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Volume 25 Number 14

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

May 14, 2010

## County faces 5% budget cut

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Early this year, the Moore County Board of Commissioners set their goals for the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget: a three to five percent reduction in spending and a tax cut in the property tax rate of up to two cents. County Manager Cary McSwain and his budget committee came close to meeting those goals in draft budget delivered to the Commissioners during their Monday, May 3 regular meeting.

McSwain's budget cuts spending from \$89.4 million to \$84.9 million, a \$4.4 million, or 4.98 percent reduction, despite substantial increases in spending mandated by the state and federal governments.

Though he did not manage to cut taxes in his proposed budget, McSwain did forgo any tax increase, leaving the tax rate

on real and personal property at 46.5 cents per hundred dollars of valuation and the Advanced Life Support levy, which supports the county's Emergency Medical Services efforts, at two cents.

If the Manager's budget stands as presented, some Seven Laker could see a tiny increase in property taxes resulting from an increase in the fire tax rate by two tenths of one cent.

### School, College budgets cut

McSwain's budget fails to fund the full local budget contribution requested by Moore County Schools and Sandhills Community College [SCC], both of which rely on a combination of county, state, and federal funding. Spending on education represents about 36 percent of the county budget.

(See "Commissioners," p. 32)

## Cuts for Cancer



**Stacey King, Angie King, and Ashley Eggen of Salon 7 in Seven Lakes Plaza shopping center are planning to give away lots of haircuts on May 22. The only cost is a donation to the American Cancer Society. See page 12 for details.**

## SLLA may double builders' compliance fees

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Builders may soon face an increased Compliance Fee and, consequently, stiffer penalties for not adhering to Architectural Review Board [ARB] regulations.

Currently set at \$1,500, the Compliance Fee is so low that builders will opt to lose the fee

as a penalty rather than to correct the violation, ARB Director Melinda Scott explained at the Monday, May 3, Work Session of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board.

"The builders are weighing the violation – how much will we lose to do this versus how much will it cost to do that," she said.

Scott recommended doubling the Compliance Fee to \$3,000 and requiring written notification from the builder that failure to comply with ARB regulations could result in the loss of some, or all, of the fee.

President Randy Zielsdorf questioned whether \$3,000 was high enough to serve as an incentive; however, Treasurer

Denny Galford cautioned against raising fees beyond the norm of surrounding communities.

"I want to make sure our rules don't make it unfavorable to construct homes [in Seven Lakes]," Galford said. "There are a number of buildable lots on the Southside that are less favorable. I don't want to create a situation where these lots are never devel-

oped."

Scott responded that the fee is not meant to be punitive, but in place to enforce existing ARB rules and regulations. When a building application is received, ARB provides the builder with a condensed book of all applicable rules.

Continuing her report, Scott (See "SLLA Work Session," p. 30)

The Times, PO Box 468, West End, NC 27376

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# Armed bandits hit Peking Wok after hours

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

A owner and an employee of Peking Wok restaurant in Seven Lakes were held up at gunpoint Monday night, May 11, after closing. Detective Eric Galloway told *The Times* that officers have little to go on in identifying the suspects and encouraged anyone who saw anything that might provide a lead in the case to immediately contact the Moore County Sheriff's Office.

According to an incident report filed by Officer Jesse Robbins, Peking Wok employee Zhong Huang, of Seven Lakes North, was exiting the restaurant through the front door at about 9:30 pm, Monday night, when he was confronted by two African American men, clothed all in black, carrying rifles or shotguns.

After stopping Huang, one of the men entered the restaurant and confronted owner Aiyu Jiang, also of Seven Lakes North, demanding money. The assailants ultimately made off with approximately \$300 in cash, the cell phones of both Huang and Jiang, a drivers license and a credit card. Before leaving the scene on foot, they ordered Huang to remove two twenty-ounce Fanta orange drinks from

the refrigerator and place them in a red backpack.

Both men were described as African American, of thin build and medium height, and were wearing black shirts, pants, shoes, and gloves, with black masks that revealed only their eyes. One carried a black rifle or shotgun; the other a rifle or shotgun with a light-colored wooden stock.

They fled the scene on foot,

traveling toward Lakeway Drive. A police dog followed their trail into The Pinnacle neighborhood in Seven Lakes West, but officers were unable to determine if they had actually entered the neighborhood or circled back through the woods to make their escape.

No other crimes involving sim-

ilarly-clothed suspects were reported Monday night, and Detective Galloway told *The Times* investigators are badly in need of leads. Anyone with information that might be helpful should contact the Sheriff's office immediately, at 910-947-2931.

## Correction

*The Times* reported in our April 30 edition that the Seven Lakes Country Club [SLCC] declined an offer by The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines to purchase the old driving range. While representatives from each side did meet and an asking price was discussed, no offer was ever made — thus no offer was declined.

In the same article, *The Times* also incorrectly reported that a lawsuit spurred by the agreement between SLCC and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association was decided on appeal. In fact, the lawsuit was dismissed on summary judgement in favor of the Club and SLLA, and that ruling was not appealed.

*The Times* regrets the errors.

## CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602, West End, NC 27376, faxed to 888-806-2572, or e-mailed to mail@sevenlakestimes.net.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Deadline
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.

## Help Wanted! Part-Time Reporter

*The Seven Lakes Times*, a community newspaper serving Seven Lakes, Foxfire, McLendon Hills, and West End, is seeking a part-time reporter to cover local government meetings and write feature stories.

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# New dues payment process ruffles feathers

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Change is seldom easy, and changing the way that Westsiders are billed for and pay their landowners dues this year has not been without its difficulties — including more than one irate call to the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] office.

Noting that Board members had received numerous emails from members questioning the

useful, the use of the term created confusion, and we shouldn't have done it."

"It is also unfortunate that I missed the fact that, if you add up the coupons, the total is different from the annual dues. That was a stupid mistake."

"We are at fault, and we should not be quite so defensive," Sikes said. "It is not our job to lecture the membership, but rather to serve the membership."

Paying the \$74.59 per month printed on the coupons results in a twelve month total of \$895.08; SLWLA dues for this year are \$895. Sikes suggested the Association not attempt to repair the problem by

issuing new coupon books.

Community Manager Joan Frost explained to The Times on Wednesday that the annual dues total of \$895 is not evenly divisible by twelve. The budget review made necessary by a negative vote on the budget tightened the window for having coupon books printed and allowed no time for the Board to revisit the fee schedule in order to approve a dues amount that divided neatly into twelve payments.

## Pool passes available after May 15

Frost reported during the work session that pool passes for the upcoming season have been received and will be passed out to landowners next week. The cards have been pre-printed with the lot number and landowners name.

Each landowner card, issued to the two primary owners of the lot, will entitle that person to bring up to four guests to the pool. Landowners who want to bring more than four guests at a time will need to purchase one-day guest passes for five dollars.

"Nanny cards," which will allow nannies and babysitters to bring resident children to the pool, will be available for \$50 for the season.

Both guest cards and nanny cards must be purchased at the Landowners Office during regular business hours. They will not be available from the pool gate attendant.

## Stop Signs on Longleaf?

Safety & Security Director John Hoffmann said he is still seeking input on a proposal to slow speeding on Longleaf Drive by installing stop signs at various intersections. But, aside from a well-thought-out set of comments from one resident, public input has been hard to come

by. He encouraged residents to contact him in the next couple of weeks, before he brings back a proposal to the Board for discussion and a vote.

Hoffmann noted that Seven Lakes West's status as a private gated community with private roads exempts it from federal highway signage standards.

Many private communities use more attractive — though still effective — signage, he said.

## SLLA Stickers will be honored

Noting that he had written a Standard Operating Procedure for access control at the gates, (See "Westside," p. 29)

## West Side Landowners Meeting

5/11

move to a dues payment coupon book and a "lockbox" address for payments, President Ron Shepard explained during the Board's Tuesday, May 11 Work Session that "the lockbox is administratively and financially a smart thing for us to do."

"Lockbox," in this instance, refers to a service offered by a bank, in which the bank accepts and deposits Association receivables, instead of having them first pass through the landowners office.

"This saves us time and money," Shepard said, noting that in past years the SLWLA office staff had to manually tabulate checks received and take the deposit to the bank. "Now the money is put into our account immediately; there's no delay with it sitting in the office."

"As with any new system," Shepard said, there will be a few bugs."

He encouraged landowners who encounter problems with or have questions about the new payment system to contact the office. "But there's no reason for anyone to call in with an ugly attitude and immediately start swearing," Shepard added. "We've instructed the office staff to simply hang up if this occurs."

Though he agreed with Shepard that there is no excuse for landowners calling up and abusing the staff, Treasurer Joe Sikes said the transition to monthly payments mailed to the bank could have been handled better.

"'LockBox' is a bit of jargon," Sikes said, "and, while it may be



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# In memory

**Herbert Charles Kelly, Jr.** died Saturday, May 1.  
He was born in Rochester, NY.

Mr. Kelly was an honorable W.W.II veteran of the United States Navy, serving from 1945 to 1949. He was a member of Our Lady of Americas Catholic Church in Biscoe.

He moved from his home town Rochester, NY; where he resided for over 68 years before retirement and relocating to West End.

He was a career automotive man for over 45 years within the Rochester, NY market.

A funeral Mass was held Friday, May 7, at Our Lady of the Americas Catholic Church. A Rite of Christian Burial followed at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

He was proceeded in death by his wife Virginia, brothers, George, Bill and his sister Rosemary.

Survivors include his sons Daniel of Pittsburgh, PA; Thomas of Olathe, KS; and three grandsons.

Memorials may be made to Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, 2125 Seven Lakes South, West End, NC 27376.

## 7 Lakes Garden Tour

The Seven Lakes Garden Club's 18th Annual Garden Tour will be held on Saturday, June 5, from 9 am – 1:00 pm.

Join the club's annual home garden tour of the area, when seven North, South, and West side local home gardens will be open for your perusal.

There will be a variety of different gardens to see. The garden club is also holding a raffle of theme filled baskets that will be displayed at some homes on the tour.

Participants on the garden tour will have the opportunity to win one of the six baskets available, which include, garden, wine, golf, tea & coffee and more. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each. Directions to the gardens will be available at each of the gates.



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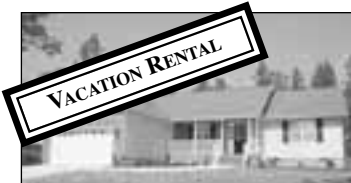
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# Woodland Circle Extension complete . . . almost

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Asphalt paving is complete and erosion control devices have been installed on the Woodland Circle Extension project – but there is a problem.

"Atrocious," is how consultant Tom Collins described the quality of the permanent erosion control, and said there are unanswered questions about the quality of the asphalt.

Addressing the Foxfire Village Council on Tuesday, May 11, Collins recommended withholding payment to the general contractor for the placement and labor expenses of the asphalt until the quality problems are resolved.

"I can't specifically address those problems, because the contractor has not responded," said Collins, also refusing to estimate a completion date of the project because of the lack of cooperation from the contractor.

Collins said he has requested that NC Department of Water Quality be on-site while the work is being completed, since they control final approval over the project.

force.

Councilwoman Page Coker has recommended hiring a third officer to work two ten-hour staggered shifts each week that would allow some police coverage every day of the week.

However, Councilmen Ed Lauer and Vic Koos have

## Foxfire Council Meeting

5/11

expressed skepticism over the ancillary costs to the proposed plan and whether more ongoing coverage is needed.

"I keep hearing about a coverage problem. Another officer will not answer these issues," said Lauer, questioning whether there is actual need to justify the expense.

Several years ago, a previous Council approved and hired a third fulltime officer, but that position has sat vacant for some time.

Responding to a question from a resident, Coker said the posi-

tion was not filled because she was unwilling to fund hiring and then training a new officer. As currently proposed, candidates for the part-time position must be already trained and certified. No benefits would be offered and Coker's recommendation is to fund the position with salary set-aside for the now vacant Zoning Administrator position.

"I want our police officers being seen to prevent crime from happening. I am just being proactive," Coker said.

During public comment, the Council heard from residents in favor of and opposed to hiring additional police officers.

A final decision on the police proposal is anticipated to coincide with approval of the FY 2010-2011 Budget. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 8 at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

### Public Safety

Trying to be as lenient as possible while providing Foxfire Village with necessary protection for liability, Coker presented a proposed Golf Cart ordinance.

In summary, the ordinance

would require golf carts to be operated only on public roads with a speed limit not greater than 35 mph, by a licensed driver. Golf carts may cross but not drive on Hoffman or Richmond Roads, and must adhere to all traffic flow patterns and in accordance with all applicable state and local laws. A complete copy of the proposed ordinance can be obtained on the website at [www.foxfirenc.com](http://www.foxfirenc.com)

West End Fire & Rescue received grant funding that will allow for installation of a two-hour firewall in the sleeping quarters of the Foxfire Fire Department. Once in place, the facility will be staffed 24/7.

"Nothing could have come at

a better time with the calls we've been receiving," said Coker.

Responding to a rumor that Foxfire Police provided a Village resident with transportation to the airport, Coker said that Foxfire Police have not and will not ever provide transportation while on duty.

"When they are off-duty and use their own time, just like anyone else they can take anyone anywhere in their own personal vehicle," said Coker.

### Water

Despite a wet Winter, Lauer reported that eight North Carolina counties are already in drought conditions and said that Foxfire

(See "Foxfire," p. 27)



**Terry McLean**  
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### Adequate police coverage?

With money available in the current budget, but no set future funding or plan in place, members of the Foxfire Council continued to spar over a proposal to hire a part-time officer to supplement the existing two-man



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# Citizens turn out for forum on incorporation

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

About one hundred citizens turned out for a Thursday, May 6, forum convened by IncorporateSevenLakes.com that featured guest speaker Kara Millonzi, Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government, at the University of North Carolina's School of Government. Millonzi is one of the authors of Incorporation of a North Carolina Town, the bible on the incorporation process in the state.

After a brief introduction by Northsider Randy Merritt, one of the founders of IncorporateSevenLakes.com, most of the meeting was devoted to an extensive question and answer session.

## Why incorporate?

Why incorporate Seven Lakes? "We are trying to accomplish for the gated communities what they can't accomplish for themselves," Merritt said. "To keep from being annexed by the nearby towns of Pinehurst and Foxfire."

"Some say that Pinehurst and Foxfire aren't knocking at our door," Merritt continued. "If they aren't planning to extend their borders, then why are they making annexation agreements between the two of them?"

Merritt noted that the Pinehurst Village limits are just slight-

ly more than three miles from what would become the town limit of Seven Lakes. If a new town wants to incorporate within three miles of the limits of an existing town, the existing town has to pass a resolution supporting the incorporation.

By incorporating now, Seven Lakes can "prevent prevent intrusion by anyone else forever," Merritt said. "We can control our own destiny."

"Right now we have no legal voice with the county," he continued. "We don't have a seat at the table. We don't have a say right now."

Among other advantages of incorporation, Merritt cited:

- The ability to use a municipal zoning ordinance and extra-territorial jurisdiction to control development within and around Seven Lakes.
- The opportunity to access some, though not all, streams of revenue that the state shares with municipalities.
- The ability to use that revenue to improve streets in the business area.
- The opportunity to apply for state and federal grants available to municipalities.

"We want to try to keep the government of Seven Lakes small," Merritt said.

Speaking of IncorporateSevenLakes.com, Merritt said, "We

aren't the people who are going to be running the town. You are going to be the elected officials. You are either going to be those people or elect those people."

## Questions

With that introduction, Merritt opened the floor to questions, which were fielded by Merritt,

from incorporating, if you meet the requirements in the statute."

"The issue with the gates is funding streams from the state," she continued. "The General Assembly made a determination that they don't want to encourage gated communities to incorporate." To discourage that, they took away certain streams

said.

Millonzi noted that an area can incorporate only if it can persuade its NC Senator and/or Representative (in this case, Harris Blake and Jamie Boles) to introduce a bill in the General Assembly incorporating the town.

Marks said both Blake and Boles attended the first organizational meeting of IncorporateSevenLakes.com and expressed their willingness to work with the community on the process.

"The only thing I can tell you is if your local representatives want to support incorporation, it will happen, no matter what," Millonzi said. "If they don't want it to happen, then it won't happen."

"Ultimately, it is really in the hands of your local representatives."

Q. *If we took down the gates, would the lakes still be private?*

Millonzi. "If they are currently (See "Incorporation," p. 22)

## Second Incorporation Forum

IncorporateSevenLakes.com has scheduled a second forum on incorporation for Monday, May 17 at 7:00 pm in the West End Elementary School gym. The focus will be on the proposed charter, how voting would be handled in the Town of Seven Lakes, and the scope of town zoning.

IncorporateSevenLakes.com's Darrell Marks, and UNC Professor Millonzi.

## Incorporating with gates

Q. *The folklore around here was you can't incorporate and keep the gates.*

Millonzi. "The fact that you are gated doesn't prevent you

of state-shared revenue for communities that have most of their road mileage behind gates, including proceeds from the sales tax and franchise tax.

"The General Assembly discourages the incorporation of gated communities by withholding the carrot, but it doesn't prohibit incorporation," Millonzi



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# Another \$1 million in budget cuts for MCS

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Faced with a proposed three percent reduction in the local schools budget request, a \$1.1 million loss of state funding and the potential for \$1.7 million more in state cuts, Superintendent Dr. Susan Purser presented a grim report to the Moore County Board of Education on Monday, May 10.

County Manager Cary McSwain's proposed budget recommendation to the County Commissioners fully funds anticipated increases to open and operate the two new school facilities and the state-mandated increases to the retirement and health insurances rates, but cuts the rest of the schools budget by three percent. The result is a \$26.3 million local schools budget, which is \$604,000 over last year's request, but still falls over one million short of the original \$27.4 million MCS asked for.

Purser expressed frustration, stating that the schools have already absorbed considerable cuts at the state level over the past two years and have made considerable efforts to incorporate responsible ways to reduce expenses.

In 2007-2008, Moore County Schools lost \$1.2 million in state reversions, and then another \$2.5 million in cuts in 2009-2010, which resulted in the loss of fifty positions. This year the school has been told to anticipate another \$1.1 million in state cuts, with the potential of another \$1.7 million in reductions.

"In the time period since 2007-2008 to now, we have dealt with \$4.8 million in cuts. This is an ongoing loss that we experience," said Purser.

Anticipating the loss of \$5.2 million in Federal stimulus funding next year, Purser estimated a potential combined revenue reduction of \$11.7 million, representing a 10.7 decrease — or, put more simply, the equivalent of the entire staff of four or five county schools.

Purser's said the budget proposal by McSwain reduced current expenses by \$727,341 and the local capital outlay by \$22,018. She said during last year's budget process, the county had promised \$400,000 in interest earned on proceeds from the sale of education bonds.

With that interest money eliminated from the proposed budget, Purser said, total county funding had been reduced by \$1,149,359.

When combined with state cuts, she said, Moore County Schools are looking at a combined loss of \$2.6 million in next year's budget.

"We are looking at how we can adapt to these numbers with minimal impact on positions. Our first priority is always classroom teachers," said Purser. "We will be doing everything possibly can that we do not lose sight of the most important people in Moore County — and that is the children."

Longtime Board Member Sue Black also expressed concern about losing more positions.

"We have to be realistic. We can't let go of bus drivers. We can't let go of cafeteria workers. Pretty soon you're going to make it to the classroom," she said.

A Public Hearing on the proposed budget will be heard by the County Commissioners on Monday, May 17 at 6:00 pm, in the Historic Courthouse in Carthage.

## 2009-2010 Budget amendments

Anticipated increases of \$96,000 were received from the state, for an amended state budget of \$59,119,798, reported Finance Director Mike Griffin. In addition, an \$87,000 increase received from Federal Impact Aid amended the local current fund from \$28,695,000 to

\$28,782,000. One hundred percent of Federal Impact Aid is used for technology expenses.

"We are consistently and constantly looking at ways to stretch our resource dollars. We are really being frugal and trying to get the most out of the resources we have," said Griffin.

He reported that the state budget is ninety-three percent spent and the local budget is sixty-eight percent spent, explaining that state resources are strategically spent first, allowing any savings to be reaped by the local current fund.

## Other Business

In other business on Monday, May 10, the Moore County Board

of Education:

- Reappointed George Little by acclamation to serve as Trustee to Sandhills Community College Board for Moore County Schools.

- Heard from Deputy Superintendent Dr. Larry Upchurch that interior finish work is underway at West Pine Elementary School and the lift station is nearing completion.

- Heard from Dr. Robin Moore of Communities in Schools [CIS], that the Compass Program at Southern Middle School is currently providing recruitment and training for 110 mentors. Adult volunteers are needed and must commit to serve one hour per week.

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# Congratulations to the Class of 2010!



**Dylan Lucas Cole**

Pinecrest High School  
Southern Pines, NC

Dylan is the son of Richie and Rhonda Cole of Jackson Springs. He is the grandson of Paul & Betsy Cole of Jackson Springs, & Ronald and Ethel Gordon of Raeford. A member of the Varsity Soccer Team, all conference & all region soccer player. He will attend Wingate University and play soccer.



**Colleen Anne Fleming**

Pinecrest High School  
Southern Pines, NC

Colleen is the daughter of Mark and Mary Lou Fleming of Seven Lakes.

Her grandparents are Fred and Dorothy Seufert of Seven Lakes.

Colleen will attend North Carolina State University to study Biology.

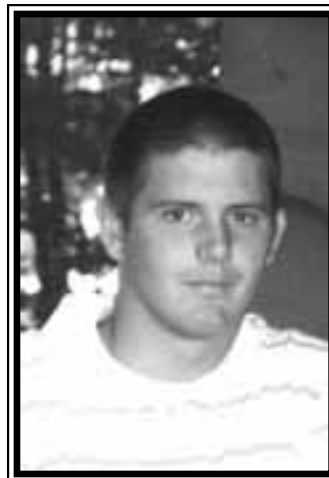


**Kelly Elizabeth Godwin**

Pinecrest High School  
Southern Pines, NC

Kelly is the daughter of Dr. Pete and Mary McKay of Derby. Her grandparents are John and Nancy Kinane of Foxfire & Walter and Clara Moorman of Fayetteville.

Kelly was a member of the National Honor Society. She will attend North Carolina State University.



**Thomas Guy**

Asheboro High School  
Asheboro, NC

Thomas is the son of Steve & Lisa Guy of Asheboro. His grandparents are Joanne & Tom Guy and Mary & Tom Snead all of Seven Lakes. He was a member of Young Life & Campaigners, football & track, Habitat for Humanity, & received the R. Grimsley Award for Athletics. He will attend UNC-Chapel Hill.



**Charlotte Page McDonald**

Pinecrest High School  
Southern Pines, NC

Charlotte is the daughter of Carol McDonald of Seven Lakes & Angus McDonald of West End. The granddaughter of Gilbert & Maxine Matthews. She participated in theatre & yearbook; editor of the year book, active in West End Presbyterian Church. She will attend University of Kentucky.

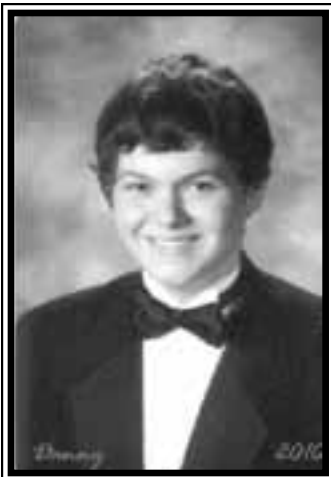


**Brooke McLean**

Pinecrest High School  
Southern Pines, NC

Brooke is the daughter of Terry and Audra McLean of Foxfire Village.

She will be attending the University of North Carolina-Charlotte in the Fall.



**Daniel Joseph Rabstajnek**

Pinecrest High School  
Southern Pines, NC

Daniel is the son of Joe and Heidi Rabstajnek of Seven Lakes North.

He received a AP Scholar of Honor.

Daniel will attend North Carolina State University College of Engineering.



**Anne Merritts Smith**

Lee Christian School  
Sanford, NC

Anne is the daughter of Joe Leggett and Kelly Smith of Seven Lakes North and Danny Smith of Sanford.

She is the Valedictorian of her graduating class.

Anne will be attending Sandhills Community College this Fall.



**Aric Jordan Speziale**

Great Bridge High School  
Chesapeake, VA

Aric is the son of Ron Jr. and Vicki Speziale of Chesapeake, VA and is the grandson of Ron Sr. and Patty Speziale of Seven Lakes West.

Aric will attend ECU in the Fall as the walk-on kicker and punter for the Pirates football team.



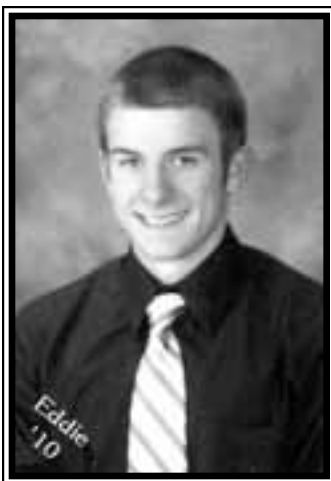
**Carl Nathan Thomas**

North Moore High School  
Robbins, NC

Carl is the son of Robert and Delores Thomas of Eagle Springs. His grandparents are Beatrice Stutts & the late Roy Stutts of Eagle Springs, Dolores Thomas the late Demetrius Thomas of West End. He graduated with honors, a member of SGA, FCS, FBLA, KEY & Beta. He will attend NC State University.



# Congratulations to the Class of 2010!



**Edward G. Walden III**  
Bowling Green High School  
Bowling Green, OH

Edward is the son of Edward G. and Andrea J. Walden of Bowling Green. His grandparents are Bill and Ginny Taylor of Seven Lakes North. He was a member of the varsity cross country and golf teams.

Edward will attend Bowling Green State University.

## Missing Grad? We still want 'em!

It's not too late to get your grad in *The Times*! We'll have plenty more grads in our May 28 issue.

To make sure your grad is included, get us the following by May 21: a photo of the grad, full name, name and location of school, degree, names of parents, grandparents, or other Seven Lakes/West End/ McLendon Hills/Foxfire connection, something about the grad's next big step in life (college, job, etc.) and anything else you think brag-worthy.

If you include your mailing address, we'll mail your photo back to you.

See the box on page 2 for our address, location, phone number, fax number, e-mail address, etc.



**Kathryn Grace D'Angelo**  
University of Buffalo  
New York

Kathryn is the daughter of Joseph and Mary D'Angelo.

She is the granddaughter of Duncan and Grace Tutton of Seven Lakes West.

Kathryn received her degree in Law. She lives in Clarence, NY.



**Mary Ellen Seeling**

Nebraska Wesleyan University  
Nebraska

Mary Ellen is the daughter of Bruce and Patricia Seeling of St. Charles, MO and the granddaughter of Pete and Barb Murphy of Seven Lakes North.

She received a BS in Biopsychology. She will pursue a Masters degree in Forensic Science.



**Travis J. Shute**  
Elon University  
Elon, NC

Travis is the son of Sally and Bruce Shute of Seven Lakes North.

He received a Bachelor of Science of in Biology.

Travis plans to continue on with his education.



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# Planning Board approves West Pine modulars

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Three modular classroom units will be added to the West Pine Middle School campus, as approved by the Moore County Planning Board on Thursday, May 6.

With a current enrollment of 828 students and 74 employees, the proposed units will not increase student capacity but will be used for new academic programming.

The three units, which were recycled from another Moore County elementary school campus that recently underwent expansion, will be located behind the school facility, and existing playgrounds, lighting and buffering will not be affected.

## Woodworking approved

A conditional use permit to allow woodworking on two adjoining Seven Lakes Business Village parcels received unanimous approval.

Currently vacant and undeveloped, the two lots total .69 acres and are located at 140 Auman Road, approximately 400 feet from its intersection with Trade Street.

As approved, no outdoor storage will be allowed and a six-foot privacy fence will be erected along all property lines.

The applicant, Chris Koltyk, is the director of Moore County's Geographic Information Systems Department and has served

as the interim director of Moore County Planning and Community Development.

## Home Occupations

Looking to increase flexibility in the approval process required for property owners to own and operate a business from their home, the Planning Board engaged in a lengthy discussion of amendments to the ordinance that would address some of the more unique requests for land use that have been raised over the last few years.

Using recommendations developed by Planning staff, the proposed ordinance reclassifies home occupations into two categories: normal home occupations and intensive home businesses.

Normal home occupations are limited to 25% of the gross floor area of the principal structure and allow for only one fulltime non-occupant employee.

Intensive home businesses must maintain the residential

character of the neighborhood and are limited to 50% of the gross floor area of the principal structure. More than one non-resident employee is permitted and a buffer must sufficiently screen the home from any adjoining properties. Accessory structures must be located in the rear yard at least 50 feet from any adjoining property or right of way.

Member Rodney Pickler said that any decisions on the Table of Uses, which stipulates what type of businesses are allowed and under which classification, would have major implications on future home-based business opportunities in the county.

Following his recommendation, the Board scheduled a Special Meeting to discuss the Table of Uses to be held at 4:00 pm on Thursday, June 10, at the Planning Department offices in Carthage.

## Concerns over language barrier

Member Dave Kinney said he

became uncomfortable at the April meeting of the Planning Board when it became obvious that a language-barrier was preventing unfettered communication with an applicant. He recommended that an interpreter should be available.


Supporting that recommendation, Member Bernard Capstick said he favored using a county-approved interpreter rather than relying on a family interpreter.

Planning Director Joey Raczkowski said that the staff was unaware of the applicant's language issue prior to the April meeting, but agreed that a question or an option to request an interpreter could be added to the standard Planning Department application request documents.

## Other Business

In other business on Thursday, May 6, the Moore County Planning Board:

- Unanimously approved a conditional use permit for an accessory dwelling on a 6.52 acre parcel on Priest Hill Road in Carthage. The property currently has one site-built home and two accessory structures for storage. As approved, the accessory dwelling will utilize a separate existing driveway for access.
- Accepted the resignation of Member Jerry Wilson. In a letter to the Board, Wilson said he was thankful for the opportunity to serve but was resigning due to prior commitments.



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Tuition Registrants: \$99/wk Mon-Fri or \$25/day  
Non-Registrants: \$110/wk Mon-Fri or \$30/day  
Sibling Discount. Reserve Only the Dates You Need!  
Non-Registrants/Drop-Ins Not Guaranteed a Spot.  
All Snacks are Provided! Kids Bring Lunch.  
**Location:** 4139 Hwy 211, Seven Lakes. Just 2 Doors Fr McDonald's! A Non-Denom. Christian-based Facility.

----- Next Parent Date Night is May 15th! -----

# Commissioner Morgan defeated in primary

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

Perhaps the most surprising result of the Tuesday, May 4 primary elections was the defeat of incumbent District III County Commissioner Cindy Morgan of Eagle Springs by newcomer Craig Kennedy of the Robbins area in the GOP contest.

According to unofficial results published by the Moore County Board of Elections, Kennedy, a truck driver for chicken-producer Mountaire Farms, took 53 percent of the vote, versus 47 percent for Morgan, who first joined the Board four years ago. Kennedy, a Moore County native who has held management positions with FedEx, currently faces no opposition in the November

general election.

Turnout for the primary election was very light, with only sixteen percent of eligible voters casting ballots.

In other races, Commissioner Morgan's husband, former NC House Speaker Richard Morgan, failed in his bid to unseat State Senator Harris Blake, with Blake capturing over two-thirds of the votes in the Senate District 22 GOP primary.

Veteran incumbent US Congressman Howard Coble was similarly able to hold off a raft of GOP challengers, winning 54 percent of the primary votes. Incumbent Republican US Senator Richard Burr managed an even more decisive trouncing of his primary opponents, taking

80% of votes cast statewide.

But the Democratic Primary to decide who Burr will face in the fall yielded inconclusive results that will require a runoff between current NC Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, who took 36 percent of the vote statewide, and Cal Cunningham, who claimed 27 percent. Since neither garnered more than 50 percent of the vote, they will face each other in a runoff primary scheduled for June 22.

The presence of seven candidates in a race for three at-large seats on the Moore County Board of Education required a primary election in that race to eliminate one candidate, who turned out to be Thomas Jones. The remaining six will compete again in November.

Among those, the top vote getters were incumbents Dale Frye and Sue Black. But challengers Karen Wicker and Enola Lineberger both collected more

votes than incumbent school board member Pam Thompson.

Turnout in Seven Lakes on election day was better-than-average, at nineteen percent.

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# Salon 7 gears up for 'Cuts for Cancer'

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Drop by Salon 7 on Saturday, May 22 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm for a new 'do' and help fight cancer too!

The 2nd Annual 'Cuts for Cancer' event is sponsored by Salon 7 with help from members of the Bensalem Presbyterian Church. Hair cuts, mini-facials, and brow waxing will be available.

And you surely don't want to miss the Cuts for Cancer Bake Sale featuring delicious homemade goodies, cakes, and cookies – and Ben's Ice Cream! Raffle tickets for gift baskets provided by Salon 7 and Indigo's are currently available and will be sold through May 22 for \$1 each.

Last year's event raised \$4,000 for cancer research, and Salon 7 owner Angie King said she was very proud of that effort

and hopes to better that figure this year.

"All four of my children's grandparents have battled cancer and I'd like to see some progress towards a cure," she said.

King will be assisted by hair stylists Jose Schmidt, Ashley Eggen, and Stacey King, with Brooke Smith providing eyebrow waxing and Gina Reid offering mini-facials using Alouette products.

All proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society. Services will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis and no appointments are needed. Suggested donations are \$25 for a hair cut, \$10 for a mini-facial, and \$10 for brow waxing.

Salon 7 is located in the Seven Lakes Plaza, near the Westside gates. For more information, please call 673-1967.

## NAMI-MC revises Tournament format

Due to circumstances beyond the control of NAMI-MC, they are changing the format of their May 22 Charity Golf Tournament to be held at Little River Golf and Resort.

The tournament will no longer be playing "night golf" but will host the tournament during daylight hours, so the fee has been reduced for the "Out of Darkness . . . Comes Light" Golf Tournament entry fee to \$150 per player.

Golf: registration for golf begins at Noon and a Shotgun Start at 1:30 pm. Dinner and entertainment will be at 6:30 pm in the verandah area of Little River Golf Course.

The tournament entry fee includes: 18 holes of golf, cart with GPS, use of practice range and practice balls prior to play and tournament, an outstanding Southern Style "Pig Pickin'" dinner for one, 10% discount on merchandise in the Little River Golf Shop and a chance to win prizes.

Dinner entertainment will be provided by the "82nd Airborne Division All American Chorus" for everyone's listening pleasure.

There will be a putting contest

at an additional cost of \$10 per ball for all golfers with an opportunity to win \$100 and "Golf Poker" will be available for folks to win outstanding prizes - everything from a gas grill to pottery to name just a few items . . . these additional events are for both golfers and non-golfers.

**Tournament Grand Prize \$500, Closest To Pin Prize - Men \$100, Closest To Pin Prize - Women \$100, Longest Drive Prize - Men \$100, Longest Drive - Women \$100, Putting Contest Prize \$100, Tournament Entry Fee: \$ 150 Per Player, Dinner Only: \$40 Per Person, Putting Contest Only \$10 Per Ball, Golf Poker Cards \$10 Per Card.**

All proceeds benefit the NAMI-MC project, Linden Lodge, which is a home for adults with severe and persistent brain illnesses residing in Moore County.

Get your own foursome of friends and enjoy an all-inclusive competitive golf event at the beautiful Little River Golf and Resort course or just enjoy a delicious meal and delightful entertainment during dinner being served outside overlooking Little River's lighted fountain.

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150 Otter Drive – \$248,000  
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Seven Lakes West

120 James Drive – \$248,000  
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3 Bedroom with Bonus



Seven Lakes North

144 E Shenandoah-\$139,000  
Unique Cute Cottage Near Park  
Brand New Carolina Room



Foxfire Area with Acreage

1650 Jackson Spgs Rd-\$499,000  
Beautiful home with 41+ Acres,  
Shop, Open Fields, Pond, More!



Seven Lakes North

103 Sandy Ridge Rd - \$191,500  
3 BD / 2 BA / Split Plan  
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Reynwood Subdivision

333 Tufts Vista – \$349,000  
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Reynwood Subdivision near Foxfire — 5 to 43 acre tracts

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# Personal service is hallmark of Phoenix Fashions

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Phoenix Fashions is one of Seven Lakes most successful local businesses — though many of their customers have never set foot in North Carolina.

Offering an eclectic and exciting mix of dressy casual ladies fashions and jewelry is just part of the picture. The store also includes two specialty shops that are on-line. RedHattitudes.com offers a fun mix of Red Hat Society wear, and Phoenix Fashions is also home base for Pumpkin Creek Clothing, a very successful line of comfortable knit wear.

"We can sell 'Made in the USA' clothing cheaper by making it ourselves than Walmart can sell 'Made in China' clothes," said owner Darrell Marks, who opened Phoenix Fashions over twenty years ago with his wife, Susan.

"We get something new in every day. We hem for free and we'll make sure what you buy fits before you leave the store," said Marks. "We try to accommodate the customer and offer things that other stores don't," said Marks.

The misses dressy casual shop is the largest and most

visible store element at Phoenix Fashions. Carrying popular lines such as Focus Fashion and Erin London, Susan Marks said she focuses on items that she knows her customers will appreciate.

"I avoid the junior look, preferring classic fashions," said Susan Marks. "I try to make sure I have something for everyone and once I know your style, I can help pull items in the store that I think you'll like. We can provide personal service and the time to help you shop for the things you need."

Scarves remain a popular accessory this year, said Marks, as well as both long and short skirt lengths. In addition to clothing, Phoenix Fashions offers jewelry and purses to complement any outfit.

Pumpkin Creek Clothing is the Marks' website-based wholesale to the public business offering thirty basic knit styles - everything from tank tops to turtlenecks, shorts, pants, skirts and dresses. Most tops are priced under \$8 and most bottoms under \$15. While items in the store are less expensive than the same featured on-line, Marks said, either way, their prices can't be beat.

"Our internet business has consistently gone up 40% each year the last three years. This continues to be a growth area even though our basic out-the-front-door sales are flat and have been for last two years," said Marks.

RedHattitudes is the Marks' other specialty shop within the shop that is also on-line. Marks said he particularly enjoys the Red Hat ideal. He calls it feminism for women over fifty.

"It means that you're entitled to have a day to kick back, dress silly, and have some fun. I've never meet a lady in red hat and a purple dress that was not looking to have fun," said Marks.

While Red Hattings is not as popular as it once was, Marks said their store has a solid reputation and a loyal following of red-hatted customers.

In addition to ladies wear, Phoenix Fashions also offers fabric and sewing supplies, trims

and buttons.

An active member of the Seven Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, (See "Phoenix," p. 15)



Susan & Darrell Marks of Phoenix Fashions

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# Eastwood Country Diner is ready to serve

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

'Hop the fence and come on in,' is the rallying call for the newly reopened Eastwood Country Diner.

The all-you-can eat lunch buffet features fried chicken and a daily special, plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables, a salad bar, and dessert – all for \$6.95 plus

drink. Daily specials include Monday meatloaf, Tuesday chicken & dumplings, Wednesday country-fried steak, Thursday Boston butt, Friday turkey breast, and Sunday roast beef. Fried chicken and hot and cold desserts are always included on every buffet. Or you can order off the Eastwood Country Diner menu of light sandwiches, salads,

and hamburgers

On Friday nights, don't miss the all-you-can-eat seafood buffet featuring fried catfish flounder, fried shrimp, clam strips, hush puppies, and their famous fried chicken, veggies, salad bar and dessert – for \$9.95 per person or \$11.95 with fried oysters included.

Located at 795 Hwy 73, Eastwood Country Diner reopened for business on April 1 under new ownership with Moore County native Hollie Rodgers overseeing the restaurant with help from her parents, Johnny and Hope Maness.

"Having our own restaurant is something we've always talked about," said Rodgers. "A lot of people already know us for our fried chicken and buffet."

In addition, Rodgers said she works hard to incorporate fresh produce from local farms onto their buffet, either as fruit in a dessert or a vegetable dish.

Eastwood Country Diner has two large dining rooms decorated with local art and space is

available for private parties. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 2:00 pm for lunch, and Friday dinner from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, and

Sunday from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Visit the Eastwood Country Diner's Facebook fan page for daily specials or call 215-8189.



Hollie Rodgers and her father Johnny Maness have reopened the Eastwood Country Diner.

## NC Open Water Swim

The NC Open Water Swim will be held on Friday, June 4 and Saturday, June 5 on Lake Echo.

The dam at Echo will be closed on June 4, 3:30 - 6:30 pm and on June 5, 6:30 am - 4:00 pm.

You can find more info on the event at [www.sandshark.org](http://www.sandshark.org)

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# WUNC-TV GM speaks at Seven Lakes Kiwanis

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

On Tuesday, May 4, the Seven Lakes Kiwanis was host to Tom Howe, the Director and General Manager of UNC-TV.

Howe's career spans almost 40 years in Public Television, and he has worked in several locations from coast to coast.

He has been at UNC-TV since 1992, and currently oversees a yearly budget of \$27.7M. Forty-five percent of that budget comes from the State of NC, and another

ten percent comes from the Federal Government.

That leaves forty-five percent that must be raised from the public, and the reason why its annual fund raising effort is so vital to the survival of this Public TV station.

Interestingly, Howe has been able to determine that ninety-three percent of the viewers are non-contributors.

One of its more successful programming efforts is directed at children. Eighty-five percent of preschoolers watch the chil-



WUNC-TV's Tom Howe

dren's programs — but the kids probably don't contribute too much!

Keeping up with the constantly evolving technology of our day is a major challenge for the station, not only from the basis of the technical challenges but, perhaps even more difficult, is to stay abreast of the needs and choices of the younger generation.

The Federal Communications Commission controls the spectrum of frequencies available to anyone who is transmitting, and

if someone new enters the field, it is not uncommon that transmitting time is made available to a newcomer by taking away time from other existing operations.

Howe stated that for that reason, there is the possibility that at some point in the future, there could be a charge to the viewer each time the TV is turned on. Wow, what a thought.

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

Visitors are always welcome.

## Phoenix

(Continued from page 13)

Lakes Business Guild, Darrell Marks is also one of the leading proponents of the Incorporate-SevenLakes.com petition drive and said that he firmly believes in his business motto that if you give a little of yourself every day, then the community will build your business.

"We have worked hard to grow our business and also to make Seven Lakes more beautiful by adding trees to our property lines and putting in flower boxes," he said. "Adding visual appeal to our business adds to the total value of the community. It's not just a matter of giving back — it's just a matter of sharing what the community gives you."

Phoenix Fashions is open Monday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm, and Sunday 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm. For more information, call 673-5998 or visit on-line at [www.redhattitudes.com](http://www.redhattitudes.com) and [www.pumpkin-creekclothing.com](http://www.pumpkin-creekclothing.com)

Seamus

Murphy sez:



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# WSL Names Betsy Mikula 'Citizen of the Year'

Betsy Oliver Mikula, a twenty-two year resident of Seven Lakes West, was recognized by the Women of Seven Lakes as the 2010 Citizen of the Year for her extraordinary volunteer contributions to the entire community.

A computer guru, Mikula has helped many residents solve thousands of problems without compensation. Using those same technical skills, she compiles and edits the Seven Lakes West newsletter and website, and assists the Women of Seven Lakes with publicity.

Mikula is also very active at her church and was instrumental in helping to build the beautiful, new facility for Our Lady of the Americas Catholic Church, in Candor.



*Betsy Oliver Mikula - Citizen of the Year*

## Lions Golf Tournament

The Seven Lakes Lions Club will hold their 13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Sunday, June 6 at Seven Lakes Country Club.

Shotgun start 1:30 pm, with Caption's Choice with 4 Person Teams (teams may be men, women or couples)

Hole-In-One prizes, \$10,000 cash, Taylor made Golf clubs, 5 day/4 night vacation package.

Raffle Prizes will include Golf equipment, free rounds of golf at area Golf Courses, meals at local restaurants, and many other prizes from local merchants. Closest to the pine prize on a Par 3 Hole.

Cost for the tournament is \$70 per golfer, that includes a buffet dinner served at the conclusion of the tournament.

Proceeds from this tournament will support the Lions continuing programs for the Blind, Sight Impaired and Hearing Impaired.

Make checks payable to Seven Lakes Lions Club, PO Box 841, West End, NC 27376  
Deadline for registration is June 1.

Want to play and don't have a foursome? Call Pro Roberts at 673-1092. Questions call Lion Bill Seldomridge 910-673-3083 or cell 910-690-9500.

## NAMI-MC Support Groups

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)-Moore County moves to new meeting place. NAMI-MC will now hold its monthly meetings at the Community Room located in the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Specialty Clinic Building, located at the corners of Memorial Drive and Page Street, Pinehurst.

Educational/Support Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm. All meetings and programs are free and open to the public. For information call (910) 295-1053 or go to [www.nami-moorecounty.org](http://www.nami-moorecounty.org)

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**SATURDAY, MAY 15**

- **Pinecrest Speech and Debate Team Third Annual Yard Sale** – 7 am until 1 pm, at the Boy Scout Hut on 10 Community Rd, Pinehurst. Multi-family yard sale, proceeds will benefit the team. Donations always welcome.
- **Mixed Paper Recycling Drive** – 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, at the Kangaroo Station in the Fresh Market Shopping Center, Southern Pines. Acceptable items include anything that is paper. Contact Joan Neal, Executive Director, Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. at 947-3478 or by e-mail at jneal@moorecountync.gov.
- **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.

**SUNDAY MAY 16**

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Sunday Eucharist. Rev. Robert Brown, Vicar, 7th Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension Day). 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. Seven Lakes. All are Welcome.
- **McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church** – 11:00 am, a celebration of the 8th Anniversary of McDonalds Chapel's chartering as a particular Presbyterian church. Bring a friend or neighbor to the worship and enjoy a covered dish meal following the service. The service will revolve around favorite hymns of the congregation. McDonalds Chapel is located on Foxfire Road 2 miles from Pinehurst and 1.5 miles from Foxfire Village.
- **Moore County Republican Party** – hosting a "Conservative Unity Picnic" 12 noon to 4

pm, at Cannon Park, Pinehurst. All Republicans, Independents, TEA Party members and families are most welcome. Family fun, food, entertainment and voter registration available. \$15 per adult,



## What's When Calendar

\$10  
per

active military member and spouse and \$7 per child 12 yrs. and under. Tickets available picnic.

- **McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church** – 4 to 6 pm. Join the Acoustic Music Circle in the Fellowship Hall for their closing session. Bring a friend to share in some great toe tapping music. Located on Foxfire Road 2 miles from Pinehurst & 1.5 miles from Foxfire Village.
- **Belford Baptist Church** – 4 pm, hosting a 100 Women in White Celebration. Guest speaker is Apostle Louise Baker from Temple of Prayer, Praise and Deliverance, Inc. of High Point. Located 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.

**MONDAY, MAY 17**

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

**TUESDAY, MAY 18**

- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. Intercessory Prayers

for the sick or troubled, in harms way, traveling, or deceased. Rev. Carol Burgess, Deacon, Program Leader Bette Hanham. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. Seven Lakes. All are Welcome.

- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – luncheon and meeting, check in time 11:30 am and meeting starts at 11:45 am, featuring a report from Robert R. Wittmann, the Director of the Moore County Heath Department. Public welcome, with a reservation. At the Table on the Green Restaurant, in Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Drive. Lunch must be reserved, call Charlotte Gallagher at 910-244-9611, by May 14. Cost of the lunch is \$12. A check, payable to LWVMC, is the preferred method of payment.

**THURSDAY, MAY 20**

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 1:30-6:00 pm, Grace Church, 1519 Luther Way at the second entrance on Murray Hill Rd., Southern Pines. For an appt call 692-8571. Give the Gift of Life.
- **Seven Lakes Forum** – 4:00 pm, West Side Park Community Center. Guest speaker Trey Waters, pharmacist and owner of the Prescription Shoppe in Seven Lakes and Aberdeen. He will address the topic entitled *Are We Being Over Medicated?* All women and men from Seven Lakes, and their guests, are invited to attend. For more information,

contact Bill Mamel 673-8970.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5 to 8 pm. \$10 for six wines and food from Goldie's. Located in Seven Lakes Plaza next to Peking Wok.
- **Rufus Barringer Civil War Round Table** – 7 pm. Guest speaker Susy Barile of Cary. Ms. Barile will discuss her new book, "Undaunted Heart: The True Story of A Southern Belle and a Yankee General." Barile is the great-great granddaughter of the books subjects, Ella Swain Atkins and General Smith Dykins Atkins. At the Southern Pines Civic Club, corner of Ashe Street and Pennsylvania Ave, Southern Pines. New members and



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- **Moore County Amateur Radio Society (MOCARS)** – monthly meeting, 7 pm, at Moore County Emergency Operations Center, 105 W. Saunders Street, Carthage, lower level. Meeting includes reports from support of the Dressage in the Sandhills horse show, the Boy Scouts Camporee and focus on the annual Field Day and club picnic June 26 & 27. Contact Charles Wackerman 910-947-2707 for testing and course details. Information contact James Johnson, PIO, 910-400-3019

### SATURDAY, MAY 22

- **Community Shred Event** – 9 am to 12 pm, at the Moore County Sheriff Department, Back Parking Lot, 105 Dowd Road, Carthage. Bring your personal papers for free, confidential shredding by a mobile shredding truck. For more information call (910)947-1784 x220.
- **Cooking with Carmela** – 1 pm at West Side Park Community Center. Spring and Summer Vegetarian Dishes: Using the Produce of the Local Farm Markets. Carmela Chase with Kathy Menendian, and Marjorie Nurnberg will be making creative dishes using local fruits and vegetables of the season. Sampling of recipes will follow the program. Cost \$12.50 per person. Call West Side Park Community Cen-

ter to register at 673-5314.

- **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.
- **NAMI-MC Members and Friends Golf Tournament** – “Out of Darkness . . . Comes Light” Golf Tournament entry fee \$150 per player. Golf: registration at noon, Shotgun start 1:30 pm. Dinner and entertainment 6:30 pm at Little River Golf Course. Tournament fee includes: 18 holes of golf, cart with GPS, use of practice range and practice balls prior to play and tournament, an outstanding Southern Style “Pig Pickin” dinner for one. [www.NAMI-MooreCounty.org](http://www.NAMI-MooreCounty.org) or Betsy Faulkner, 910-215-1053.
- **Pinecrest Spring Choral Concert** – 7:00 pm, “Down in my Soul” and silent auction. Held at Pinecrest High School, Robert E. Lee Auditorium. Silent auction 1 hour prior to concert. Tickets available \$6 adults and \$4 students and senior citizens.

### SUNDAY, MAY 23

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Sunday Eucharist. Rev. Fred Thompson, Priest Associate. Pentecost. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. Seven Lakes. All are Welcome.
- **Foxfire Golf Club & Back Pack Pals** – 10:30 am, Everyone is invited to attend, play,

support, and participate in the Second Annual Back Pack Pals Golf Challenge at Foxfire Golf Club. Information: <http://www.golfdigestplaner.com/14874-The-DugansPubChalleng/index.html> or [www.duganspub.net](http://www.duganspub.net)

- **Pinecrest Spring Choral Concert** – 7:00 pm, “Down in my Soul” and a silent auction. Held at Pinecrest High School, Robert E. Lee Auditorium. The silent auction 1 hour prior to concert. Tickets \$6 adults and \$4 students and senior citizens.

### MONDAY, MAY 24

- **Women of Seven Lakes - Social Crafters** – Year end luncheon, at Little River Country Club at 12 noon. Meet at the North Clubhouse at 11:30 am to car pool. All Women of Seven Lakes are invited. Reservations are needed. Call Ginnie 673-5150 or Robbie and 673-4090.
- **Sandhills Natural History Society** – 7 pm, Potluck: Bring your favorite dish and a natural history item or no more than five photos to share with everyone. Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines. Visitors welcome. Call 910-692-2167 or [www.sandhillsnature.org](http://www.sandhillsnature.org).

### TUESDAY, MAY 25

- **Healing Service** – 11:30 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. Intercessory Prayers for sick or troubled, in harms way, traveling, or deceased. Rev. Carol Burgess, Deacon. Program Leader Paula Hill. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 10-2:30 pm, FirstHealth Fitness Center, 170 Memorial Dr., Pinehurst. Appt call 715-1800. Give the Gift of Life.
- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association** – 7 pm, General meeting, at West Side Park Community Center.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 1:30-6:00 pm, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 340 S. Ridge St., Southern Pines. Appt. call 692-8571.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7:30 pm, General meeting, at Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

### FRIDAY, MAY 28

- **WEUMC Spaghetti Dinner** – 5 pm - 7 pm, men's famous Spaghetti dinner. Dine in or take out. Tickets \$7 each. Spaghetti, salad, roll, drink, & dessert. For tickets call Stu Chase 673-2635.

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## 7 Lakes Lions offer vision screenings on June 5

Area residents will be offered free eye screening when the North Carolina Lions' "See the 21st Century Van" will be in Seven Lakes on Saturday, June 5. This \$25,000 state of the art mobile screening unit will provide screening for visual acuity and a variety of eye diseases and disorders.

Some of these maladies can have serious consequences and often provide no warning symptoms. Early detection is the mission of the van and may prevent the loss of sight.

The van will be in the Seven Lakes Food Lion parking lot from 9 am to 3 pm. Residents of all ages are welcome, persons under 18 must have a parent or guardian provide written consent for the screening.

The van is owned and operated by the Lions of North Carolina through the North Carolina Lion Foundation. It travels though out the state visiting communities at the request of local Lions Clubs. The Seven Lakes Lions Club is sponsoring this screening.

The van was purchased in June 1999 with funds raised by individual clubs and grants from Lions Clubs International and the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation. Assistance in equipping the vehicle was provided by the Duke Eye Center.

Since June 1999, more than 78,000 North Carolina residents have been screened and more than 41,000 have been recommended for follow up eye care. In addition, more than 71,000 school children have been screened in their schools.

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# Anton wins national championship

Blake Anton, grandson of Marjorie and Harold Blake of Seven Lakes, brought home the Stars and Stripes cycling jersey from the National Collegiate Cycling Championship this past Mother's Day weekend.

Anton, an Architecture major at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo, CA, won the men's class D-1 event in the three-day cycling meet that brought riders from over

fifty colleges to compete in Madison, WI.

Anton has been racing bikes for nine years and was accompanied to the meet by his mother, Joan Blake Anton. They arrived at Blue Mound State Park around 7:00 am Friday morning for the 72-mile road race in the chilly 42 degree, rainy and gusty weather.

The rain-slicked roadways were made even more treacherous

by leaves and sticks left on the course by the wind.

Anton and his two teammates, Menso de Jong and John Bennett worked out a strategy prior to the race that would have had Anton, thought to be the lesser climber of the group, sacrificing himself in an effort to lead his comrades up the steep inclines. But Anton proved the stronger rider.

The frigid temperatures took their toll, as many riders dropped out of the race. At the finish line, the announcer told the waiting crowd that a two-man break had come off the front of the pack with

about 6 miles to go. The last mile of the course was mostly steep uphill climbs. As the two lead riders approached the finish line, one was Cal Poly rider Blake Anton, passing a Colorado State University rider right at the very end.

At the awards ceremony on Saturday night, Blake received the stars and stripes cycling jersey, identifying him as a US National Champion.

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**Blake Anton crosses the finish line in first place at the National Collegiate Cycling Championships.**

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## Incorporation forum

(Continued from page 6)

privately-owned then they would remain privately owned."

*Q. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission considers Lake Auman public waters within private community. If the roads*

*were public, would the lake become public?*

Millonzi. "If the lake is public now, then the lake will remain

public. If it is privately owned, you can still restrict access."

### Town Services, Powell Bill

*Q. If the community is incorporated, will we have a municipal police department?*

Millonzi. "That is not automatic. The only service you have to provide is building code inspections. The rest is left up to your officers [i.e., town council]. They will determine what services the town would provide, one of which could be police service."

Marks pointed out that, although building inspection is the only service the town is required by statute to provide, in order to access state-shared Powell Bill funds from the gasoline tax, the town must provide four services from a list of eight.

Millonzi. To get state money, you have to do five things: conduct elections, adopt a budget, assess at least a five cent property tax, collect those taxes, and

appropriate funds for at least four of eight services, which can include fire protection, police protection, street lights, street maintenance, street construction, water distribution, zoning, and solid waste management.

"You have to choose four of the eight services to provide, in order to get that pot of money," Millonzi explained. "If you keep your gates, the only pot of money you can get from the state is Powell Bill funds. All the others require you to have a majority of your roads open to the public."

*Q. Can we contract services — hire the sheriff's department to be our police, hire county zoning to do zoning.*

Millonzi. "Yes. The new municipality only has to appropriate funds to pay for the service. All municipalities can provide those services directly or contract with any other entity to provide them."

(See "Incorporation," p. 23)

## Strawberry Margarita Pie

Strawberry season is here! And this pie is a great way to take advantage of the wonderful ripe strawberries available from our local growers.

### Crumb Crust

1 1/2 cup vanilla wafer crumbs  
5 Tablespoons melted butter  
1/2 teaspoon grated lime peel

### Strawberry Filling

1 pound strawberries  
2 limes  
1 can sweetened condensed milk  
2 T. orange liquor or triple sec  
1 cup heavy cream, whipped  
or 2 cups Cool Whip

Prepare crust. Put in pie pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 10 minutes. Cool.

Hull and cut up (if very large) 2 cups strawberries. Reserve remaining for garnish. Grate 1 teaspoon lime peel and squeeze 1 cup juice.

Mix berries, lime peel and juice, condensed milk and liquor until almost smooth.

Transfer to a large bowl.

Fold in 1 cup Cool

Whip or cream into mixture, Pour in crust. Freeze at least 4 hours.

Let stand 10 minutes before slicing.

Mound remainder cream in center and top with strawberries.



from Lucy's  
Kitchen

Lucy Ingram  
Seven Lakes South

## Foxfire tourney will benefit Backpack Pals

Everyone is invited to attend, play, support, and/or participate in the Second Annual Back Pack Pals Golf Challenge at Foxfire Golf Club on Sunday, May 23 at 10:30 am.

This is a great cause and all proceeds go directly to the Moore County BPP Program. This year there are over 700 children and a new Senior Snack Program for home bound seniors to provide for.

If you can join the fun day at Foxfire Golf Resort beverages will be supplied along with lunch, prizes, hole in one contests with a new car.

If you can't make it to this fundraiser, please consider being a sponsor, a Hole sponsor, or donate to the cause. There are many ways to help sponsor or donate.

<http://www.golfdigestplaner.com/14874-The-DugansPubChalleng/index.html> or [www.duganspub.net](http://www.duganspub.net)

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Incorporation forum

(Continued from page 22)

Q. How can the Powell Bill funds be used?

Millonzi. "They are restricted. You can only use those Powell Bill funds to do street and sidewalk repairs, street and sidewalk construction. None could be used on private streets, or county or state-owned streets."

Q. If we have police, how would that be funded?

Millonzi. "You can use property tax to raise funds." Other options include a local vehicle tax of up to five dollars per vehicle, local business taxes (called a "privilege tax"), and various fees, e.g., recreation fees, inspection fees, plat approval fees.

Darrell Marks noted that "every nickel on the tax rate is \$500,000 in town revenue per year."

Q. Within the gated communities, we have fees for new buildings. Can the town charge fees in addition to those?

Millonzi. "Whatever the association charges, they continue to charge. The town fees are over and above."

Q. Why is the tax rate five cents?

Millonzi. "Five cents is the minimum to qualify for state shared revenue. To get Powell Bill funds, you have to have a tax rate of at least five cents per hundred. The maximum is \$1.50. Whether and how often it can be changed depends on what is in your charter. If your charter is silent, then your governing board will need to adopt a property tax rate."

Merritt noted that the proposed Seven Lakes charter includes a five cent tax rate and limits tax increases to five percent per year.

At that rate, "it take fifteen years for that nickel to become a dime," Marks added. "When you have three gated communities, the town should have a small tightly run government."

Q. How much Powell Bill money we are talking about?

Merritt. "We think it will amount to \$100,000 per year."

Q. Where did you come up with the estimate that the proposed town as a billion dollar tax value?

Merritt. "From the Moore County tax department; the billion includes vehicle taxes." He noted that the actual total is \$954,305.

Q. If we incorporate, can we still take our trash to county convenience centers?

Millonzi. "If your new town decides to provide garbage hauling, it can provide that. The Board can mandate that everyone use it. But it doesn't have to do that."

"You can still continue to bring your garbage to the county landfill. The county could charge you

more — as a non-resident. But that doesn't mean they will."

Q. Who writes the charter? How much say do residents have in that?

Merritt explained that he had written the proposed charter, based on studying a number of other town charters, as well as templates provided in the book Millonzi co-authored.

"There's nothing crazy in there," he added, noting that the text could be found on the IncorporateSevenLakes.com website.

Beacon Ridge tourney for Backpack Pals

The fourth Annual Golf Tournament to benefit BackPack Pals, a program of Moore County Schools, will be held on Friday, June 18, at Beacon Ridge Golf and Country Club.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 am, followed by a Shotgun Start at 12:30 pm.

The tournament format will be is Captain's Choice using Hand-

icap.

The Entry Fee is \$65 per person. Corporate sponsorships are \$300 for four, and includes name in program. Hole Sponsorship is \$100.

For an entry form contact Ginger Finney, 673-1330, Jo Nicholas, 673-3604 or Linda Hubbard, Moore County Schools, 947-2342.

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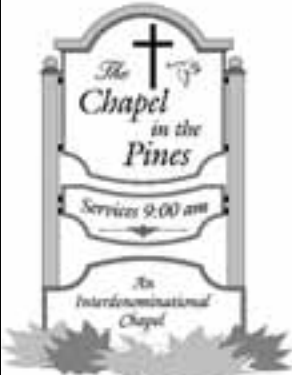
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the morning worship service  
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## Adventures in the Land of Legomaniacs

If you overlook the stray strands of canine fur floating in every corner, the only other million-plus collection in my house would have to be Legos®.

Piles of colored bricks and endless unique creations populate my nest, no matter how many times I scoop them up and point them towards home.

It's almost like they're alive.

If I correctly recall my biology lessons, two of the primary elements that determine life are the ability to grow and reproduce.

Check . . . and check.

Seriously, how else can you

explain the explosion of plastic blocks in my living room, bedroom, even the kitchen? Like a creeping out-of-control weed or maybe an infection, no place is safe from this scourge.

Developed in Denmark in the 1940's, these little interlocking interlopers are officially described as an internationally-appealing toy with an extensive subculture.

That's putting it mildly.

That so-called subculture was front and center last weekend at the LUG/AFOL festival in Raleigh. LUG, as in Lego® User Group and AFOL, as in Adult Fan of

Lego. For simplicity, I'm going to go 'old school' and just call them fans.

Proving that boys and men can bond over more than a fishing line, the massive ballroom was packed to capacity with fans of every age and size. Huge mock-cities and fantasy historical recreations competed for attention against the tips and tricks classes that were held in adjoining conference rooms.

I was more than happy to skip the instructional class on SNOT, BURP, and POOP building techniques: allow me to translate, studs not on top, big ugly rock

piece, and piece of other pieces, but the kids opted in on an interactive mini-figure course.

their MOCs or sig-figs – in less than five minutes.

It was like watching someone speaking in

tongues, or maybe how I must sound when I talk to the dog.

"Biscuit, it's a beautiful day. Do you want to



**Laura's  
Learning Curve**  
Laura Douglass

For sure, my personal highlight was watching the Lego® dude attempt to teach a 100-deep crowd of ten-year-olds how to cut, glue and seal decals onto

go for a walk?"

And now in Lego-ese, "Biscuit, bignette diorama and jumper plate on a custom half-stud offset walk?"

## More public input needed on incorporation

Dear Editor:

I attended the presentation on incorporation Thursday night, and although I went in unsure where I stood on the issue, but after listening carefully, I am now leaning against it. I heard several things that were bothersome:

1. Randy Merritt opened by saying he had heard many comments about the inadequacy of the budget, but not to take it too seriously since it was a work in progress (I can't recall his precise words, but this captures the gist of it). I find this very disquieting since the five cents a hundred is basic to the whole premise, and it is at best disingenuous to

guarantee a tax rate without a good handle on the budget. Since I, among many others, do not believe that their budget is close to realistic, the whole five cents a hundred is called into question. People are signing petitions based on this promise, and I think a better answer is deserved and required.

2. Merritt has written the charter for the new incorporated entity without any input from the community. If we are incorporated, we could wind up having to live with a charter on which we had no input whatsoever. The committee suggested that they could solicit input from the com-

munity on the charter, but I heard no assurance that they intended to do so. Once we are incorporated, it takes an act of the state legislature to change the charter, so the hurdle for change is steep.

He assured us that there was nothing "strange" (his word) in the charter, but limiting the annual tax increase to five percent is in fact quite unusual, as the invited incorporation expert from UNC stated. I know no one likes taxes, but tying the hands of our future governing body by putting such a strict constraint in the charter seems to be a fiduciary irresponsibility (which is

reinforced by the fact that very few communities do it). Further, if monies are needed to meet budgetary requirements, this restriction could force tax assessments above and beyond the tax rate.

3. Apparently, the process by which incorporation takes place is quite flexible. Once the petition is submitted to our state legislator, he can then submit a bill to the legislature to incorporate Seven Lakes, even if only 600 out of over 5000 residents sign the petitions. In other words, we can be incorporated even if the overwhelming majority of residents are opposed! I don't know how likely this is, but it is possible, and scary.

4. The only significant public moneys we can get are Powell funds for the roads, but they cannot be used inside any of the gated communities, so they

do us (the gated communities) no good.

5. The invited expert suggested that there is an impetus in the state legislature to end involuntary annexation (NC is one of the few states that allow it). There is certainly no guarantee, but if that happens, the primary motivation for incorporation — fear of annexation by an outside entity — is removed. We will then wind up with an extra layer of taxes and government bureaucracy for no adequate reason.

For this reason alone, I think any consideration of incorporation is at best premature.

The committee did an excellent job and incorporation may be right, but I think it behooves all of us to understand the consequences before we leap into it.

Mike Shapiro  
Seven Lakes West

**SEVEN  
LAKES  
TIMES**

Published every other Friday for residents & landowners  
of Seven Lakes, Foxfire, & McLendon Hills, NC  
by Seven Lakes Times, LLC, P.O. Box 468, West End, NC 27376  
910-673-0111 • 888-806-2572 (fax) • mail@sevenlaketimes.net

Publishers — Greg Hankins & Tom Hankins  
Editor — Greg Hankins • Layout & Design — Marcy Hankins  
Reporter — Laura Douglass

Founded in 1985 by Seven Lakes Times, Inc.  
J. Sherwood Dunham, Alfred C. Gent,  
William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker

**Letters to the  
Editor**



**Your letters  
welcome!**

The Times welcomes letters from our readers, and we print most all we receive. You will need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached. We accept letters delivered by e-mail, fax, or the US Postal Service. Or you can drop your letter off at our office at 4307 Sevine Lakes Plaza

# People deserve to vote on incorporation

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank the incorporation group for the meeting this past Thursday. The petition is growing in signatures, but the "nay sayers" have an underlying theme. It seems to be "what's it going to do for me?" and "what am I going to get out of it?"

But, if you missed the meeting then you missed a good opportunity to find out. I hope the folks involved will have another get together or you can also read about in on the web site along

with the proposed charter.

By signing the petition, you will be asking the North Carolina Legislature to allow a referendum to let all of us vote as to no or yes on incorporation.

That's something Randy Zielsdorf, Denny Galford, Bud Shaver, and four others did not allow you to do when they gave away over \$75,000 to Fulcher and they did it behind closed doors and under the table.

Or how about the West Side having a large dues increase

shoved on them. Were they allowed to vote?

At least this petition will give us the opportunity to vote yes or no on the issue. Would we have a legal police force? Yes, if the elected town council votes it in. Will we keep our gates? Yes, the town counsel can not do anything to them. Also, having an entity called the Town of Seven Lakes will unite the gated communities and give us more of a voice in county government.

Ask yourself, are any of these things bad?

I hope you will sign the petition and give us the chance to vote, whether you're against it or for it. At least, let us vote!

Do you realize a board can do away with the gates and you can't vote for or against it?

Steve & Mary Hudson  
Seven Lakes North

## Methodist Spaghetti Dinner

The men of West End United Methodist Church will be serving their famous Spaghetti on Friday, May 28, from 5 pm until 7 pm. Dine in or take out tickets are \$7 each. The menu includes spaghetti, salad, a roll, drink, and a dessert.

Proceeds from the dinner will be used to benefit the Ministries of the United Methodist Men. For tickets call Stu Chase at 673-2635.

## Thanks from debaters

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Pinecrest Speech and Debate Team, I wanted to say thank you to all the terrific residents of Seven Lakes West that visited our display in the mail house the week of April 25.

We set up a display of some of the trophies and awards this successful team has won over the years. Several of our team

members qualified for two national tournaments: The Catholic Forensic League Tournament to be held in Omaha, Nebraska on Memorial Day weekend and the National Forensic League Tournament to be held in Kansas City, Missouri the week of June 14.

A couple of our students that are on the team were there informing residents of their team's

accomplishments and selling tickets to an upcoming pancake breakfast at Applebee's restaurant to raise money to help with expenses. We appreciate all the well wishes, those residents that purchased tickets as well as those residents that generously donated.

If anyone wants to learn more about the team, please check out our web site at [www.pinecrest-debate.org](http://www.pinecrest-debate.org).

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Lisa Quinlan  
Fundraising Chairman,  
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#### TIP OF THE MONTH

**Q.** "My attic fan has stopped working. Should I be concerned?"



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for attic fans. If you need your attic fans removed, replaced or repaired, please give us a call!

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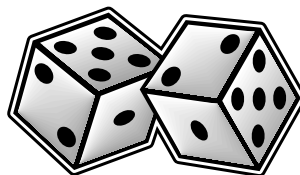


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# Foxfire

(Continued from page 5)

our normal range, but this becomes a high use time, keep in mind the restrictions on watering," cautioned Lauer.

Those restrictions include spray irrigation only between the hours of midnight and 10:00 am, odd numbered properties may water on Mondays and Thursdays, even numbered properties may water on Tuesdays and Fridays. Hand-held and hose end sprinkling is permitted from 6:00-10:00 in the mornings and evenings.

## Streets

With \$40,000 in Powell Bill funds available for road maintenance projects, Koos said using the 2005 ITRE report on Village roads, he inspected and then prioritized problem areas.

Koos expressed frustration over Tom Collins report earlier in the meeting, when he cited quality issues with the pavement contractor.

"The reason they were hired was because they were cheaper and they were already on-site working at Woodland. There was no [prior] communication that there was any unhappiness or problems," he said.

Koos reported that blacktop

work would continue at Pine Top Court, Pine Glen Court, Pine Ridge Court, and along Pine Ridge Drive between those cul-de-sacs.

Shut-off valves along the road that had been previously covered over, were dug-out and risers will be installed to prevent a future occurrence.

Koos said there are more roads in need of repair that will be recommended in the future.

"We couldn't do all the roads we wanted to because we don't have the money. We're doing the best we can," said Koos.

## Wilson ETJ request

The voluntary annexation request of the 750-acre Wilson property into the Foxfire Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ] was approved at the county level, and now returns to Foxfire for review and recommendation by the Foxfire Planning Board. A public hearing will be held prior to final approval.

Located at the corner of Hwy 211 and Hoffman Road, the large rural property includes a tree farm and several permitted uses grandfathered and monitored by the state, including a sand pit, well-drilling equipment repair, and an area for septic tank dump-

Deputy Village Clerk Sharon Sanchez reported for Finance Director Leslie Frusco who was unable to attend.

Combined outstanding prop-

sent to delinquent accounts.

The General Fund stands at \$1,969,241; including \$43,953 in Powell Bill funds, and \$20,974 in the Stonehill Pines account. The

Bank loan payments due in July include \$28,514 from the General Fund, and \$41,144 from the Water Fund.

(See "Foxfire," p. 27)

## Resiliency

Did you ever play in the sand close to the final offering of each wave?

Trying to complete that castle, topped off with the tiny flag you bought, only to have your creation, as well as enthusiasm, dashed by a late arriving, extra exuberant wave?

Life's frustration can begin early, and one or more can seemingly never end until the looming of our own demise. Thank God maturity

sooner or later enters our lives to help assuage such vicissitudes and keep us aligned on an even keel.

So we learn to accept our allotment of setbacks and somehow cope with them.

As even a hospice leaflet I ran across says: "I begin the journey as best I can with the resources I have, and the determination to make it through."

That's what we need to be doing, as a prominent part of our existence. Summon what resources remain.

Reach upward and outward, stretching toward our limit. It seems that many of us have some measure of "bounce back" ability that's waiting in the wings.

Somewhat like that thwarted youngster on the beach. He suddenly realized he had a reserve: the rest of the beach. The castle went up for good this time. Beyond the ocean's reach.



## Mason's Musings

Mason Gould

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# Foxfire

(Continued from page 5)

The Council approved a \$6,815 budget amendment from Woodland Circle Assessments towards the first loan payment on Woodland Circle. In the General Fund, the Council approved \$4,010 from the fund balance for election expenses, \$5,000 for pool maintenance and repair from salary, and \$40,000 in Powell Bill funds.

The Council also unanimously approved a \$11,800 proposal for an annual audit and preparation of financial statements.

Following up recommendations made earlier in the year by Frusco, the annual audit request will be put out for bid next year.

"This firm we've used for many

years may get the job, but we've decided we're going to send out for bids because it's something we haven't done in a number of years," explained Mayor George Erickson.

## Other Business

In other business on Tuesday, May 11, the Foxfire Village Council:

- Heard from Erickson that a certificate of occupancy was approved for a new home in Grande Pines, and the Appearance Committee approved an addition and an accessory building.
- Heard from Erickson that Stonehill Pines is stalled due to financing difficulties. Five

companies involved in the initial planning stage no longer exist, forcing the developer back to "square one."

- Heard from Planning Board Chair Craig Ramey, that proposed ordinances related to creation of Recreational Districts, and also bee and small animals ordinances have been submitted to the Council for review and will be heard at the June 8 public hearing.
- Heard from Koos that a new lock will be installed at the maintenance yard/debris site. Key access will be strictly limited and residents and clubs are encouraged to use the dump only during regular scheduled hours.

# Fatal accident near Foxfire

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Speeding was a factor in an early morning fatal accident on Friday, April 30, confirmed Chief Mike Campbell of the Foxfire Police.

He estimated the driver killed, a thirty-six year old Pinehurst resident, had been traveling at least 70 miles per hour, heading west on Foxfire Road when he crossed the center line and struck a semi tractor-trailer head-on. The driver of the truck was not speeding. The accident occurred almost within sight of the Foxfire Village administrative offices, at the curve before Tie Road where the 55 mph zone drops to 40 mph.

This is the second traffic fatality in Foxfire this year; however, speeding was not a factor in the January accident at the intersection of Hoffman and Foxfire Roads that killed an elderly Laurinburg resident and his sister.

Last year, North Carolina Department of Transportation [NC-DOT] conducted a speed zone-traffic study and declined a request by the Foxfire Council to reduce the speed limit on

state-maintained roads that criss-cross within the municipal limits. According to NC-DOT, they look at several criteria when setting speed limits including roadway alignment, sight distance, the weighted average speed, crash history, and development.

Councilwoman Page Coker reported that Foxfire Police try to be as visible as possible to dis-

courage speeding and that State Highway Patrol has stepped up their enforcement and are actively stopping and weighing commercial trucks.

"Speeding continues to be a problem. I have seen Village residents slowing down and that is good," said Coker. "The more we slow down, the more we can slow down others behind us."

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The guest special speaker will be Susy Barile of Cary.

Ms. Barile will discuss her new book, "Undaunted Heart: The True Story of A Southern

Belle and a Yankee General."

She is the great-great granddaughter of the books subjects, Ella Swain Atkins and General Smith Dykins Atkins. Letters left to her by her Great Uncle inspired her research about the great romance.

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## Westside Work Session

(Continued from page 3)

Hoffmann said it may have initially generated some confusion where entry by residents of Seven Lakes North and South is concerned.

"I think we have made it clear that our friends on the North

and South sides can come in and be recognized by their windshield decals - whether new or expired," Hoffman said, adding "Just as it has always been."

He noted that that gate guards have always had, and will con-

tinue to have, the right to stop any vehicle, including those bearing Westside barcodes, "if, in the guard's judgement, they want to know where that person is going, aren't sure the are in fact a Westside resident, or for any other reason."

### More volunteers needed

The Neighborhood Watch roving patrol needs more volunteers, Hoffmann reported, adding that he hopes to expand the volunteer force from 24 to 36 in order to reduce the workload on each individual. "Perhaps because of the coming of Summer," he said, "we are beginning to see more things of note, including what I am calling 'open garage door syndrome.'"

The amount spent on repairs to the equipment at the Westside gates exceeded budget in FY 2009-2010, Hoffman said, and may well exceed the new budget in FY 2010-2011. Just a couple of weeks into the new budget year, he has discovered that wire in the ground loops that open the gate arms has begun to fray and must be replaced.

### Changes to Great Room, Johnson Point Rental

Directors Sessler and Herdrich presented the Board with a revised policy on the use of the West Side Park Community Center Great Room and the gazebos

at Johnson Point.

Sessler said an important goal in revising the policies was to make sure that Johnson Point is available for casual use by families who want to enjoy the lake, particularly on weekends. Families and other organizations reserving the gazebos will be encouraged to leave at least one open for use by other residents.

Going forward, the Johnson Point facilities will not be made available for rental by outside organizations for fundraisers or commercial or business use.

The fee charged for use of the Great Room will continue to vary by the type of group using the facility, but wedding receptions, anniversary parties, and other private events sponsored by a SLWLA member will qualify for a reduced fee only if the sponsoring member belongs to the immediate family of the party renting the room.

Groups that need set-up and take down of tables and chairs in the Great Room will be charged \$100 for that service.

### Community Activities

Director Sessler said she has begun to distribute flyers in an attempt to gauge interest in youth-oriented activities like sailing lessons, fishing lessons, and community service opportunities. Sessler said she is working with local schools to make sure young people can meet their community service requirements by volunteering to help with SLWLA projects.

Sessler said a Support the Troops craft event will be held this Sunday, May 16, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Community Center. Landowners can drop in and make a card to be sent to members of the armed forces.

Monthly Friday evening concerts at Johnson Point will continue this summer, and the Community Activities Committee is working to assemble a schedule of events for Independence Day.

### Other Business

In other business during the Tuesday, May 11 meeting of the SLWLA Board of Directors:

- Treasurer Sikes reported
- (See "Westside," p. 30)

## Pinehurst: No plans to annex 'Beacon Ridge'

Noting that the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Board is working hard to be neutral on the question of whether Seven Lakes should be incorporated, Director Mick Herdrich said during the May 11 Work Session that the Board's goal is to provide the community with accurate information on the topic.

In that spirit, he shared with his fellow Directors a letter that Pinehurst Village Manager Andy Wilkison had written, replying to questions from Community Association Services, Inc. President John Stone. Stone had asked Wilkison about Pinehurst's intentions with regard to further annexations.

According to Wilkison, "the Village of Pinehurst has no plans to annex the area known as Beacon Ridge in the Seven Lakes Community."

Noting that the Village had recently entered into an annex-

ation agreement with the Village of Foxfire, Wilkison continued, "That agreement alone contemplates that Pinehurst will not annex or extend extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction west of the annexation agreement boundary line, for areas south of NC211 and West of NC73."

President Ron Shepard said he had spoken with representatives on the League of Women Voters of Moore County about facilitating public meetings on the subject. Noting that a second group advocating incorporation will soon make public its proposal, Shepard said he had suggested two separate meetings, one featuring the representatives of each group, to be held within a single week.

He asked for an received Board consent to the use of the West Side Park Community Center Great Room for the purpose.



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## SLLA Work Session

(Continued from front page)

said her committee has updated two standard ARB request forms to a more user-friendly format and that builders must also notify the office prior to pouring building footings so that setbacks can be inspected.

### SLLA computer upgrades

Following up on a discussion last month on upgrading SLLA office computers and comparing

the cost and value of purchasing single-use 'dumb terminals' connected to a Talis-based Citrix server versus desktop-style computers, Community Manager Alina Cochran recommended opting for the traditional approach.

"Purchasing new computers would resolve both the data and systems issues," she said, presenting a \$4,500 proposal that included three units and software, but not IT support.

The Board agreed with her assessment that new computers were the preferred option, but balked at the cost.

Zielsdorf noted at least two major computer vendors that offer several years worth of free service with a purchase and also recommended the proposal should only include replacement of old tube monitors: any existing LCD monitors should be maintained.

### Gate access for Westside residents

A recent decision by the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] to eliminate windshield stickers in favor of required barcodes for their res-

idents has created a bit of confusion on how each side will continue to grant access through their respective gates. At present, both Associations have agreed to an informal policy to honor (See "SLLA Work Session," p. 31)

## Westside Work Session

(Continued from page 29)

that the new monthly payment system for dues had produced a minor "cash flow squeeze" early in the month that he solved by moving some funds from a First Bank account.

• Sikes said he planned to continue the pattern of having the Association books audited every other year, alternating with a less formal accountant's review in the off years.

• The Board deferred a discussion on a landowners proposal to build a fishing platform for one of the Westside ponds in order to give Directors Wimberly and Silberhorn additional time to work on the issue.

• ARC Director Wimberly said his committee is beginning to work through a number of cases in which landowners have, for example, installed fences, without the approval of the Architectural Review Committee. Legal Director Silberhorn noted that there is a six-year statute of limitations on rules violations.

• Director Herdrich said a recent controlled burn on Pine Island resulted in damage to

the islands bulkheads, which volunteers are now repairing. Annual or semi-annual burning helps promote desirable plant life on the island, Herdrich explained, and also can discourage nesting by resident Canada Geese.

• Herdrich said former SLWLA President Mary Anne Fewkes journeyed to Raleigh to present to state engineers Lake Auman Dam emergency action plans that she had prepared in response to a request from the state. State officials were so impressed with Fewkes' work that they plan to use the Lake Aumn plan as a model for other dams in the state.

• The Board voted to allow undeveloped lot 5450 to revert to developer status, which means it will not be assessed landowners dues. Legal Director Silberhorn explained that developer Lakeside Development had, two years ago, in order to facilitate a sale, allowed the buyer to have access to the amenities via that undeveloped lot. The Board's vote to allow the reversion included a caveat that the developer not repeat that arrangement in

the future.

• Director Hoffmann announced that he would like to put together a small ad hoc committee to explore making some low cost improvements to the Lakeway Drive mailhouse, utilizing volunteer labor and with the Association covering only the cost of materials.

• After meeting in Executive Session to discuss legal matters, the Board:

- Authorized President Shepard to write a status letter to Developer John Garner asking him for his suggestions in moving forward with the annexation of the Parkwood neighborhood.

- The Board also asked the Developer Lawsuit Negotiating Committee to work with Developer Lakeside Development on an arrangement for the payment of future security fees.

## Summer Day Camp

Summer is almost here and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Summer Day Camp program is gearing up for another exciting season of swimming, games, and daily activities.

Summer Camp will be held Monday through Friday [June 14 – August 20], from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. All children aged five to fourteen are wel-

come to participate on a weekly or daily drop-in basis.

The cost for SLLA members is \$80 per week, or \$20 per day drop-in; and the non-resident cost is \$100 per week, or \$30 per day drop-in. Lunch is not provided. Payment will be due on Mondays, by check only.

To pre-register or for more information, please call the SLLA office at 673-4931.

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# Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

Moore County Schools [MCS] asked for \$27.4 million in county funding -- a 5.4 percent increase over FY 2009-2010, with part of that increase attributable to the expenses associated with opening two new schools: Crain's Creek Middle and West Pine Elementary.

McSwain pulled those new school expenses out of the MCS budget request, along with state mandated increases in retirement and employee health insurance contributions; cut the school budget by three percent; and then added back in the increases needed for new schools and benefits.

The result was a proposed county contribution of \$26.3 million to the schools, a \$604,000

increase over last year, but \$1.15 million less than the schools asked for.

Using a similar strategy on the SCC budget, McSwain proposed \$4.01 million appropriation for the college, \$218,000 less than the school requested.

## Salaries frozen; positions cut

For the second year in a row, county employees will see no increase in their paychecks, if McSwain's budget is approved. The manager warned in his budget message that the county will "face the possible loss of well trained, dedicated employees" if the salary freeze continues indefinitely. Other action taken by the Commissioners during the meeting could elim-

inate a longevity bonus for most county employees.

The retirement system that covers county employees is controlled by the state, and will require Moore County to increase its payments into that system by just under \$350,000 in FY 2010-2011. But the success of the wellness clinic the county maintains for employees and a reduction in health insurance claims means the county can reduce its projected expenditures on employee health care by \$607,000 in the coming year.

The Manager's budget recommends eliminating funding for seven positions that are currently funded but vacant, including the county EMS manager, whose responsibilities will be undertaken by current Public Safety Director and former EMS Manager Bryan Phillips. Four positions currently filled will be eliminated, if the manager's budget is approved by the Commissioners.

## Deferring vehicles, principal payments

Based on its standard criteria for replacing older vehicles, the county maintenance garage requested twenty-four new ones for FY 2010-2011. But the Manager's budget recommends buy-

ing only nine, while increasing the vehicle maintenance budget by \$12,000 to reflect the higher maintenance cost of older vehicles.

The county expects to pay debt service of \$2.5 million next year to service bonds that will pay for a new public safety building, jail, and administration building. McSwain suggested that expenditure could be cut by \$1.5 million by deferring principle payments for a year, without significantly affecting the payout over the life of the bonds.

The county must open a new section in its construction debris landfill in the coming year, a \$437,000 expense that is included in the manager's budget.

## Longevity Bonus Revised

Moore County employees have long benefitted from a longevity

bonus added to their salary once they have served the county for three years or more. During Monday's meeting, the Commissioners revised that system, tying it to performance, in a way that could eliminate the bonus for most employees.

Traditionally, once an employee had served the county for three years, they began to receive a longevity bonus that started at one percent of their total salary. The percentage increased after five, ten, fifteen, and twenty-five years of service, to a maximum of five percent.

The Board of Commissioners reduced funding for the longevity bonus by twenty-five percent in the FY 2009-2010 budget, and voted Monday night to completely overhaul the system, having it apply only to employees

(See "Commissioners," p. 33)



Moore County Commissioner Cindy Morgan (center) was recognized with the Tribute to Women Award from the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women on Saturday, May 1.

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# Commissioners

(Continued from page 32)

bonus will be a flat payment ranging from \$500 to \$2,500.

Most importantly, payment of the bonus will be tied to the employee's performance, as measured by a new performance evaluation system the county has implemented this year. Employees are given a numerical performance score on a four hundred point scale; only those scoring 300 and above would be eligible for the longevity bonus.

About half of the county's more than 600 employees have been evaluated under the system. Only about ten percent scored above 300, suggesting the new longevity-performance bonus may apply to only a small minority of employees.

## Hiring Freeze Suggested

Commissioner Nick Picerno offered a motion during Monday's meeting that would have frozen hiring for all county positions, but his proposal was modified after input from County Manager McSwain.

McSwain argued that a blanket freeze would be "indiscriminate and random," since there is no way of predicting what position might be vacated next, including, perhaps, the county attorney or county manager slots. "There are more effective and constructive ways to cut spending," McSwain said.

Chairman Tim Lea suggested that, rather than freeze all hiring, any new hires be brought before the Board of Commissioners for approval. Picerno agreed and the revised motion passed unanimously.

## Other business

In other business during the Monday, May 3 Board of Commissioners meeting, the Board:

- Proclaimed May as Older Americans Month.
- Recognized Commissioner Cindy Morgan for receiving the Tribute to Women award from the NC Federation of Republican Women.
- Called a public hearing for Monday, May 17, at 6:00pm to consider a rezoning request of a 0.39 acre tract on Murdockville Road to Residential & Agricultural (RA-20).
- Approved the hiring of Laura Williams as Clerk to the Board at a salary of \$40,000.



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**105 W DEVONSHIRE**  
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH

3 Br, 2 Ba, golf front with Carolina room, fenced yard, workshop, gas fireplace, nice layout!  
**\$200,000**



### SOLD!

**120 SHAGBARK**  
SEVEN LAKES NORTH

Waterfront —  
4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths  
**\$255,000**

### Too New FOR PHOTO!

### NEW LISTING!

**5 ACRES IN MORGAN WOOD**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

Horses Allowed!  
**\$110,000**



### NEW LISTING!

**101 SUNRISE POINT**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

Waterfront masterpiece on Lake Auman! 5 Bedrooms, great views, dock, bulkhead, too many wonderful features to list!  
**\$1,200,000**



### UNDER CONTRACT IN 17 DAYS!

**126 SMATHERS DRIVE**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

3 BR plus office AND bonus room! Vaulted ceilings, fenced yard, close to Marina, MANY upgrades!  
**Priced to sell at \$325,000!**



### UNDER CONTRACT!

**122 SMATHERS, SL WEST**

3 Br, 3.5 Ba plus bonus rm with full bath & 2 closets! Great entertaining space, large kitchen, open floorplan with lots of storage! Great location close to marina/beach. Reduced and priced to sell! **\$274,900**



### UNDER CONTRACT!

**111 SEMINOLE COURT**  
SEVEN LAKES NORTH

3 bedroom plus bonus, granite, hardwoods, private lot!  
**\$229,900**



### UNDER CONTRACT!

**137 OWENS CIRCLE**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

**Accepting  
Back Up Offers!**  
**\$525,000**



### NEW LISTING!

**23 ACRES IN MORGANWOOD**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

**Aggressively Priced  
at \$200,000!**  
Many possibilities for this acreage!



### PRICE CHANGE!

**119 HARWICH**  
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH

3 BR, 2 BA golf front with great pond view! Fenced yard, large great room, eat-in kitchen, split bedrooms, screened porch, freshly painted. Priced to sell! **\$189,900!**



### PRICE CHANGE!

**120 WERTZ DR., 7 LAKES W**  
JUDGES' CHOICE AWARD WINNER!

Designed & built with the finest attention to detail. Enjoy Lake Auman sunrise from almost every room! Spacious, open, light & bright with all the upgrades! **\$440,000**



**159 OWENS CIRCLE**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

Best price on Lake Auman! Artfully renovated 3 Br+Bonus, granite, hardwoods, screened porch, custom cabinetry, hardboard siding, lots of storage! **\$375,000**



**103 ESSEX CT**  
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH

4 Br, 2.5 Ba, golf front, all brick, custom home with many upgrades! Lots of storage, beautiful view, workshop, greenhouse, Carolina room, and more! **\$250,000**



**119 LONGLEAF DR., SL WEST**

Spacious home on over 1 acre, water view! 3 BR PLUS 2 multi-purpose rms! Open floorplan, heated & cooled garage, wooded backyard & many wonderful features! New Granite & Hardwoods!! **\$250,000**



**121 CALLIS CIRCLE**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

Waterfront on Lake Auman with breathtaking views! 3 BR, 3.5 BA, several bonus rms, screened porch, spacious, lots of storage, many wonderful features! **\$599,000**



**117 VANORE RD., SL WEST**

Waterfront beauty on Lake Auman! Magnificent views from this 3 BR home with office, formal dining, bulkhead, timber-tech dock, many fine details! Heated & cooled oversized garage with bonus rm above. **\$899,000**



**235 LONGLEAF DRIVE**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

3 BR + Den/Study, single level, many upgrades! 10 ft ceilings, granite, crown moulding, hrdwds, private yard, screened porch, close to golf course! **\$315,000**



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May 14, 2010

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## HELP WANTED

**SEVEN LAKES WEST IS SEEKING POOL ATTENDANTS** – (CPO Required) for the 2010 Pool Season. Full time & part time help needed. Please contact Denise at 910-673-5314 for further details.

**PART TIME POSITION** – available in the SLLA office and seasonal positions for lifeguards and pool manager (CPO). Stop by the office to pick up application or call 673-4931 for more information. *1tp 5/14*

## FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

**HONEY MAPLE FINISH** – Looks like new bookcase trundle bed w/mattress & foundation, 2 guard rails & 2 trundle boxes; 3 drawer chest w/hutch; chest w/1-drawer w/removeable baby changer top; Armoire w/3-drawers & 2 doors; 42" desk w/3-drawers can be used as right or left desk w/maple solids & veneers. Call 910-673-1654.

**THE CHAPEL IN THE PINES** – has Seven Lakes Cemetery plots and columbarium niches available. Please contact Bob Tourt at 673-8156 for information.

## FOR RENT STORAGE BUILDINGS/SPACE

**8000 SQ. FT WAREHOUSE FOR DISTRIBUTOR** – or manufacturing. Located on Hwy 211, West End. Call Owner/Broker @ 910-315-6300.

## FOR RENT STORAGE BUILDINGS/SPACE

**HILLCREST MINI WAREHOUSE, LLC** – Affordable storage in Seven Lakes. Units are located at 351 Grant Street, across from K.R. Mace Electric. Unit sizes – 10x10, 10x20. Units have lighting. Call 910-673-7320 for rental information. Urgent calls may be directed to 910-690-6491.

**STORAGE SPACE AVAILABLE** – Outside Gated and Secure for Cars, Motor Homes and Trailers, etc. Call: 673-4500.

## FOR SALE REAL ESTATE LAND/LOTS

**NICE LARGE NORTH SIDE LOT** – on Sandspur, adjoins the Soccer Field (.65 acre). \$22,000. 910-690-9706.

**MOVE YOUR HORSES IN TODAY, BUILD TOMORROW!** – 5.02 improved acres with horse facilities in Seven Lakes West. \$129,500. 910-603-5936/5940.

## FOR RENT REAL ESTATE

**OFFICE FOR RENT - SPACIOUS** – Located in South Park Office Complex \$500 per Month. No Utility Expense. Call John at 673-1818.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** – Foxfire Village, 2 BD, 2.5 BA. Nice lot, 3 golf course view. \$169,900. 910-673-8802. *3tpx 4/30*

## FOR RENT REAL ESTATE

**NORTH MYRTLE BEACH** – 3BR Oceanfront Shoreham Towers Condo, Sunday To Sunday, Call 910 673-3387. *tfn 3/19*

**AFFORDABLE CONDOS** – \$495 to \$1095. Pinehurst Rental Services 910-585-0363.

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

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171 Longleaf Drive.....	Corner.....	\$34,500
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