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Volume 25 Number 2

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

November 25, 2009

Students Against Hunger



The First graders at West End Elementary want you to support their food drive. See the article on page 7 to learn how you can help.

Six candidates seek SLLA seats

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Six candidates are now in the running for one of three open seats next year on the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors.

Joining Northsiders Bob Darr, Bob Racine, and Belinda Scott on the ballot are Charlie Hannel, and Southsiders Chuck Mims and former SLLA President Don Truesdell. Board elections will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting in March.

Reporting at the Wednesday, November 18 meeting, Chair Bruce Keyser, Jr. said there are still several weeks before the nomination period concludes and invited interested landowners to contact him at 673-5060 or the SLLA office for more information.

Management Search

The data-gathering process is nearly complete and the Board is beginning deliberations to select new management, reported Director Kent Droppers.

"We are trying to ensure the best possible solution," he said.

Reading from a prepared statement, President Randy Zielsdorf offered a summary of the past year's Board efforts to research and prepare for the transition following Community Manager Dalton Fulcher's retirement on December 31.

Zielsdorf described the approach as three-part process consisting of the actual management search, a study of system of governance, and a look toward future direction.

He said the Board anticipates
(See "SLLA," p. 28)

County will go forward with tax revaluation

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Although the available data suggest Moore County property values will have increased very little, if at all, between 2007 and 2011, the Moore County Board of Commissioners voted Monday night, November 16, to proceed with a scheduled 2011 property tax revaluation. Tax Administrator Wayne Vest estimated the cost of moving forward with the process at \$610,000 to

\$620,000.

Moore County's 2007 revaluation found property values up thirty-seven percent from the previous revaluation in 2003. The 2003 values were forty-seven percent higher than the levels recorded eight years earlier. It was that massive increase — and the "sticker shock" it provoked among county property owners — that prompted the county to move to revaluing property on a four-year, instead

of eight year schedule.

The Board of Commissioners voted in January 2008 to continue with the four-year cycle, setting the next revaluation for 2011.

The county's tax department has already begun the preliminary work necessary for the 2011 effort. Based on the data collected so far, Vest said he expects only a 4.7 percent increase in property values by 2011. In addition, the number of real estate transactions is down,

Vest explained, giving the tax department less information to work with in estimating property values.

Noting that the purpose of revaluations is to ensure that the values the county uses to assess property taxes correspond as closely as possible to the actual values in the marketplace, Vest said the smaller number of real estate transactions and the modest anticipated increase in values makes it

likely that the 2007 valuation is still reasonably accurate. He suggested that the Board consider postponing the scheduled revaluation for two years, until 2013.

Despite the uncertainty that a new valuation will change much and the \$620,000 cost of the effort, the Commissioners found it difficult to reverse their 2008 decision to stick to the four-year revaluation cycle.

(See "Revaluation," p. 25)

The Times, PO Box 468, West End, NC 27376
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Kersey shares trip pics

by Laurie Werner

Seven Lakes Computer Club

Chuck Kersey from the computer club shared a slide show from his trip to Yellowstone, Idaho and the Tetons.

He captured some outstanding wildlife pictures along with beautiful scenery. A presentation on how to create the slide show using "Picture To Exe Deluxe" followed.

The Computer Club of Seven Lakes meets the second Tuesday of the month at 3 pm in the game room on the North side.

The purpose of the club is to

bring users of computers together for the exchange of ideas, knowledge, skills and technical information.

Guests are welcome.



Chuck Kersey shares slides of his Yellowstone trip with the Seven Lakes Computer Club.

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@seven-lakestimes.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
Dec. 11	Dec. 4
Dec. 22*	Dec. 17*
Jan. 8*	Dec. 31*
Jan. 22	Jan. 15
Feb. 5	Jan. 29
Feb. 19	Feb. 12
Mar. 5	Feb. 26
Mar. 19	Mar. 12
Apr. 2	Mar. 26
Apr. 16	Apr. 9
Apr. 30	Apr. 23
May 14	May 7
May 28	May 21
June 11	June 4
June 25	June 18
July 9*	July 1*
July 23	July 16
Aug. 6	July 30
Aug. 20	Aug. 13
Sept. 3	Aug. 27
Sept. 17	Sept. 10
Oct. 1	Sept. 24
Oct. 15	Oct. 8
Oct. 29	Oct. 22
Nov. 12	Nov. 5
Nov. 23*	Nov. 18*
Dec. 10	Dec. 3
Dec. 22*	Dec. 16*

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.



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for the older children. Checks and Cash are accepted in person or by mailing your donation to: Moore County Department of Social Services, PO Box 938, Carthage, NC 28327

On the memo line of your check please note that the donation is for the "Foster Care Christmas" these funds also support the less fortunate families of Moore County.

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Martha Blake appointed Planning Chair

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Martha Blake will take over the gavel at the Moore County Planning Board; the Board of Commissioners appointed her Planning Board Chair during their Monday, November 16 regular meeting. Blake was appointed a member of the Planning

Board in July of 2008.

Former Moore County Planning Director Nancy Roy Fiorillo had held the position of Chairwoman, but resigned her seat on the Board after winning election to the Pinehurst Village Council. The Commissioners appointed Bernard Capstick of Pinewild to fill the vacant seat.

Also during Monday's meeting, the Commissioners eliminated the role of alternates to the Planning Board. Commissioner Tim Lea explained that alternates were added during his time as Chairman of the Planning Board, when certain state regulations required approvals by a specific percentage of the full board,

as opposed to approval by whatever quorum happens to be in attendance. Those regulations have been changed to allow a quorum approval, making alternates no longer necessary, Lea said.

The Planning Board has traditionally had two alternates, but the Board had not filled the

alternate slot left vacant by the death of Carl Munro of Foxfire, leaving former planning Board Chairman Harry Huberth as the only remaining alternate.

The role of alternates had become a point of controversy at the last Planning Board meeting, with Dave Kinney asserting that

(See "Commissioners," p. 26)



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Lea, Picerno debate county building plan

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Moore County has fallen behind in keeping its infrastructure up to date. All five mem-

bers of the Board of Commissioners agree on that point.

Where the disagreements start is when it comes to the best strategy for catching up.



Moore County Board of Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno, League of Women Voters President Jo Nicholas and Commissioner Tim Lea.

At the Moore County League of Women Voters meeting on Tuesday, November 17, Commissioners Chairman Nick Picerno and Commissioner Tim Lea presented two perspectives on the new Administration Building, Public Safety Building, and Detention Center planned for downtown Carthage — as well as what to do about the need for additional space for the courts, clerk of court, and district attorney.

Picerno's Perspective

"My job is to try to save the taxpayers money every chance I get. That's my mandate and the way I approach the job," said Picerno.

Serving his first term as a commissioner, Picerno described his entrance into the facilities discussion and decision-making as "coming in at the middle

of the show."

He said he decided he needed to do his own research and fact-finding, quickly discovering that while the five-member Board didn't agree on everything, they were unanimous that parking and Moore County facilities were inadequate.

"It was inefficient and some agencies were scattered in multiple locations in a building or in different locations in the county," he said.

A facilities feasibility study completed in 2007 recommended purchasing the twenty-one acre Grimm Property, just down McNeill Street from the Historic Courthouse, because it is ideally situated to offer flexibility for future development with few restrictions, and that the value of the utilities and improvements on the site would provide a measurable long term costs savings

over what an alternative site — the former Carriage Oaks Shopping Center — could offer.

Carriage Oaks — unlike the Grimm Property, which is located in downtown Carthage — sits just outside of the main business area of the town.

Picerno said there was very little discussion of the need for court facilities when the Board — well before he joined it — discussed purchasing the Grimm Property. At the time, he added, all the Commissioners expressed support for the downtown location — just not the price tag.

"It was not so much where, but how much the county was paying," said Picerno.

In March 2009, after Picerno had joined the Board, the Commissioners unanimously agreed to move ahead with the design phase of the Government Cen-

(See "Buildings," p. 24)

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Villages ready for hearings on annexation pact

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

A proposed twenty-year annexation agreement with Pinehurst raised plenty of eyebrows around Foxfire last week; however, only a handful of residents attended a special work session on the agreement conducted by the Village Council on Monday, November 16.

Foxfire Mayor George Erickson said the proposed deal was initiated several months ago by Pinehurst and that he and Councilman Ed Lauer have been negotiating the details. Specifically, the agreement spells out which areas would be off-limits for annexation by each village. [A map showing these proposed boundaries is available on *The Times'* website.] The Village of Pinehurst already has similar agreements with its other neighbors, Aberdeen and Southern Pines.

As proposed, the area reserved for Foxfire annexations extends north from the Village center to NC Hwy 211 and then west to NC Hwy 73W; east to the limits of the new Stonehill Pines development, and south beyond Rose-

land Road.

The area reserved for Pinehurst annexations extends above Roseland Road to the south, west to Stonehill Pines and the existing Foxfire Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ], and then north — crossing over NC 211 from near Ellis Road all the way to NC 73E in West End: an area that encompasses nearly all of the 1,800 acre Pine Forest Development — a major subdivision and resort complex currently under review by the Moore County Planning Board.

Pinehurst Planning Director Andrea Correll told *The Times* that the agreement is a tool that both villages could use for planning for growth over the next twenty years. It does not involve the immediate extension of any current municipal or ETJ boundaries, nor does it involve the imminent rezoning of any parcels.

Councilwoman Page Coker, however, speaking in Monday's Work Session, did not appear to be convinced that the agreement is even necessary. "Why do we even need it? We're tying our hands; and, if things change, we're limiting our border," she

argued.

Lauer's response was blunt, "This is for our protection. We want to keep control of our side of 211."

Currently Pinehurst is working through the courts to complete a forced annexation of the Pinewild development. If they are successful, Lauer said, the Pinehurst Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ] boundary — which advances two miles beyond their corporate limit — would terminate at the intersection of NC Hwy 73 and NC Hwy 211 in West End.

"This would cut off our commercial interests on 211," Lauer said.

Finance Director Leslie Frusco agreed. "I don't know if we want Foxfire to get that much bigger, but my concern is protecting the corridor."

In a related discussion, the Wilson family, who own an 800-acre farm tract along Hoffman Road between Foxfire and Hwy 211 have approached the Village to have their property included in the Foxfire ETJ. According to Erickson, the Wilson's have stated they do not want their

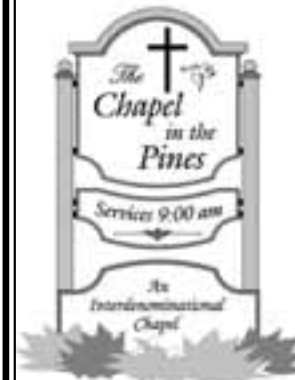
property to be annexed — either by Foxfire or Pinehurst. However, he said, only the proposed annexation agreement would be able to effectively protect their property because land within an ETJ can still be annexed by a neighboring municipality.

The next step toward completing the annexation agreement for Foxfire is to present the proposal at two Public Hearings, the first of which is tenta-

tively scheduled for Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30 pm at Town Hall.

Pinehurst Planning Director Correll told *The Times* that the Pinehurst Village Council expressed unanimous support for the annexation agreement in a Tuesday, November 17 Work Session. The Village has scheduled a public hearing on the pact for December 15, at 1:00 pm.

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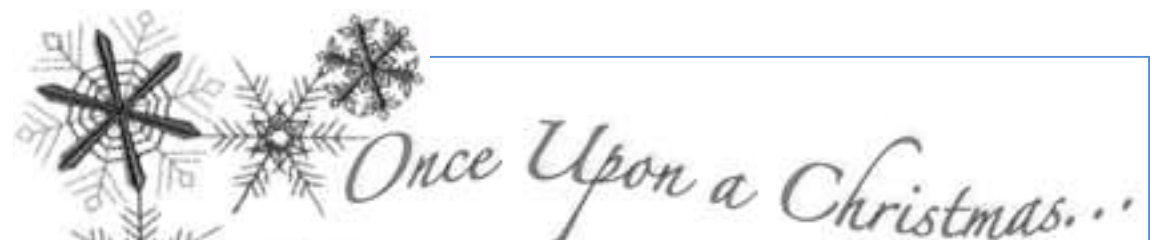
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First graders need your help fighting hunger

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

The Students Against Hunger First Grade Food Drive at West End Elementary is off to a great start – just in time for the holiday season!

Northsider Marcy Jarchow and her daughter, Grace, are facilitating the food drive, which will benefit The Sandhills Branch of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. Last year this branch – which serves a portion of Lee County, along with Moore, Richmond, and Scotland Counties – distributed over four million pounds of food

through 104 agencies.

"This is the time of year this needs to be done. There are people losing their jobs and there is just no better time," said Jarchow.

She explained that the food drive is particularly important and personal for her family because when Grace was an infant, she and her husband fell on hard times.

"We always said when we got back on our feet that we would give back, so every year we ask Grace to pick one birthday and Christmas present to give to a needy child," said Jarchow. "We

want to instill how good it feels to give back and how fortunate she is."

This year, Jarchow decided to expand their family philanthropy and is coordinating the food drive with the assistance of Grace's first grade teacher, Mrs. Huff.

"The response and the children's enthusiasm for this project has been incredible," she said. "Every time I go to the school for a pick up, it's more and more food!"

In addition to donations, she said the first graders are also enjoying weekly themed events such as Macaroni Monday, Tuna Tuesday, Waste Not-Want Not Wednesday, Thirsty Thursday, and Final Friday which will be

held December 4. Jarchow said she is hoping to find a local business or organization willing to sponsor a pizza or cupcake party.

The next day Jarchow has scheduled a fleet of volunteers with pick-up trucks to transport all of the donated non-perish-

ables, sundry items, and monetary gifts to the Food Bank.

"The best thing we ever did was to move here. The outpouring of support has been overwhelming. We love the school and we love the people here!" Jarchow exclaimed.

(See "Hunger," p. 8)



WEE First Graders join Ms. Huff in thanking the community for helping fight hunger.



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In memory of . . .

Richard Walter Peckitt, 84, of Foxfire Village, died Tuesday, November 17, at home.

He was the son of Fred and Winifred Wickens Peckitt, he was born in New York.

Mr. Peckitt grew up in Simsbury, CT, and graduated from Simsbury High School, and served in the Army Air Corps as a navigator and bombardier in World War II. After the war, he attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio. He and his wife, Cora, settled in Simsbury, CT where he worked as a C.P.A. becoming a partner of Knust, Everett, and Cambria and then Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell.

In 1970, he became the managing partner of Peat, Marwick and Mitchell, in Worcester, MA. He retired and moved from Paxton, MA, to Foxfire Village in 1983.

He served on the finance committees of Simsbury, Paxton, and Foxfire Village, and as treasurer and mayor pro tem of Foxfire.

He was a Shriner, a member of the Worcester Rotary Club, a 52 year Freemason and past Grand Master of St. Marks Lodge in Simsbury. A memorial serv-

ice was held at McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church on Friday November 20. The Rev. David Hicks officiated.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Cora Savin Peckitt, his sister Constance Young of Rockbridge Baths, VA, and his sisters-in-law Barclay Slade of Los Gatos, CA, and Dorothy Savin of Vienna, VA; two sons, Fred Peckitt of Wildwood, MO; and

Guy Peckitt of Worcester, MA; a daughter Susan Peckitt of Worcester, MA; also his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Elmer Ray Boroughs, 65, of Jackson Springs, died November 17, at his residence. He was a Moore County native, the son of the late Elcoe and Beatrice Lisk Boroughs.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 20, at Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Suzanne Simpson officiated. Burial followed at the church cemetery.

Mr. Boroughs served his country in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-one years Gail G. Bor-

oughs; daughter Cristy Dean of Carthage; stepsons, Richard Bass and Brian Bass both of Jackson Springs; brothers, Hubert and Tommy Boroughs of Jackson Springs and Leon Boroughs of Carthage; a sister, Brenda Boroughs of Jackson Springs; and a granddaughter.



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Hunger

(Continued from page 7)

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Danielsons will 'Light up a Life' for Gus

During the five months that their husband and father was a FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care patient, Gisela and Dana Danielson learned many lessons about life's final journey, including the fact that people typically die as they have lived.

Gus Danielson was no exception.

The former B-17 pilot, successful businessman and hurricane hunter embarked on the business of dying much as he had handled the business of living – as a take-charge, opinionated kind of guy with no intention of going softly into any Dylan Thomas-like good night.

At first, Gus balked at the idea of Hospice care, asserting that the referring physician had prematurely assigned him to "one-foot-in-the-grave" status when he suggested the impending need for Hospice aid. His attitude changed when Hospice support, which has continued for Gisela and Dana since he succumbed to pulmonary fibrosis on Sept. 5, became a familiar part of his family's life.

"It's a wonderful approach," Gisela says.

On Thursday, Dec. 3, Gisela and Dana Danielson will join other Hospice families and caregivers for the annual "Light Up a Life" program at the FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care office on Aviemore Drive in Pinehurst. An opportunity to dedicate holiday lights in memory or in honor of loved ones and friends, the "Light Up a Life" tree-lighting ceremony is a fund-raiser for the FirstHealth Hospice Foundation.

A former member of the FirstHealth of the Carolinas Board, Gisela Danielson has been aware of the "Light Up a Life" tree-lighting for a long time and had previously made donations to the program. But she has never attended a ceremony.

This year will be different.

"Both Dana and I will plan on it," she says.

Like Gus Danielson, people often think of Hospice care only for its support at the end of life. But, according to Charlotte Patterson, director of FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care, Hospice includes much more.

"The concept of hospice and palliative care strives to provide

care and services to patients and families earlier in the disease process rather than later," Patterson says. "Sometimes there are fears that accepting hospice care too soon may hasten death. In fact, quite the opposite is true. Earlier admissions to hospice have shown that patients

receive much improved symptom control and pain management, therefore increasing their ability to enjoy a higher quality of life."

Hospice-provided education, resources and respite can also result in a more comfortable and confident caregiver response, Patterson points out.

"So often, we hear families say how they wish they had known about hospice sooner and how helpful an earlier admission would have been," she says.

That was certainly the case with Gus Danielson, who was still feeling relatively well when registered nurse Donna Neal and the

rest of his FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care team became part of his routine – not only seeing to his and his family's needs, but also helping ease a concern that all three members of the family shared.

"He was so concerned that
(See "Light," p. 11)

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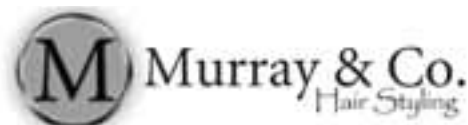
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McNeill's book helps families remember

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Jewelry and baubles, collectibles and clutter: whether it is

a trinket or a true treasure, chances are your house is full of cherished hand-me-downs.

The problem for most people

is, can you remember each unique story – and if you don't, who will?

Judy McNeill of Jubilee Screenprint in the Seven Lakes business village understands.

"When mother died, at some point I was asking Dad about items in the house. Where did this come from and that? Which side of the family?," explained McNeill. "Mother always knew and now we didn't have her. It never occurs to you there will be a time when you can't ask."

McNeill's father, a printer by trade, had a solution and he and Judy developed a memory book that she called her Album of Family Treasures.

Their book was so well-received in the family that he printed of a whole ream of paper and created a boxful of the albums.

McNeill said they selected a three-ring binder design for flexibility. The basic Album includes fourteen categories of fill-in pages with spaces to record a

physical description of the item, how many pieces if the item is part of a set, how it was acquired, and even a family tree page to assist future generations with figuring out the connection between names and relationships. Photo sleeves can be added for pictures, and McNeill noted that her mother-in-law used the margins in her Album to identify who should inherit certain items.

"All of these things we keep in our house, it's all part of genealogy. There's always a story with it," she said. "The Album is about family treasures – teddy bears,

a piece of handmade furniture, or a special collectible – not necessarily things that have monetary value."

The Album of Family Treasures is available for \$10 at Jubilee and Indigo's gift shop in Seven Lakes.



Judy McNeill

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Democratic Women collect phone cards for troops

by Diane Green
Chair, Community
Involvement Committee
Democratic Women
of Moore County

The Democratic Women of Moore County collected 6,158 phone cards for US soldiers; the cards have a total cash value of \$30,830. The cards were presented to the USO in Fayetteville on Veterans' Day and the cards will also be distributed to military families attending the area YMCA.

Thank you to the citizens of Moore County for making this project successful. McNeill Oil

Company and Exxon Stations, Harbour's Car Washes in Vass and Southern Pines, and Prescription Shoppes in Seven Lakes and Carthage were instrumental in this project, by allowing boxes to be placed in their place of business. Much credit also goes to Kelly Jenkins at Sadler Travel Plaza in Dunn who responded to the DWMC story in the Fayetteville Observer and collected cards in that area.

Many soldiers find themselves in situations without the financial means to get in touch with family members or needing to call

home after being wounded. With this outpouring of your gen-

erosity the USO staff will not have to turn down army units

requesting cards, for a while. These cards will provide soldiers the 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 was expanded this year allowing all citizens of Moore County to contribute. And citizens did respond! This is the most successful year for this project.

DWMC members hope you will look for the red, white, and blue boxes in these locations again next year and join with the Democratic Women of Moore County to let US soldiers know that everyone appreciates them and all they do.



Representatives from the Democratic Women of Moore County giving phone cards at Fort Bragg, on Veterans' Day, in the presence of soldiers who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan made the project even more rewarding

Light up a life

(Continued from page 9)

he would suffer," Gisela recalls, "but he was assured there was no need to worry about that."

Gisela and Dana refer to their Hospice & Palliative Care experience as a "family affair" and note that they were included in all decisions concerning Gus's care. They came to know everyone involved in the Hospice visits that became more frequent as they were needed – from a team that included hospice-certified nurse Neal as well as social worker Susan Meares and several personal assistance aides,

even the drivers who delivered Gus's oxygen tanks.

"We felt supported at every level," says Dana, a graphic designer who left her Arizona home to be with her father during the last months of his life. "It's not just our nurse who supports us. It's every single person involved in the process."

FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care provides services in both Moore and Montgomery counties. For more information on the "Light Up a Life" program, call (910) 695-7500.

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Therapy Dog visits Seven Lakes Kiwanis



Marty Matula, VP; Ms. Constantino; Gerry Buelow, Program Coordinator, with pet therapy dog Abby.

by Frank Krohn
Seven Lakes Kiwanis

On Tuesday, November 10 the Seven Lakes Kiwanis went to the dogs, or to be more accurate, the dogs came to Kiwanis.

Kathy Constantino, who has two registered Therapy dogs, visited Kiwanis, bringing with her, Abby, a blonde Labrador Retriever. Abby has completed all the necessary training, and is a completely accredited Therapy dog as required by Therapy Dog International and also the Delta Society, both organizations that train and establish rules for Therapy Dogs.

Ms. Constantino's dogs are members of the Delta Society which requires slightly more rigid testing, and also requires retesting every three years. An insurance program insures the dogs for \$1,000,000, which allows the dogs to participate in all kinds of therapy where considered appropriate.

The dogs are kept active visiting schools, nursing homes, hospitals, and will be involved in a brand new FirstHealth Hospice Program.

An interesting part of the dogs activity is to visit the vari-

ous 4th grade classes around the Sandhills area to help teach children how to properly care for pets. This is an effort to reduce the number of animals that are ejected from their homes and left to roam the streets, and to inform the kids about how to prevent the occasion of unwanted pregnancies and consequent litters of unwanted dogs or cats.

Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets every Tuesday at noon at the Seven Lakes County Club.

The club always welcome visitors.

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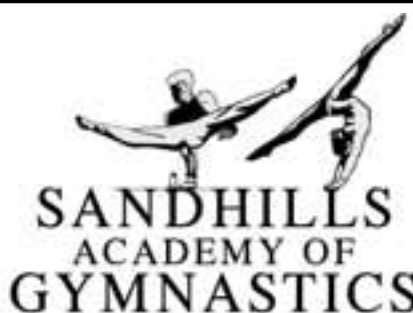
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November is garden ‘clean-up month’

Believe it or not, the holiday season is here: time for visits among friends and relatives, parties, dinners, and social events, and many other gala festivities.

November in gardening language is often referred to as ‘clean-up month.’ It is also known as leaf falling month and there are always questions about the disposal of leaves.

Basically there are two types of leaves in our area; hardwood and pine straw or needles. Some prefer to rake and take them to the dump. Others make a compost pile and reuse them, if they’re not heavily infested with grass and weed seeds. A few prefer to mulch-mow them into the lawn.

Everyone knows that pine straw makes a wonderful mulch

for wooded lots. Although it’s primary use is to mulch around flower beds, shrubs, and trees.

Other November suggestions: Now that most plants are dormant, it is the ideal time for planting shrubs and trees, and it isn’t too late to plant pansies and some other perennials and wild flowers for blooming next



Gardening in the Sandhills
Jim Caudill

Spring and Summer.

It’s a good time for light pruning and shaping of non-Spring blooming evergreen plants. Also crepe myrtles can be side pruned or cut back and severely thinned. But some may prefer to enjoy the plant bark during the Winter and choose to prune in early Spring before new growth begins.

After your vegetable garden is cleaned up, plant a cover crop of rye or other small grains.

Winterize your warm season lawn if you haven’t done it yet by mowing to a height of two inches.

Give your fescue lawn a light application of a premium lawn fertilizer as soon as possible.

Keep leaf showers of new grass by light raking or mulch-mowing.

Cut back chrysanthemums to the ground after blooming.

Mulch your plants with decayed hardwood, pine bark, or pine straw to a depth of two inches. Deep and over-mulching often promotes harboring places for voles to live and reproduce.

Check your house plants for insects and if present in damaging numbers, take them outside on a warm day. Spray with insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, malathion, orthene, or another recommended houseplant insecticide.

Spray houseplants with a soft mist of water when needed to

keep humidity high once the indoor heating system is on and running.

Winter weeds are beginning to emerge. Noticeable ones already are chickweeds, common yellow sorrel [oxalis], henbit, dandelions, wild onions, and garlic. Pull or dig them out or use a spot or broadcast herbicide. Round-Up for spot treatment and phenoxy-types, and dicabamba, etc, for broadcast herbicide control. Use each specifically according to directions and keep it out of our lakes.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we are thankful for the many blessings in our lives. Thankful

that we live in a state and nation where we are free. I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to our service men and women who are serving us for the freedom cause all over the world. God Bless them.

Women will welcome Pinecrest chorus

The Women of Seven Lakes are pleased to present the award-winning Pinecrest Choral Ensemble for a special holiday concert on Thursday, December 3 at 2:00 pm at Westside Park Community Center.

This is an event you don’t want to miss featuring an amazing group of talented young, local

singers!

Guests and visitors are most welcome to attend.

The Women of Seven Lakes will conduct a brief business meeting following refreshments.

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Christmas in the Pines at Weymouth

"Christmas in the Pines" is the theme of Weymouth Christmas House this year. The house will be decked out in all its splendor on Thursday, December 3 and Friday, December 4, and Saturday, December 5, from 10 am to 4 pm each day for tours. Each tour day will feature special events of music, readings, and cookie and punch reception. Tickets for the tours are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

Special events will be held in the evening of each day:

Thursday, December 3, at 5:30 to 7:30 pm, Christmas Carols will be sung.

Friday, December 4, a special candlelight tour of the house will be available at 7 pm to 9 pm, that includes wine, cheese,

desserts and beautiful background music and this will be limited to 100 persons. The cost for this event is \$25 per person. Reservations required, call 692-6261.

Saturday, December 5, a special children's tour, 8:30 am to 10 am. The cost is \$3 for children over the age of 3. This tour will be conducted by a docent in groups of 10 children with parents.

Tickets available at Weymouth Center, Country Bookshop, Southern Pines; Faded Rose, Pinehurst; Given Bookstore, Olmstead Village; and Phoenix Fashions in Seven Lakes.

For questions or reservations call Weymouth at 692-6261.

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Kiwanis names new Board



Seven Lakes Kiwanis' new Board members are Jack Fetzer, Jim Ellis, Ed Schemp, Becky Gilmore, Ron McGaughey, Ken Sparke, Rollin Tomberlin, Ken Jenkins, Marty Matula, and (not available for photo) Linda Tableman.

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Amateur radio operators test emergency skills

The Moore County Amateur Radio Society successfully completed a simulated emergency training (SET) exercise held Saturday, October 31.

In the world of amateur radio emergency services, (ARES), these exercises are both a competition to evaluate preparedness for disaster response and as training to enhance radio communication skills. In this instance, amateur radio operators from around Moore County conducted a "tabletop" exercise in response to a simulated disaster where an extensive ice storm engulfed a major portion of North Carolina.

All normal communications were unavailable, electrical power was disabled and most roads were impassible.

Simulated locations included the County Emergency Operations Center in Carthage, Red Cross Headquarters-Southern Pines, Southern Pines Police, Moore Regional Hospital-Pinehurst and emergency shelters at New Century Middle School-Cameron, North Moore High School-Robbins, Southern Middle School-Aberdeen, Pinecrest High School-Southern Pines and Seven Lakes West-Community Emergency Response Team. Each simulated location

included amateur radio operators with radios operating independent of conventional electrical power sources.

MOCARS members participating included Lionel Bryson - N4YYL, Raymond Arnold - KG4CPM, Charles Wackerman - W3CY, Jim Johnson - K14TAT, Mark Galyean - K14KQZ, Jim Brock - KJ4BRO, Tony Bible - KJ4MJC, Jim Haggard - KJ4IVZ, Barrie Guthrie - KJ4MJE and Terry Riddle from the Seven Lakes West CERT team. Based on the success of continuing training exercises and recent

disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina, Ike and Gustaf, flooding throughout the Midwest, wild fires in California, etc. amateur radio around the USA including MOARS can and will be available and ready to provide reliable communications - "when all else fails, amateur radio is there." MOCARS works closely on a continuing basis with various Moore County emergency services groups including Emergency Services, the Moore County Health Department, the Sheriff's department, fire and police departments, the Moore

Regional Hospital and the Red Cross.

Membership in MOCARS is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio. The club meets the third Thursday at 7 pm. At the Moore County Emergency Operations Center, Carthage, and hosts two meter nets on Wednesday and Sunday evenings at 8 pm on 146.240 plus tone plus 91.5 offset, all are welcome. For more information contact James Johnson, secretary and Public Information Officer, 910-400-3019.



Barrie Guthrie, Jim Haggard, and Jim Johnson

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

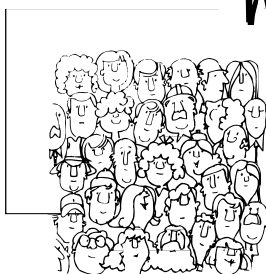
- **Thanksgiving Day**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- **Holiday In The Pines** – 2 pm and 7:30 pm. Moore OnStage and Taylor Dance bring you a fantastical holiday production unlike any other seen before. Manheim Steamroller Christmas music is as exciting as the traditional carols that everyone knows how to sing and you will hear music accompanied by musicians. The Transiberian Orchestra makes music of movement. Held in the Robert E. Lee Auditorium, at Pinecrest High School. This show will be held again on Saturday, November 28, 2 pm and 7:30 pm and Sunday, November 29 at 2 pm. Tickets \$20 adults & \$12 students 18 and under. Reservations may be made with a Mastercard or Visa by calling 910-692-7118.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 2:30-7 pm, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 9880 US 15-501 North, Pinehurst. Call 603-0846 for appt.
- **Temple Theatre's A Christmas Carol** – the show will

run through Sunday, December 20. A cast of 40, ranging in age from 8 to 70, the music is phenomenal. Downtown, Sanford. For show times or to order tickets, call the Box Office at 919.774.4155, or visit their website at www.templeshows.com

What's When Calendar

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

- **Holiday Open House** – 3 pm to 5 pm, at Seven Lakes Massage & Body Therapies, Optical Solutions, Murray & Company, and Indigo's. Come enjoy the afternoon with refreshments, music, and check out the specials offered by each business for your Christmas shopping needs. 980 Seven Lakes Drive (next to the stables) 673-2000.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

- **Weymouth House Tour** – 10 am to 4 pm, Christmas at Weymouth House 2009, \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Tickets available at Weymouth Center, Country Bookshop,

Southern Pines; Faded Rose, Pinehurst; Given Bookstore, Olmstead Village; and Phoenix Fashions, Seven Lakes. Reservations call Weymouth at 692-6261.

- **Women of Seven Lakes** – 2 pm, at the West Side Park Community Center. Welcome back the award-winning and nationally recognized

Pinecrest Choral Ensemble to their December meeting. This is a special treat for the entire community that you won't want to miss! Guests and visitors are most welcome to attend. Refreshments.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5 to 8 pm. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.
- **Carols at Weymouth** - 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at Weymouth House.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

- **Weymouth House Tour** – 10 am to 4 pm, Christmas at Weymouth House 2009, \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Tickets available at Weymouth Center, Country Bookshop, Southern Pines; Faded Rose, Pinehurst; Given Bookstore, Olmstead Village; and Phoenix

Fashions, Seven Lakes. Questions or reservations 692-6261.

- **Candlelight Tour at Weymouth** – 7 pm to 10 pm, at Weymouth House. Cost is \$25 per person. Includes wine, cheese, and desserts. Limited reservations. Call Weymouth at 692-6261 to reserve tour.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

- **Children's Tour of Weymouth House** – 8:30 am to 10 am, Christmas at Weymouth House 2009, cost is \$3 for children over the age of 3. Tour conducted by a docent in groups of 10 children with parents.
- **Weymouth House Tour** – 10

am to 4 pm, Christmas at Weymouth House, \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Reservations 692-6261.

- **Open House at Historic Bryant House** – 1 - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Annual Open House at the Bryant House in Carthage. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Free. Info. or directions, www.moore-history.com or (910) 692-2051.
- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 - 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At least five types or varietals to educate your palate. Seven Lakes Plaza, next to Peking Wok



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- **Holiday Open House** – 2 pm to 4 pm, at 7 Lakes Consignment. Kick off your holiday season with great appetizers, wine, and music with the folks of 7 Lakes Consignment and friends. Seven Lakes Plaza. 673-2314..
- **Moore County Choral Society** – 8:00 pm, Holiday concert, "Sing for Joy" Program will be held again on Sunday, December 6 at 4 pm. Concert held in Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College. \$15 adults \$7.50 students/children Purchase tickets at the Campbell House, Country Bookshop, Kirk Tours (Pinehurst), the Coffee Scene (Seven Lakes) and the door. 295-3971.
- **Gift Bazaar and Indoor Yard Sale** – 9 am to 3 pm, at Seven Lakes Baptist Church Gymnasium. Vendors, Indoor Yard Sale, Bake Sale, Gift Wrapping, Face Painting, Live Music and More. To reserve a vendor table, call Laura at 910-690-8149 or Jan at 910-673-5389. Table rental is \$25 or 10% of sales. Spaces limited. SL Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

- **Christmas with Santa** – 1 pm to 3 pm. Photos with Santa (bring your own camera). Crafts, cookies, and lots of fun! At the West Side Park Community Center. This free event sponsored by SLW Community Activities.
- **Seven Lakes West Holiday Social** – 6 pm to 9 pm, West

Side Park Community Center. A BYOB event. Music provided by Clarence Levins, Jr. the International Piano Man and Vocalist. Sweet and Savory Hors d'oeuvres provided. Enjoy an evening with your friends. This free holiday event is sponsored by SL West Community Activities.

- **Open House at Historic Bryant House** – 1 pm - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Bryant House in Carthage. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Event is free, donations appreciated. Info. or directions, www.moorehistory.com or (910) 692-2051.
- **Eddie Barrett and the Goodman Legacy Orchestra** – 3:30 pm to 6 pm, at Mr. P's. Big Band Sound from Chicago. Mr. P's, 155 Hall Avenue, Southern Pines.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association Work Session** – 8:30 am, Conference Room.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Work Session** – 9 am, West Side Park Community Center.
- **Computer Club of Seven Lakes** – 3:00 pm, Game Room, Seven Lakes North Guest speaker, Lori Williams, Director of Community Education and Outreach at Sandhills Community College, will enlighten the club on Facebook and Twitter and what it

means to "tweet." You won't want to miss this program. Visitors are welcome.

- **Pinecrest Winter Choral Concert** – 7:00 pm, Pinecrest High School, Robert E. Lee Auditorium. \$6.00 adults & \$4.00 for students

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

- **Christmas Concert** – 7:00 pm, The Speers & The Darts will be at Seven Lakes Baptist Church for an evening song. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

- **Chanukah**
- **Open House at Historic Shaw House** – 1 - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Annual Open House at the Shaw House in Southern Pines. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Event is free. Information or directions, www.moorehistory.com or (910) 692-2051.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

- **Open House at Historic Shaw House** – 1 - 4 pm, Share in early Christmas cheer

at the Annual Open House at the Shaw House in Southern Pines. Sponsored by Moore County Historical Association. Event is free, donations appreciated. Info. or directions, www.moorehistory.com or (910) 692-2051.

- **Drop-In Wine Tasting** – 1 - 5 pm at Sandhills Winery. At least five types or varietals to educate your palate. Seven Lakes Plaza.
- **Holiday Open House** – 2 pm to 4 pm, at GG's Touch of Class Massage and Bodywork Therapy. Come enjoy the afternoon with refreshments, and register to win a free massage. Gift certificate specials available. 150 Grant Street, Seven Lakes Village. 910-220-2956.

- **Seven Lakes Country Club Christmas Party** – Everyone's invited! You do not have to be a member to attend. Cocktail hour at 5:30 pm, dinner 6:30 pm. Music and entertainment, 7:00 pm provided by the "American Heritage Band." All inclusive price members \$27; \$32 non-members. Hosts are Carole & Leonard Barnard. Join in for a fun filled evening to welcome in the Holiday season. Call 673-1100 for reservations.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

- **Open House at Historic Shaw House** – 1 - 4pm, Share in early Christmas cheer at the Shaw House, Southern Pines. Sponsored by MC Hist. Assoc. Free. (910) 692-2051.



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The American Red Cross of Moore County (ARC) would like to send you some place warm for a wonderful mid-winter vacation.

With the help of Progress Energy and AAA Vacations, the American Red Cross are offering the opportunity for you to travel to warmer climes. All you have to do is make a \$10 donation to help assist your Moore County neighbors through house fires and other disasters; and, the American Red Cross gives you a chance to win a \$2,500 AAA travel voucher. You can then use that voucher to cruise the Caribbean, take the family to Disney, or go almost anywhere else your heart desires (remember, it's summer in Australia right now).

Tickets can be purchased at the American Red Cross office at 115 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Southern Pines, the AAA Office in "The Market" shopping plaza (near Fresh Market) between Highway 15-501 and Morganton Road, Southern Pines, and at other locations around the county where you see posters advertising the promotion. Tickets are also available by calling 910-692-8571, or by sending a check to The American Red Cross at P.O. Box 407, Southern Pines, NC 28388. Please designate on your check that you wish to receive tickets for the vacation promotion.

The drawing for this special vacation prize will be held December 31st at the "FirstEve" celebration in downtown Southern Pines.

Only 1,000 tickets will be available, so purchase your ticket(s) soon. If you have any questions, please contact 910-692-8571.

Get ready to leave your troubles - and the cold - behind. A heartwarming vacation awaits.

Kiwanians learn about CERT



CERT member Jim Haggard with Kiwanian President Ed Schemp

by Frank Krohn
Seven Lakes Kiwanis

Jim Haggard, a Seven Lakes Kiwanian, spoke to his fellow members on October 13. Haggard is the Communications Leader for the Seven Lakes West CERT organization. CERT is the Community Emergency Response Team recently formed locally by Terry Riddle, and now has 44 members.

Its purpose is to assist the residents of Seven Lakes in the case of a major emergency. The program was originally designed by the Los Angeles Fire Department and in 1993 was endorsed on a national basis by FEMA. There have been two training sessions held so far, with surrounding Fire Departments, and

County representatives present.

The basic purpose is to handle problems of all kinds until the First Responders get to the location involved, at that time the CERT team backs off and then assumes the role of assistants in any way they can help. The program was of particular interest to the group because the service is designed specifically for the Seven Lakes area.

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets every Tuesday at noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club. Guests are always welcome.

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Diabetes can be managed; FirstHealth can help

Every 20 seconds. That's how often someone is diagnosed with diabetes.

Think about it. That's 4,320 people every day; 30, 240 each week.

In the United States, nearly 24 million children and adults have diabetes. At least 57 million more are at risk for type 2 diabetes alone.

The numbers are staggering, but what do they mean? And why should you take the time to learn more?

The answer is simple: Because you don't want to become the next number. To stay healthy, you need to take care of yourself. That means understanding the risks of diabetes and knowing what you can do to help prevent the disease.

November is American Diabetes Awareness Month, the perfect time to take a few minutes to learn more about the disease and why you should work hard to protect yourself.

What is diabetes?

Most of the food we eat is turned into sugar (glucose) that our muscles use for energy, and insulin is a hormone that helps the sugar move from the blood into the muscles. When you have diabetes, your body is either not making insulin or not using insulin properly, which results in too much sugar staying in the blood.

Over time, these changes can lead to serious health complications that affect the heart, eyes and kidneys. If left untreated, the disease can be fatal.

However, diabetes is neither inevitable nor unavoidable. Healthy lifestyles, early and effective medical treatment and behavioral self-management can dramatically reduce morbidity and mortality.

Too often, though, diabetes

goes undiagnosed, because many of its symptoms seem harmless or are mistaken for other health problems. People sometimes go seven to 10 years without knowing they have diabetes.

"Learning that you have diabetes is never good news," says Melissa Herman, coordinator of FirstHealth of the Carolinas' Diabetes Self-Management and FirstReach programs. "But even though there is no cure, you can continue to lead a healthy, active lifestyle with proper management, continuous care and support."

Diabetes programs

Offered in Montgomery, Moore and Richmond counties, FirstHealth's Diabetes Self-Management Program offers one-

on-one counseling and group classes to help patients understand their disease. Patients benefit from time with both a nurse and dietitian as well as from group classes and, when needed, follow-up sessions.

"We show patients how to incorporate diabetes management into their daily lives," says Herman, "even how to enjoy their favorite foods. They learn how to interpret their blood glucose results and to make choices that help them meet their personal health goals. We can also link them with services and resources to eliminate barriers to care."

FirstHealth offers a unique diabetes focus in Montgomery County, where residents are 48 percent more likely to die of dia-

betes than other North Carolinians. Funded by the FirstHealth Montgomery Foundation, FirstReach is a community-based, grassroots effort to screen, educate and follow up to ensure successful disease management.

"Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for people with diabetes to miss appointments, run out of medication or blood glucose testing supplies, or forget needed tests," says Herman. "Our goal is to support them in making good decisions. Hopefully, with the right information and needed tools, they will take the steps to maintain their health."

To learn more about FirstHealth's Diabetes Self-Management, call (800) 364-0499 toll-free.

Have a little history with your holiday

Share in early Christmas cheer at the Annual Holiday Open House at the historic Bryant House on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6.

The Moore County Historical Association will host a free-to-the-public admission to the decorated historic Bryant House museum in the Carthage area, and at the Shaw House in Southern Pines, the following weekend, December 11, 12, and 13.

The Bryant House and the Shaw House will be open 1 - 4 pm each day during their Open House weekends.

The event is free, but donations are always appreciated to maintain the beauty of these historical homes.

For more information or directions, log on to www.moorehistory.com or call (910) 692-2051.

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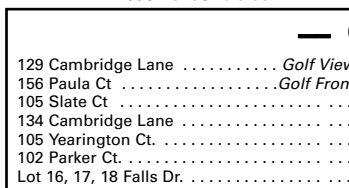
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You are what you eat . . .

What is the secret of Soy lent Green?

If you're like me, you probably wish you couldn't answer that question. Like bologna or hot dog ingredients – some things are best left to the imagination.

Unfortunately processed meat is a pantry staple in my house, especially since the young-uns started showing up at the dinner table a few years ago.

Ham and bacon make frequent appearances on the menu, as does the occasional turkey meatball: and that's just for me and Darling Hubby. I'm too embarrassed to even tell you what our kids consume on a regular basis.

A tried and miserable failure as a vegetarian, I attempt to make up for these dietary sins by cooking family-meals from scratch using fresh meats.

Either way, I'm usually conflicted at each culinary turn of the cold foods aisle. I fret over preservatives and sulfates, hormone-free or free-range, cost versus that big, ugly carbon footprint – all balanced against the ultimate denominators: what can I cook in a half hour that is healthy and the kids will actually eat?

It's a short list.

So this week I was quite intrigued to stumble across an article on tissue-engineering.

Basically, test tube beef.

What a concept, I thought: guilt-free meat!

Using harvested animal cells placed in a nutrient-rich medium, these mad scientists are trying to grow more cells in the hopes they'll end up with a steak.

Well, not really. But at least grow what I assume will be a colorless blob of meat-ish-like products that can be diced, chopped, salted, and seasoned

into something that will eventually resemble . . . I'm guessing, a hot dog.

The question is will people prefer a hamburger grown by

already filled with farm-grown fish, rotund poultry laden with growth-hormones, and strange health food concoctions like soy-milk ice cream . . . will people even care?

You know, for some odd reason a simple meal of crackers and peanut butter, or perhaps rice and beans is beginning to sound pretty good.

At least I know what I'm eating – I hope.

And just in case you missed that Charlton Heston cinematic gem from the 1970's, I'll let you in on the secret [spoiler warning!].

Soylent Green is people, "It's people!"



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

the square foot rather than one grown with feet?

And in our chemically-enhanced kitchens which are

We do not need this kind of growth.

Dear Editor:

Do we want our town to be over developed?

Do we want our water supply protected?

Do we want our traffic to be controlled?

Do we want our wildlife to be preserved?

The County Commissioners will decide to pass or deny the Pine Forest Development sometime in January or February of 2010.

The developer Bob Hansen wants to clear 1799 acres of land from Ellis Lane on NC Hwy 211 to Hoffman Rd on NC Hwy

211 to NC Hwy 73. Hansen wants to have the first gated residential community including 600 homes, a 120,000 square foot retail area, five star Resort Hotel up to 300 rooms, spa, fitness center, conference center and three golf courses. Each golf course will have its own clubhouse. There is no water to support this project. Hansen is having to buy water from Montgomery County. He wants to build an approximately 20 acre wastewater treatment facility.

We do not need this kind of growth. There are 2,788 homes for sale in Moore county. People

need to buy the homes that need to be sold now. We need to use the existing golf courses. We do not need more retail centers as big as the old K-mart. We do not need another spa and fitness center within five miles of each other. We do not need another five star Resort Hotel in direct competition with the Pinehurst Hotel. We do not need more traffic on Hwy. 211.

We need to protect our environment, water, land, and wildlife from these large land developers.

Keep our community growing — but not this way. Please noti-

fy your County Commissioners about concerns as a citizen of Moore County before January 2010.

Call Megan Owrey, Clerk of the Board at 947-6403. Or search on

line for Moore County Commissioners to find the email and phone numbers of the five commissioners.

Rebecca Walters
West End

Another day to be alive

A farmer releases his cows to pasture.

A hawk soars above my lake as the sun's rays play on the water.

driveway, thoughtfully protected from the approaching rain.

Your friend calls to remind you to be ready for that ride to the symphony.

A Thai father toils in his rice fields to help support his family.

Yes, another day. The earth rotates with predictability.

It's great to be alive, even with the multitude of problems in our world.



Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

A squirrel bounds across the roof.

A youngster scurries around looking for her notebook as the school bus approaches.

The daily paper sits in the

Still a chance to meet challenges anew.

Still the chance to never stop trying to bring out the best in ourselves and others, striving always for peace in all of its forms.

SEVEN
LAKES TIMES

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J. Sherwood Dunham, Alfred C. Gent,
William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker

Fondly remembering 'The Silver Fox'

Dear Editor:

We have just learned of the passing of our dear friend, Jack Embler, or as we called him, "The Silver Fox."

We are long time customers of Master Kleen and have treasured our friendship with Jack. We remember him as a gentle, kind, and friendly man, who always had a smile and a good word for everyone he met. He was a ded-

icated Christian who loved the Lord and wasn't afraid to say so. He loved Christian quartet music and his passing has put him in a place to enjoy the heavenly choir.

We can and will honor Jack by continuing to do business with Rick at Master Kleen.

Jack's legacy as a customer driven businessman, with utmost integrity, is a model which all of

us in business can emulate in his honor.

Rick and Randy, your Dad was a great man! May he enjoy his reward, with your Mom, in Heaven.

*Diane and Dean Robinson
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Kiwanis Holiday decoration contest

The SevenLakes Kiwanis Club will offer a \$65 prize for the best lawn and/or lakefront Christmas decoration display within the Seven Lakes Community. Three prizes will be awarded: one for the North, South, and West Sides.

Judges will be surveying all properties on December 18,

19, 20 between 5:00 and 9:00 pm, so make sure your lights are on at the appropriate times.

This Christmas tradition has been sponsored by the Kiwanis Club for many years, and is just one of the dozens of ways in which they contribute to the well-being of the Seven Lakes Community.

Thanks from the Chapel

Dear Editor:

The Chapel in the Pines rummage sale was a great success thanks to the organizers: Ken and Jean Keating, Butch and

Mary Kay Allen, and Don and Pat Truesdell.

Many thanks also to Bud Holzerland and George Thompson and all the Chapel members

and the Seven Lakes Community members who work so hard to make this event so rewarding.

Many families in our community and charitable organizations in Moore County will receive help because of your efforts.

Thanks!

*Alice Shaughnessy
Chapel Benevolence
Chairperson*

Creative Christmas

Moore County Extension & Community Association will hold their Creative Christmas Table Show Tuesday, December 8, at Little River Farms Resort Club House, Carthage. Admission \$3. Hours are 10:00 am - 5 pm.

Beautiful Christmas table arrangements will be displayed. These are works of art by local ladies and businesses.

Visit the "corner shops" including: The Country Store, Heritage Crafts & Christmas Shop, White Elephant Specials. Claxton Fruit will be

available to purchase.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5. 1st Prize \$400 Cash, 2nd Prize \$100 Cash and 3rd prize a \$45.00 gift certificate - compliments of Bonefish Grill.

You do not have to be present to win.

Proceeds will benefit the North Carolina 4-H Museum to be built at Camp Millstone near Ellerbe.

To purchase raffle tickets in advance, call Priscilla 673-4214, Rose 400-5004 or Shirley 673-5778.



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Buildings

(Continued from page 5)

ter and Public Safety buildings, with the stipulation that each stage would be reviewed.

As those reviews came before the Board, Carriage Oaks was suggested as an alternative site for the new Administration Building.

Prior to voting in favor keeping that structure downtown, Picerno said he toured Carriage Oaks with Commissioners Cindy Morgan and Lea, but determined that he agreed with the feasibility study's conclusion that the property did not offer the needed flexibility.

It was not until May 2009 that the Commissioners heard from Superior Court Judge James Webb that there were problems with the courthouse facilities.

"All my research before did not tell me that we had a problem with court space," Picerno said.

An advisory committee, which included both Lea and Picerno, toured the existing court facilities — a visit that showed serious needs and that Picerno called "eye opening."

Now facing the potential need for yet another major capital improvement or, at the very least, a major reshuffling of office space as new facilities come on-line and existing structures can be reworked, Picerno said, "The key thing is, we have voted to the point where we're at. If some better plan comes along that doesn't kill the taxpayer, I'm all for it."

Lea's Perspective

Friends since childhood, Picerno and Lea both stated they agree on decisions much more frequently than they disagree.

Lea is serving his second term on the BOC and, like Picerno, describes himself as a fiscal conservative. He has been a part of the facilities decision-making process from the beginning, and offered the League of Women Voters a data-laden Powerpoint presentation.

"I learned a long time ago, if you can't pay for it you shouldn't buy it. This money, it belongs to taxpayers, and my charge is to make sure I protect your investment and get the most out of every single dollar," he said.

While a wetlands area has been identified at the Carriage Oaks, Lea said that six acres on the Grimm property are similarly affected and unbuildable. In addition, the site has artisan springs.

Lea also argued that there were other Carthage properties that could have been considered and obtained for far less money, including land adjacent to the Moore County Board of Elections on Pinehurst Avenue near the Ag Center.

"As far as utilities, I've been told didn't we didn't have enough in that area to support a facility, but that is not true. In that area is the Ag Center and there is a nursing home there."

Addressing the proposed design of the new Public Safety and Detention Center facilities, Lea said the initial bed count will be 260 — including 192 new beds and 68 existing beds. But the proposed new facility is designed to support 500-600 beds and, if the existing jail is demolished and another section added, the potential exists for 700-850 beds.

The four-story Detention Center will be connected to the Public Safety facility, totaling 140,000 square feet. In May 2009, project costs were estimated at \$29 million.

The two-story Government Center, with a full basement,

(See "Buildings," p. 25)

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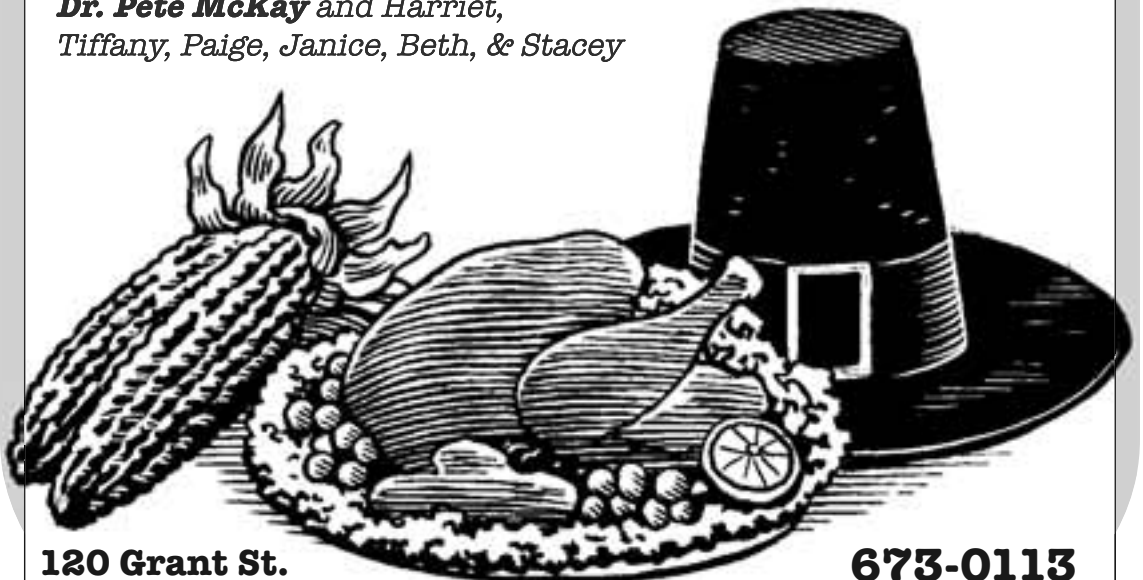


A Message of Thanks at Thanksgiving from "Our Place" to Yours



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

Dr. Pete McKay and Harriet,
Tiffany, Paige, Janice, Beth, & Stacey



120 Grant St.

673-0113

Revaluation

(Continued from front page)

Commissioner Melton noted that the Board, when it moved to a four-year revaluation schedule in 2003, aimed to make the assessed values as accurate as possible. He said that some areas in the county, during the current economic downturn, have seen home prices rise, but other areas have seen falling home values.

"In order to get a fair assessment of what's going on and the temperature of the county and in order to be fair to promised that we would do, even though we're looking at \$600,000 for doing the reappraisal, I think to be fair to the citizens of Moore County we need to get a fair appraisal every four years, like we set in motion," Melton said.

Commissioner Caddell said he believed some properties may have declined in value since 2007, due to the economic downturn. That could, in effect, give the owners of those properties a de facto tax break.

"I agree with Commissioner Melton and Commissioner Caddell," Commissioner Cindy Morgan said. "If we stay on our four years like we told the people we would do and they get a tax break, by golly, they deserve a tax break."

Picking up on the thought that a revaluation might decrease the tax burden on some, Commissioner Tim Lea pointed out that the most reliable way to decrease the tax burden is not to pay \$600,000 for a revaluation, but rather to cut the county tax rate next year. Noting that the tax department had already begun its work, Lea asked Vest to estimate the the total cost of the

revaluation effort, which Vest put at \$750,000.

Lea then suggested that the Commissioners postpone the revaluation not for two years but for four — until 2015 — and pledge to cut the tax rate in the next budget year.

"If we delay this to 2015, we save three quarters of a million dollars," Lea said. "If this Board wants to do somethinng to help the people who are paying taxes in the county, we can, in our next budget year, lower the tax rate to do the same thing we are trying to do with the revaluation.

"We've got two great options here: Go forward with the revaluation as proposed or we can agree to adjust the tax rate down in the next budget year and accomplish the same thing without going through all this process. . . .Right now in this economic downturn, if we were able to save three-quarters of a million dollars, that would be good from a budget perspective."

Lea pointed out that, when property was revalued in 2007, the Board of Commissioners had not dropped the tax rate sufficiently to produce the same amount of revenue as in the prior year — the "revenue neutral approach." As a result there was the equivalent of a six cent increase in the county tax rate, Lea said.

The Commissioners then increased taxes 2.9 cents in FY 2008-2009, and lowered the rate by 1.9 cents this year. Netting all that out amounts to a seven cent increase over three years, Lea, said.

Thanking Vest for bringing the option of postponing the reval-

uation to the Board's attention, Chairman Nick Picerno said the issue "has been probably the hardest issue since I have been on the Board as far as the right thing to do . . . Prior boards made a commitment to do it every four years . . . The economy has given us less statistical data for Wayne to use, so, when we do a revaluation, we're probably not going to see much change."

"There is an opportunity to save three-quarters of a million dollars for the taxpayer," Picerno continued, "and, man, I'm all about saving three-quarters of a million dollars for the taxpayer, if that's something that we can do . . . but since we went ahead and made a commitment last year that we were going to revalue in 2011, I'm going to make

a motion to go ahead with the advanced schedule we made in 2008."

With that, and an additional encouragement from Commissioner Lea to cut the tax rate next year, the Board voted unanimously to proceed with the 2011 revaluation.

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 4)

alternates should participate in Board discussions and Blake arguing against that point. The elimination of alternates makes it a moot point.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

An audit of the county's 2008-2009 books resulted in an "unqualified opinion," Marcie Spivey, representing the accounting firm Martin Starnes & Associates, told the Board of Commissioners during Monday's meeting. In other words all the

reports and data provided by the Financial Services staff was "materially correct."

Spivey noted that, comparing FY 2008-2009 with the previous year, county revenues were down from \$88 million to \$79 million, while expenses dropped from \$87 million to \$84 million.

The County's General Fund balance declined — but only because the Commissioners moved \$8 million into reserves for capital projects. That moved the fund balance from 28.5 percent of annual expenditures to 20.4 percent, in line with a new target the Board set when it debated the current year's budget.

Property taxes account for sixty-two percent of the county's general fund revenues, with sales taxes good for another 17 percent. (The general fund does not include various enterprise funds the county has for specific operations — public utilities, for example.) Property taxes

increased from \$49.5 million to \$54.5 million last year, but sales tax receipts dropped from \$18.9 million to \$15.2 million.

Education claims the largest share of county expenditures — thirty-six percent — while twenty-four percent of the budget goes for human services.

Vass concerned about wastewater project

Paulette Elliot, speaking for the Town of Vass, asked the Commissioners during the public comment period of Monday's meeting for an update on a project that aims to connect Vass with the county's wastewater treatment plant in Addor. Public Utilities Director Dennis Brobst explained that the county is funding the project by combining two grants, one that the Town of Vass obtained from the NC Rural Economic Development Center and one from the state's Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

Because of state budget cuts

resulting from the economic downturn, no Clean Water Management grants were funding in the current fiscal year, Brobst explained. So the earliest that a grant for the Vass project could be approved is in October 2010, months past a June 30 deadline imposed by the Rural Center grant.

Brobst said he had received verbal assurances that the Rural Center grant could be extended; Commissioner Lea asked Brob-

st to make sure he had that assurance in writing.

Other Business

In other business during its Monday, November 16 meeting, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Approved amendments to the zoning ordinance that will change the requirements for cellphone and other wireless communications towers in the

(See "Commissioners," p. 27)

Buildings

(Continued from page 24)

totals 82,000 square feet at an estimated cost of \$11.6 million.

"We all agree the County needs this additional space," Lea said. "We have not built a new facility since 1988 and we are stretched beyond our means in Carthage."

He explained that in July 2009 he voted to defer a decision on the Government Complex until after the court space needs could be studied; however, the design project moved forward on a three-to-two split decision.

He said now they face a major stumbling block because the architects have stated that a Courts facility will not fit on the Grimm property along with the already-approved Detention Center, Public Safety Building, and Administration Building, with a combined need for nearly 1,000 parking spaces.

Lea said there has been some discussion of demolishing existing nearby facilities to make way for parking but that no decisions have been made.

In particular, Lea said he was focused on a strategic planning perspective to the problem — that is, looking out three to five years ahead.

"We've seen what happens when growth is not planned properly. I look at impact not only today but tomorrow," said Lea. "Sometimes you are better off to stop, weigh your losses, then move in a direction better suited for the long term."

"The question is do you continue down a path or stop and correct it," said Lea.

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for this is the will of God in
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— I Thessalonians 5:18

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 26)

county. The new system lays out thirteen areas with sub-standard service in which mono-pole towers up to 195 feet in height may be built, subject to restrictions and approvals by the Board of Commissioners. Concealed towers up to eighty feet in height will be allowed in other areas of the county — to fill in voids in neighborhood service — by right. Chairman Picerno expressed concern that the new regime not unduly hamper a provider who felt it needed a taller tower in a restricted area in order to provide service. He was assured by the county's consultant on wireless communications matters that the new rules do no prevent companies for attempting to apply for tower permits in other areas.

- Heard from Commissioner Morgan that a committee reviewing county compensation policies has had some trouble obtaining the information it needs to complete the review. The Board extended the deadline for the committee's report indefinitely.
- Adopted a new personnel policy manual for county employees.
- Accepted \$43,600 in federal stimulus funds that will be directed toward the meals programs administered by the County's Department of Aging. Chairman Picerno made a point of noting that no jobs were created by these particular American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grants. The Board also

approved modifications to the Department of Aging's budget, moving county funds that would have been spent on meals to Senior Center Operations and Transportation Services.

- Accepted a \$75,000 state Community Development Block grant that will be used to fund one full time salary for two years for the Northern Moore Family Resource Center, which will allow that agency to improve housing conditions in the northern part of the county. The Board also approved a contract that lays out the relationship between the County and the Center.
- Approved an agreement between the county and Camp MacKall that provides for the treatment of wastewater from the military facility at the county's Addor wastewater treatment plant.
- Approved, after close questioning by Commissioners Lea and Caddell, a \$76,500 addition to the architectural fees that will be paid to LS3P Boney for work on the new Administration Building. The increased fee is linked to the increased cost of the building, resulting from the addition of a full basement and a second floor over the Commissioners meeting room. "I will be challenging every one of these that comes forward," Lea said, referring to the fee increase. Still pending is a \$26,500 charge related to the architect's redesign of the building from a contemporary to a more traditional style

(See "Commissioners," p. 28)



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547 Longleaf\$45,000
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539 Longleaf\$45,000
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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from front page)

a recommendation from new management – whether an individual or company – for appropriate future staffing levels for full-time and part-time employees, and also to provide a review of the current revenue stream and expenditures. Of particular concern is the community's aging infrastructure including the pool, and the administrative and clubhouse buildings.

Zielsdorf also stated that Seven Lakes affordability should not become the primary attribute to

entice buyers.

"How do we keep Seven Lakes a competitive community that people will want to move into?" he asked, noting that several new developments in close proximity will increase competition.

"How do we market our unique community? We are looking for new management that will bring progressive ideas to our community which will make and keep Seven Lakes a destination place."

During Public Comment, twenty-two year resident Ralph Gilbert

offered praise and strong support for hiring Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane to fill the lead position.

"He has been very good at every job I've seen him do. He knows where the skeletons are and also where the good things are," said Gilbert. "Rarely do you get the chance to train a manager from the ground up but we've had that chance."

"It's not an easy job to manage a group like this – there are too many bosses," continued Gilbert. "Chad has shown the capability and personality to do the job. Give him a chance - give him a year... I guarantee he's worth it."

Also during Public Comment, Northsider Don Fentzlaff asked the Board to carefully consider the cost to the Association if the decision is made to go with a management company and then reconsidered.

"How much would it cost us to go back? It could be very expensive if we lose all the stuff we use in-house," said Fentzlaff.

Finance

Approximately a dozen properties have been turned over to

the Association attorney to begin foreclosure proceedings, Beane reported during the Manager's Report. Dalton Fulcher was unable to attend due to a family obligation.

November revenue collections and expenditures were in line with projections, Beane said.

Treasurer Galford said the Finance Committee had reviewed

reports, fund statement, bank reconciliations, and selected invoices, and were satisfied with all financial data presented. Next month the Committee will begin their review of the proposed management budget.

Maintenance

A mature Longleaf pine was

(See "SLLA," p. 29)

Commissioners

(Continued from page 27)

and layout.

- Approved a contract not to exceed \$9,700 for an analysis of the space and facilities needs of the superior and district courts and their clerks to be conducted by Solutions for Local Government.

- Heard from Carthage resident and unsuccessful mayoral

candidate Bert Patrick that the cost of building a new jail, public safety complex, and county administration building in downtown Carthage is large enough that the voters ought to be allowed to vote on the projects before the county commits to them.

- Appointed Esther Cummings deputy tax collector.

SLCC Christmas Party

Everyone's invited! You do not have to be a member to attend the Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12, at Seven Lakes Country Club. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 pm, a delicious menu of Ham, Potatoes Au Gratin, Asparagus Bundles, Salad, Rolls & Red Velvet Cake will be served at 6:30 pm. Music and entertainment

will begin at 7:00 pm provided by the "American Heritage Band."

All-inclusive price for members is \$27 and \$32 for non-members. Hosts are Carole & Leonard Barnard.

Join in for a fun filled evening to welcome in the Holiday season. Call 673-1100 for reservations.



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Fulcher Farewell Reception

An Open House reception to bid farewell to outgoing Community Manager Dalton Fulcher will be held in the North Clubhouse on Wednesday, December 16 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The community is cordially invited to drop by, enjoy refreshments, and share their appreciation for Dalton's many years of service.



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SLLA Meeting

(Continued from page 28)

removed from in front of the Northside mail house because the straw litter was a pedestrian hazard. The area has been replanted with new trees and sod, and new irrigation lines installed, reported Director Bud Shaver.

The appropriate size backhoe bucket necessary to remove tree roots along Dogwood Lane was purchased at a reasonable cost, reported Galford, and work has commenced. A telephone line was accidentally damaged during the project but service was quickly restored to affected residents.

During Public Comment, Northsider Bob Racine reported that the Northside Park volleyball posts, which were relocated but never reinstalled following the playground renovation, were rolled down the beach and into Lake Longleaf.

Shaver said the posts would be retrieved.

Community Standards

Many violations of Community Standards rules and regulation are chronic and lingering offenses, reported Droppers.

Beane agreed and said these properties fall into what the Committee is calling the 'Enough is Enough' category. Local church and youth groups have been contacted on behalf of three

landowners in an effort to assist them.

Two items were presented to Judicial Committee last month, reported Beane. One resulted in compliance but the other, involving a landowner who did not attend the hearing, resulted in the decision to fine \$25 for each additional violation.

Recreation

Beane said that Halloween was very successful with no major security issues reported and a well-attended community party. He thanked Seven Lakes EMS for providing lighted glow sticks for trick-or-treaters, and community volunteers for decorating and serving party refreshments.

There are a few openings still available for trail ride reservations during the Thanksgiving holiday, said Beane. Reservations for Christmas week trail rides can be made starting at 9:00 am on December 1. Contact the Stables directly at 673-4738.

Santa Claus will visit the SLLA Children's Christmas Party scheduled for Tuesday, December 8 from 6:00 pm -7:30 pm. Join Santa for fun and refreshments at the North Clubhouse.

Seven Lakes Dance is a youth dance program with over one hundred students, ages three to eighteen. Classes are held nightly at the Community Activ-

ity Center. For more information, contact the SLLA office at 673-4931.

Aerobics classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 8:30 am in the North Clubhouse.

Security

Director Gary Caulk said things have been very quiet around Seven Lakes – except for an incident at his own residence.

Caulk said his house filled with smoke, prompting a call to 911. Within moments, four fire trucks, two rescue vehicles, and thirty to forty firemen arrived. He said his furnace was the cause of the smoke and that some of the firemen took it apart and resolved the problem.

"The response was amazing and I feel very safe," said Caulk.

Other Business

In other business during its Wednesday, November 18 meeting, the SLLA Board:

Thanked the Women of Seven Lakes for decorating the gates and mail houses for the holiday season. Zielsdorf encouraged

all residents to get into the spirit and add their own outdoor light displays.

Heard from Kindsvatter that the Architectural Review Board approved several screened porch renovations and one new roof.

Heard from Kindsvatter that the Beautification Committee recommended additional shade trees are needed at Northside Park. Bids are being solicited in case funds are available in the budget to purchase trees.

Heard from Galford that crack sealing work on community roads will commence in January/ February. Bids for new curbing at the main parking lot will be presented to the Board in December.

Heard from Beane that Sequoia Dam and Longleaf Dam were inspected with no serious problems reported; however, inspections of the other community dams were postponed due to heavy rains.

Heard from Zielsdorf that former SLLA President Dennis Roberts has been asked to chair the Election Committee; a formal appointment was deferred while additional committee members are selected.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30 Navy Bean Soup ♥ Basil Shrimp with Feta Dinner	1 Broccoli Cheddar Soup Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	2 Beef Vegetable Soup ♥ Corned Beef with Cabbage Dinner	3 Mushroom & Wild Rice Soup ♥ Pecan-Crusted Tilapia Dinner	4 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥ Broccoli Manicotti Dinner ♥
7 Poblano Corn Chowder Turkey Meatloaf Dinner ♥	8 Black Bean Soup Chicken Tetrizzini Dinner	9 Creamy Chicken Florentine Soup Beef Enchiladas Dinner ♥	10 Vegetable Soup ♥ Ginger-Soy Salmon Dinner ♥	11 Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo Pork with Cranberry Merlot Sauce Dinner
14 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Salisbury Steak Dinner	15 Goldie's Chili Chicken Piccata Dinner ♥	16 Chicken & Dumpling Soup Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	17 Beef Barley Soup ♥ Crab Cakes Dinner ♥	18 French Onion Soup ♥ Beef Stroganoff Dinner
21 Tomato Florentine Soup ♥ Shepherd's Pie Dinner	22 White Bean Chicken Chili Chicken Parmesan Dinner	23 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Pot Roast Dinner	24 25 CLOSED! Merry Christmas!	
28 Lentil Soup ♥ Bombay Shrimp Curry Dinner ♥	29 Potato Leek Soup Chicken Paprikash Dinner	30 Butternut Bisque ♥ Beef Burgundy Dinner	29 30 CLOSED! Happy New Year!	

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