurd idea crashed in on me. I was so frustrated about what to do about it that I double-

faulted, sending my partner into a dismal "funk."

That's an example of why I like my ideas to boil up into the world when there are no distractions — like the middle of the night.

Why don't ideas for writing appear

punctually and with extreme clarity? There always seems to be a lot of fuzz intertwined in them.

Why, in Fifth Grade, did I decide to become a writer only after my teacher handed me an 1890s model of a scratch pen and told me I was now the school editor and must, without fail, fill all four

pages and by all means "on time!"

Why, during all these years since, have I left myself open to ridicule and the constant spectre of impending depression, let alone "writer's cramp?"

Guess what? I wouldn't trade it for anything.



## Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

## SLLA needs new approach

Dear Editor:

Much is being reported about the selection of a new manager or management group for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association. The Board of Directors and particularly Kent Droppers and his committee are to be congratulated for their commitment to understand all of the options and to select the best option possible for our community.

Hopefully, the information that they make available to the citizens of the community will provide enough information for everyone to realize that the decision is one that should be made from an informed position rather than from politically motivated options.

It has taken a very long time for the problems we face to reach the critical level that we currently see. While most do not understand the golden parachute that was given to community manager, Dalton Fulcher, only his most loyal followers do not understand that starting a new direction was/is essential. There has been only one person in the last 20 plus years that has been paid to solve problems.

I choose to hold him responsible for the lack of direction and leadership that would have provided answers including long-term funding options for the problems we now face. But at minimum, many Boards and individuals that served are par-

tially responsible.

This brings me to the point of this letter. We have seen little about the work of the Governance committee that Galford heads. To be brief, if the way we do business is not changed to give responsibility with accountability to paid professionals, we will never put an end to the problems that occur from poor planning and decision making by people that are

not professionally qualified to do the work.

To Presidents Zielsdorf's credit, he has put this issue on the table for consideration. I encourage everyone to pay close attention to the need to provide a new approach to the way we do business — regardless of the direction we take with a manager or management company.

D. Alan Shaw  
Seven Lakes South

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## Thanks for the help!

To the Editor:

I am writing this to thank all the employees who work at the "Moore County Solid Waste and Container Site and Recycling Center" on Love Grove Church Road off Route 211 in the West End area.

Over many years these gentlemen have gone out of their way to be kind and helpful to me and I'm sure to many others. This has happened so often – I'll drive down and park as a halfway point in front of their hut – out someone will pop and are standing at my opened

trunk before I even get there, or if they are talking to a customer they bring the customer along and they both empty my trunk of weekly collectibles. Words cannot fully express my appreciation, as they have been so helpful to me.

All this and they are always so pleasant as they go out of their way keeping the area as clean and fresh smelling as possible. My Thank You goes out to all of you!

*Grateful to all concerned,  
Echo Harrington  
Seven Lakes North*

## Got data?

Dear Editor:

Got Data?

As they say in the Naval Reactors program, "In God we trust. All others bring your data."

Retired Whispering Pines Police Chief Louis Gregory, has 43 years of service behind him. He may have a valid concern for Seven Lakes West citizens being held liable for injuries sustained by Neighborhood Watch observers while reporting a crime-in-progress [See story on front page. – Ed.].

Got Data?

John Hoffmann, VP/Security, and Ed Silberhorn, Legal Advi-

sor, both directors of Seven Lakes West Landowners Association, consider that liability probability is unlikely.

Got Data?

Perhaps it is in the Seven Lakes West community's best interest that both sides present their data before proceeding further with this more pro-active version of Neighborhood Watch.

Better to have data and concepts rather than just concepts.

Of course it's more work that way, but that's what one should expect for a reality check.

The guy with the more convincing data wins, not the guy with the cooler sounding concept.

*Bruce Macdonald  
Neighborhood Watch Volunteer  
Seven Lakes West*

## Letters to the Editor



## Praise for Talis Management

Dear Editor:

Good story on management companies by Laura! [See front page. – Ed.]

Talis manages the condo complex WEST (www.westat-north.com), for us in Raleigh,

and are they are well respected across North Carolina.

I have come to know their Chairman and like him – and the staff is the best. I can't speak highly enough about those folks!

I plan to let the folks I know at Seven Lakes about our good experience with them and you can feel free to pass this on to Dalton Fulcher or the public if you wish.

*Richard Morgan  
Former Speaker of the  
NC House of Representatives*

## Forum: Death with Dignity

The next Seven Lakes Forum is Thursday, October 15, 4:00 pm, on the upper level of the West Side Park Community Center.

"Pulling the plug on Grandma" and 'death panels' have caused a great deal of concern for those persons who are approaching mortality. Ethical, legal and spiritual questions also arise when considering the question: "Should death be a voluntary event?"

Dudley Crawford, a longtime resident of Seven Lakes West and former minister at West End Presbyterian Church will address these issues in his presentation entitled "Death with Dignity." All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. For more information, contact Bill Mamel 673-8970.

## Chapel Rummage Sale

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines rummage sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 17, at the Old West End Gym, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

All proceeds from sales will be utilized by the Community Christmas Fund to purchase gifts for needy families in Moore County and food vouchers for Christmas, Thanksgiving and Easter meals.

The Chapel needs donations of housewares, jewelry, sporting goods, computers, television, toys, etc. Clothing items must be cleaned and sized. Trucks will be available to pick up large items or furniture.

Please deliver all donations to

the Old West End Gym on Friday, October 16, between the hours of 7:30 am and 12:00 Noon. No donations will be accepted after 12:00 Noon.

Please call Butch Allen (910 673-3312) or Don Truesdell (910

673-1509) with any questions about donations or to volunteer to help on Thursday, Friday or Saturday, October 15-17.

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## West Side

(Continued from front page)

bility it represents for the Association.

"When you put twenty-eight people or anyone out there operating in a situation in which we are requesting that they look for and report criminal activity, they are going to place themselves and this Association in a situation that might possibly cause them to get hurt. They are not police officers, yet the people that they are going to be observing are involved in a criminal activity, and they are going to do whatever they possibly can to prevent themselves from being captured or arrested."

"I understand the concept of trying to get someone out here to look out for our interests, and I support that," Gregory said. But he said sending well-intentioned patrol volunteers out in an obvious, marked truck, to observe possible criminal behavior, was "asking for trouble."

"If one of these people is to get hurt, or if they are involved in something that causes someone else to get hurt, then where are we?"

"I've been in law enforcement for forty-three years," Gregory said. "I know what I am talking about . . . We don't need people out here who have very little training in law enforcement, if any, that are riding in these trucks, that are doing these activities that we are sanctioning, that is going to create a real problem and a liability for our Association that could be up in the millions."

Both Hoffmann and Legal Affairs Director Ed Silberhorn attempted to assure Gregory that the patrols' scope of activity was limited, and that a combination of Association insurance and the personal insurance of patrol members should cover any liability concerns.

"We have insurance," Silber-

horn told Gregory. "We are supporting Mr. Hoffmann's plan, with regard to the Neighborhood Watch program, as long as they are in the scope of their authority within that program." Silberhorn noted that the patrol volunteers are not even allowed to leave the truck.

"We'll take care of hospital bills?" Gregory asked.

"No," Silberhorn responded. "They are not employees of the community. They are volunteers. Their liability is protected under the [Association's] insurance. Their own hospitalization takes care of their own situation. Just like the CERT volunteers . . . We have a lot of these groups that are set up to help. They are all volunteers, this is a volunteer community." Silberhorn noted that CERT volunteers are "risking life and limb to help people" and are covered under "the

Good Samaritan statute."

"I do advocate Community Watch," Gregory said, apparently referring to the broader program of which volunteer patrols are only one part. "I have no problem with that. My problem is the people out in the trucks. I am concerned about them."

Noting that he and Gregory had discussed liability and safety concerns previously, Hoffmann addressed the cost of using sworn law officers, rather than volunteers, to patrol the community.

"We would like to see the Sheriff's department on duty in Seven Lakes West 24/7," Hoffmann said. "Constant presence. Why not two vehicles? Why not one at each gate? I'd like to guard the back gate 24/7. It will only be another \$110,000 per year. Do we want the Sheriff's

presence, and all their arrest authorities? Absolutely. Is that realistic?"

"There are positions we can take between what we have and 24/7 police protection and those are going to be discussed during the budget process. Security continues to be one of the highest priorities on the people in the community. The question will be, how much do we want to spend? What kind of protection do we want to buy?"

### More Security initiatives

In addition to beginning Neighborhood Watch patrols, Hoffmann reported that the Safety and Security Committee has several other initiatives underway:

- A new Standard Operating Procedure for handling visitors at the gate. Hoffmann said that vendors unknown to the gate guards will receive

(See "West Side," p. 27)

## Correction

A story on a Seven Lakes West Landowners [SLWLA] Work Session published in *The Times*' September 18 edition included a listing of Westside lots slated for foreclosure for non-payment of dues. While our report accurately reported the list of lots that was presented in the meeting, the list itself was flawed. According to SLWLA attorney Stephen Later:

"SLWLA unfortunately based its decision to recommend foreclosure at its September board meeting on an incorrect listing of the lots involved. A subsequent pre-foreclosure review by our attorney revealed certain inaccuracies and, therefore, SLWLA will proceed based on the corrected and verified information to foreclose only on the correct lots."



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*Wonderful location, wonderful price*

**433 Longleaf Dr. .... \$289,000**

*Lake Auman waterfront with adjacent lot available for sale also.*

**103 Anchor Pt. .... \$279,000**

*Waterfront Lake Auman lot on a beautiful cove.*

**123 Dennis Cr. .... \$72,000**

*Property ready for your homesite!*

**182 Banbridge .... \$59,500**

*Golf front lot overlooking the second green on BRCC*

**200 Carriage Park .... \$57,500**

*A beautiful buildable lot in the*

*Carriage Park Section of Seven Lakes West*

**410 Sawgrass Road .... \$25,000**

*1.6 Acres in Eagle Springs with well & Septic in place.*

**104 Pleasant View .... \$24,700**

*Double Lot (back to back) in SL North.*

*What an Opportunity!*



**461 Longleaf.** What a beautiful home on Lake Auman! Four bedrooms, three baths. Open views from everywhere, walkout basement, spacious and ready for your family. New decking just installed, landscaped yard.  
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## West Side

(Continued from page 27)

her concern under consideration.

Caldera also asked what the Board was doing to have poorly maintained lawns -- particularly of foreclosed homes with no current occupant -- cleaned up, mentioning in particular one on Owens Circle. Her question touched off a wide-ranging debate on the subject that was hampered by the absence of ARC and Compliance Director Adam Wimberley.

Shepherd, Hoffmann, and Silberhorn all took a stab at explaining that clean up of foreclosed properties is fraught with legal complications, and that spend-

ing Association funds to do so -- with little hope that they will be recovered -- was a move that not every resident would support. But a number of homeowners argued that lawns in such poor repair negatively affected everyone's property values. Shepherd said the Board would take another look at the issue.

Caldera asked whether the unsightly traffic barriers on either end of the Lake Auman Dam could be replaced with something more attractive. Shepherd said he would ask Infrastructure Director John Goodman to see if improvements could be made.

Former Treasurer Virgil Reid, after studying the financial reports

distributed at the meeting, asked whether the developer and Beacon Ridge Country Club have stopped paying their share of the cost of guard service at the front gate. "They are in arrears and they are being addressed," President Shepherd replied.

### Other Items

Also during the Tuesday, September 22 SLWLA General Meeting:

- Legal Affairs Director Silberhorn reported that the Board will hold a special work session on Friday, September 25, at 9:00 am, to continue its review of proposed changes to the rules and regulations. Links to the proposed revision are available on the Association website.

Silberhorn said a final vote on the revised rules is likely in October. The date of the Board's October Work Session has been moved from October 13 to October 20.

- Community Manager Joan Frost said the office staff has been busy this month focusing on compliance issues, including making sure only registered boats, trailers, and other vehicles are using the boat and trailer storage area. Over one hundred compliance letters have been sent out this month, Frost noted.
- President Shepherd noted that the Finance Committee has begun work on a draft budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 and will likely bring that draft

to the Board for review in early November, leaving plenty of time for members to review and offer input on the budget.

- Secretary Ed Tuton, who also heads up the Nominations Committee, announced that candidates for the Board of Directions in next March's elections are actively being sought. He encouraged residents to "raise your hand, throw your hat into the ring -- because we need good people to serve on the Board."
- Four of the nine directors were unable to attend the meeting either because they were away — Mick Herdrich and John Goodman — or ill — Kathy Kirst and Adam Wimberley.

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Management

(Continued from front page)  
individuals. Tentatively, we have three candidates lined up.”

A special public comment period on new community management was scheduled for the Wednesday, September 30, Open Meeting.

Company profiles

Here are quick profiles of the three management companies selected by the Board to continue into the second round of the selection process, based on the information provided for SLLA member review in the Landowners' Office:

CAS

Community Association Services [CAS] is one of the oldest Home Owner Association management companies in the United States. Based in Pinehurst, their current portfolio represents 35,000 homes and twenty-five golf course communities including Seven Lakes West, Pinehurst National, Longleaf, Mid-South, Pinehurst #2, Deercroft, and Legacy.

CAS states, “We believe that an association should function as both a community and a business to meet the expectations of its members. It is our objective to enhance the lifestyles within our communities and to increase the value of our customer’s assets.”

CAS can provide services from basic bookkeeping to full association management. With a CPA and an attorney on staff, CAS offers flexible financial reports, superior customer service, and unprecedented technological services. In addition, they can provide managers who are certified and licensed to operate commercial swimming pools and landscape companies.

The CAS website is at <http://www.casnc.com>

Talis Management Group

Founded in 1991 by a merger of Ross Taylor Management and Southlantic Management, Talis Management Group philosophy

is based on the “team” concept. The firm currently provides management services to 140 associations, supporting 30,000 residents throughout the Triangle area of North Carolina. Based in Raleigh, Talis is one of only 130 nationally accredited association management companies in the nation.

Talis is a full service property management firm. In recent years, the company has invested tens of thousands of dollars in new and upgraded information technology systems, support and procedures.

Talis states, “Our total focus is on the management of communities. We do not engage in other businesses such as maintenance or lawn care, etc.”

To help increase community involvement and volunteer effort, Talis managers focus on a comprehensive communications program to educate members and provide them with a better understanding of association life

through both printed and online materials.

In addition, Talis considers complete, accurate, and timely association financial reports as a cornerstone of their firm.

“We produce all the necessary financial information your association will need to make sound financial decisions.”

The Talis website is at <http://www.talismanagement-group.com>

IPM

IPM specializes in community association management services for destination communities with complex amenity packages in non-metro locations. Based in Asheville, North Carolina, IPM has been in business for twenty years.

IPM states, “We understand that every community has a unique story to be told -- one that must be preserved through every

detail in community operations. We know the importance of advanced capital planning, budget forecasting, and watchful cost controls.”

According to IPM marketing materials, the firm approaches community management with a passionate and proactive attitude. They provide a very detailed, inclusive and accurate community plan based on expert knowledge to anticipate and ensure that needs are met in advance.

“This includes good stewardship of funds and appropriately priced means,” IPM states.


Within the presented materials, IPM addressed landscape operations noting that this often represents the largest single budget item for any community.

IPM recommends developing clear and thorough specifications for community landscape operations through a color-coded mapping system that divides the community into work type zones and specific duties.

In addition, IPM provides an Emergency Action Plan for each community and will employ a variety of communications solutions to property owners including email blasts, newsletters, town hall meetings, and member surveys.

“Member communications is the heartbeat of every community. Open and regular membership communications are essential.”

The IPM website is at <http://www.ipmhoa.com>



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**Seven Lakes Times**  
October 2, 2009

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**SHAW HOUSE FAIR OCT. 10** – Come and spend the day at the Shaw House Fair of Antiques and Vintage Collectibles, Saturday, Oct. 10 in Southern Pines. Vendors will be at the grounds of the historic Shaw House at the corner of Morganton Road and Broad Street from 9 am to 3 pm. No admission charge. Refreshments, barbecue and all the fixin's, plus facilities and ample parking. The day of fun ends with a silent auction. Fair will be held rain or shine. Proceeds used to help the non-profit Moore County Historical Association, to preserve and maintain five historic house museums, including the Shaw House, two other cabins on the Southern Pines property, plus two more in the West End-Carthage area. Call (910) 692-2051 for more details, [www.moorehistory.com](http://www.moorehistory.com) or email [moorehistory@connect.nc](mailto:moorehistory@connect.nc)

## MOVING/YARD/GARAGE SALES

**GARAGE SALE** – Sat 9/26, 8-12. 116 Sandy Ridge Rd, Household items, toys, clothes, misc.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3** – 8 am to 12 noon. Community Bake and Yard Sale. Several tables of miscellaneous items. Some camouflage/hunting gear; some equestrian tack, baby and children's clothes and nursery items. Household must haves. At McLendon Hills Highway 211 West, 1.5 miles through Seven Lakes on the right.

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