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Volume 25 Number 22

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

September 3, 2010

# The county comes to Seven Lakes

#### by Greg Hankins

Times Editor

There was a good turnout for the first meeting between the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council [GSLCC] and the Moore County Board of Commissioners, and plenty of questions.

The Seven Lakes debate about incorporation simmered constantly just below the surface, but never really broke through.

What did break through, somewhat surprisingly, in a forum devoted to Seven Lakes issues, was the Commissioners' internal debate about how to fund a new jail and public safety complex in downtown Carthage.

The GSLCC hosted the Commissioners in the West Side Park Community Center before a crowd of about 100 -- a sizable turnout for a summer afternoon meeting that the Council never really advertised as being open to the public. Along with all five Commissioners, county staff on hand included the county manager, assistant manager, attorney, public utilities director, assistant planning director, and clerk, along with Sheriff Lane Carter.

The meeting's agenda was set by a list of questions the council posed to the county, grouped into five areas: water, planning and zoning, security, incorporation, and the bond issue to fund the new public safety complex and detention center planned for downtown Carthage.[We've broken the conversation about the last of those items out into a separate story, which you can read on page 5.]

County staff used Power-Point slides to support their presentations; you can down-

(See "County," p. 15)

# Put on your dancing shoes!



Seven Lakes Dance founding instructor, Marcie Milbredt with Senior Competition team member Briana Goodwin of Seven Lakes South. Seven Lakes Dance brought home the 1st Place Teen Division in the 2010 National Showdown of the Stars event. Enrollment is underway for the upcoming dance season. [See page 12 for more information.]

# Panel calls for new Westside mail house

by Greg Hankins Times Editor

Seven Lakes West's Mail implement a s Delivery Committee is recommending that the community build a new mail implement a s input process to ing any decision ommendation.

house -- or two, or three -and that the Westside Board implement a special public input process before finalizing any decision on that recowneredation

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Committee member -- and Westside President -- Ron Shepard previewed the recommendation during the Tuesday, August 24 Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board Work Session.

The Mail Delivery Committee provided cost estimates for the building of one, two, or three mail houses, but comments from Shepard and Directors John Goodman and John Hoffmann made clear that building a single mail house on somewhere on the 35-acre West Side Park tract is seen as the most economical and expeditious alternative. That option is expected to cost

\$365,000, and could be handled without a dues increase, Shepard said.

Building two or three mail houses will not only cost more, Goodman noted (an estimated \$430,000 for two or \$591,000 for three) but would also be challenging because the Association may not yet own enough land, properly covenanted, to accommodate a second or third structure.

The committee recommended that the Board deem the mail house question a matter of "significant interest to the membership," which would trigger a special decision-making process in the SLWLA by-laws that require

the Board to formally notify the community of the matter and take public comment on it during at least two separate work sessions.

#### **History reviewed**

Using a PowerPoint presentation [available at seven-lakestimes.net] President Shepard reminded Directors and members of the West-side's many years of negotiations with the US Postal Service [USPS] aimed at obtaining home mail delivery.

Those negotiations may stretch back a decade or more, but the Postal Service's first firm "No" to home delivery was received in 2004.

(See "Westside," p. 31)

# **Business Guild will offer Welcome Bags**

by Darrell Marks

Seven Lakes Business Guild

The Seven Lakes Business Guild is now offering "Welcome Bags" to newcomers to the community, taking repsonsibility for an on-going program that has been handled in the past by The

Women of Seven Lakes.

The bags will be distributed to new residents through the local landowners assocaition offices.

When Southside resident Pat Weber heard that the Women of Seven Lakes were no longer going to sponsor the

Welcome Bags, she contacted the Seven Lakes Business Guild with the idea of continuing the program.

Weber was put in touch with the Guild's Promotions Committee; and committee members Susan Marks of Phoenix Fashions, Sherri

Adams of CommunityOne Bank, Serena Gonzales of BB&T, and Chris Brady of First Bank took on the proj-

The result was fifty bags loaded with goodies provided by members of the Guild.

The reusable canvas totes were screen printed by Jubilee Screen Printing with the Business Guild logo on one side and eight ads on the back. The eight Guild members who sponsored the first set of bags to help defray the cost were The Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe, Aging Outreach, Clewis Photography, Match Play Fitness, The Seven Lakes Times, Carolina Car Care, Phoenix Fashions, and Community-One Bank.

The outpouring of support of donations for the program by Guild members astonished everyone involved. The heavily packed bags will go a long way toward making all new residents feel welcome in Seven Lakes.

About the only thing Weber could say after spending an afternoon at Phoenix Fashions loading out the first batch was, "I think we might need bigger bags next time."

Anyone interested in participating in the Welcome Bag program can contact any of the Promotions Committee members listed above. The program is open exclusively to members of the Business Guild and new members are always welcome.



The Business Guild Welcome Bag Crew — Serena Gonzalez, Chris Brady, Sherri Adams, Susan Marks and Pat Weber

#### **C**ONTRIBUTORS 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.

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Sept. 17 Oct. 1 Oct. 15 Oct. 29 Nov. 12 Nov. 23*	Sept. 10 Sept. 24 Oct. 8 Oct. 22 Nov. 5 Nov. 18*
Dec. 10	Dec. 3
Dec. 22*	Dec. 16*

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**NEWS** September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

# Northside pool season will be extended

by Laura Douglass

Times Reporter

The Northside Pool will be open later in the evening and for an extended period this season, Community Manager Alina Cochran announced at the Wednesday, August 25 Open Meeting of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors.

With school back in session, scheduled hours were adjusted and the pool is now open from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday, and from Noon to 8:00 pm on weekends. The pool will remain open through Sunday, September 19, in part due to the delayed opening at the beginning of the season, while legally-required grates were installed over two drains.

The SLLA swim season will conclude with 'A Dog Day of Summer' on Saturday, September 25 from Noon to 5:00 pm at the Northside Pool. A new special event introduced this year by Cochran, the pool will be open for all family dogs -- dogs only, please. Owners will be responsible for picking up any doggy mess-

In related news, Cochran reported the pool was vandalized last week with deck furniture thrown in, causing some minor physical damage. The incident was reported to the Moore County Sheriff's Office and patrols

#### **Seven Lakes Country Club** Agreement update

Two key documents relating to the July 2007 agreement between SLLA and the Seven Lakes Country Club, regarding future development of the old driving range, were

> delivered to the Club in August, announced President Randy Zielsdorf. Specifically, those documents included approved mark-

have been stepped up in the ups by the Association's attorney of covenants written by the Club and an easement that prohibits access to the property from Seven Lakes Drive. The 10' easement maintains a consistent green space from the Southside gates to the townhouse area on Devonshire Avenue.

> "The Association and Seven Lakes Country Club are now cooperatively working with their attorneys to finalize these documents as soon as possible," Zielsdorf read from a prepared statement.

Responding to former SLLA Director Donna Stephan, who thanked the Board for pursuing the agreement, Zielsdorf

said he hoped to have good news by the end of the month and also said he was pleased that the Club had entered negotiations to lease their Tennis Facility.

"I hope this venture is successful, because this would be a big asset to the area and also the Club," Zielsdorf

#### **Buoys and boats**

A handful of new boats on Lake Sequoia are wreaking havoc on many lakefront property owners' bulkheads and docks.

"It's not the horsepower that is the problem, but the type of boats," said Northsider Phil Thingstad. "Boats that get up and plane don't create wakes, but these new boats, which are meant for open water, are creating two and three foot waves. They plow the water."

He reported his bulkhead and those of neighbors were washing out and that many of the new, white buoys installed this year were sinking and are less visible, which increased the damage, with boats weaving in and out from the shoreline.

Director Melinda Scott and several other lakefront property owners present at the meeting agreed with Thingstad's assessment.

"This is the first Summer we've seen this style of boat and, also, the new boat operators are not complying with existing rules," Scott said. "The boats come in too close. Security in itself is not sufficient. All of us on the lake fear the same issue: that someone will be injured."

Cochran said the old, orange buoys were removed because they were unsightly and that twelve white buoys were purchased this year and positioned in accordance with Board-approved sites. However, Thingstad reminded her that the same buoy color and design issue had been discussed several years ago. At that time, the Board approved of the orange buoys, which are both less expensive and safer because of better visibility.

For the upcoming holiday weekend, Director Bruce Keyser, Jr. said the Association was looking to hire a police patrol for the lake, (See "SLLA," p. 22)

# Seven Lakes Landowners **Association Meeting**

"This is not the first time

this has happened, and it costs people money," said Director Bud Shaver. "Don't tell me the kids don't know who did it. Parents should be looking to their kids, because this is costing all of us!"

During her management report, Cochran announced that, in addition to Roving Security patrols, the Association is employing an offduty Sheriff's officer to enforce all applicable North Carolina laws, including speeding and driving under the influence.

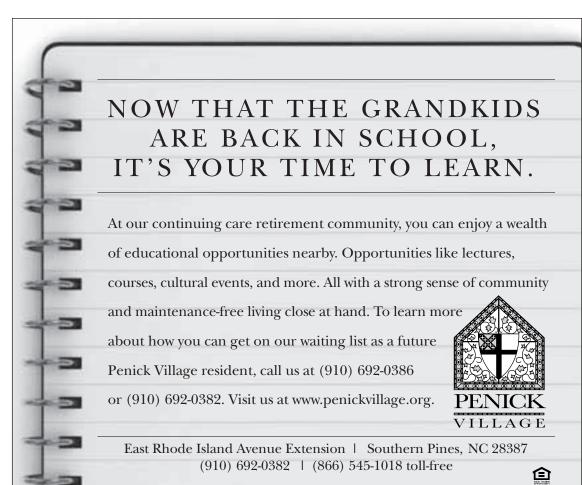
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# Foxfire Council looks to the future at retreat

**by Laura Douglass** Times Reporter

With a cautious eye on loan payments totaling over \$350,000 due in 2011, Finance Director Leslie Frusco said her primary goal for the new fiscal year is to keep Foxfire Village operating within the approved budget.

Addressing the Council during an all-day retreat on Wednesday, August 25 at Belle Meade Senior Center, Frusco also said, while she didn't like it, that she would be recommending a tax increase for next year.

"We have a finite revenue base. Even if you add a half dozen homes a year, at best that covers inflationary increases in operating expenses," she said. "It's not just services but the integrity of our assets. If we don't maintain them, we'll end up seeing a decline in property values."

Currently, Foxfire Village has the second lowest tax rate in Moore County – only Pinehurst is lower; however, unlike their larger municipal neighbor, Foxfire does not have a large commercial base to draw funding from.

In April 2011, loan payments of \$269,864 from the General Fund and \$19,069 from the Water Fund are due on the \$2.6 million debt incurred by the Woodland Circle Extension project. At present, the roadway is under budget. Once property owners have been assessed, any leftover funds could be channeled into other road projects, but those projects would become the Village's responsibility to repay.

In addition, two other loan payments are due each July; approximately \$40,000 toward the Village Green Park and \$27,000 for new wells.

Looking ahead, Frusco said long range planning is critical

"Funding effects everything and anything we do...We need to look at being proactive instead of just putting Band-Aids on problems," said Frusco. "We have two significant issues that must be addressed that take consid-

erable money: streets and the pool and restroom facility."

She explained that at current valuation of \$156 million, a five cent tax increase would net \$70,000 – a mere drop in the bucket when talking about building and structure needs.

"I don't like it at all, but it's a reality. You can't just turn off services and you can't ignore things that have to be done," said Frusco. "These are needs in the Village serious enough that we [Foxfire Council] must go out and do something we don't want to do."

#### **Public Safety**

Freshly seated in his new role as Public Safety Director, Councilman Vic Koos said he found recent ride-a-long patrols with Foxfire Police Chief Mike Campbell and Sgt. Chad Shue to be interesting and enlightening.

"I was impressed with how personable and professional they are," said Koos, noting that his primary goal this year is to better understand crime in the area and where it's coming from.

"With a state road running through Foxfire . . . over our history of crime, it's been a lot of out of state people."

Campbell told the Council that the officer hired for the (See "Foxfire," p. 24)



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**NEWS** September 3, 2010 **Seven Lakes Times** 

# County jail debate comes to Seven Lakes

by Greg Hankins

Times Editor

No one seems to know why the Moore County Board of Commissioners wound up debating the wisdom of a jail bond referendum in front of a Seven Lakes crowd on hand to witness the first meeting between the Commissioners and the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council [GSLCC].

But the debate provided the major fireworks in the Thursday, August 26 meeting, as Chairman Tim Lea questioned not only the method of funding the project but also suggested the county may be about to pay too much for the facility.

#### Morgan: 'Big debts crammed down our throats'

Lea, along with Commissioner Cindy Morgan, has voted twice in recent weeks to put the \$50 million debt before the voters in a referendum. In each case, a majority that included Larry Caddell, Jimmy Melton, and Nick Picerno have turned away that idea in favor of funding the project through the issuance of limited obligation bonds. These bonds

are secured -- like a mortgage -- by the property itself, and do not require voter approval.

"I'm the person who put the motion on the table," Commissioner Morgan said. "I did it because I had people talking to me asking why we would do this without asking the people to vote on it, because, ultimately, you do pay for it. . . . It makes really me sad to think that we sit here in Moore County and have the same kinds of behaviors happening at the Moore County level that we see in Washington DC, where we see these big debts being crammed down our throats and we don't have an opportunity to have our say.

Lea said he had no question about the need for a new jail: "When you net all the conversation out, there is no question that we need a new detention center. The question is whether we are going to let the people vote on it.'

He recounted a recent conversation with former Board of Commissioners Chairman Michael Holden, who told Lea that the largest amount the Board had ever borrowed without voter approval was \$9.9 million, for a new middle school.

"At some point, you've got to give back control of this country to the people," Lea

Noting growing deficits at both the federal and state levels — and projected state cutbacks in next year's funding for schools — Lea said: "We can go ahead and fund this project without increasing your taxes, but if this Board decides or if you decide that we are going to build a new school — a new high school, a new middle school, or anything else — based on the numbers that are on the table, we potentially are going to have to raise your taxes."

"We've got more red ink coming at us next year than this county has ever, in its history, dealt with."

#### Costs out of line?

Lea said the county had received bids for the project in July that put the cost at roughly \$27-\$29 million. Though that is less than the \$32-33 million estimate the county had been using, Lea suggested that the Board and staff had believed all

along that the bids would come in below estimates.

But even at the lower bid price, he suggested, Moore County may be paying to much. Lea said Harnett County had recently completed a new jail at a cost of \$49,135 per bed, while the proposed cost of Moore County's facility would be \$95,000 per bed.

"We are going forward with letting the bonds and choosing a contractor," he added, "and we still haven't gotten to the point of addressing whether this is a cost effective solution and a good way to spend your dollars."

Lea said some members of the county management team

would be going to Harnett County on Monday to gather information that might explain the cost differential. He noted that the Commissioners are expected to vote on issuing the bonds during their September 20 meeting.

#### A critical need?

The commissioners who have voted to move the project forward -- Melton, Picerno, and Caddell -- spoke before Morgan and Lea, and defended their position based on the critical need for a new jail and new offices for the Sheriff's office and other public safety operations.

Melton noted his forty years (See "Jail" p. 19)



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# Three day emu chase ends badly for big bird

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

An adult emu -- that's right an emu, the large, flightless bird related to the ostrich -- surprised Northside residents along Timber Lane and Pine Cone Court this week, wandering through yards and gardens for more than two days.

After receiving the first reports of emu sightings on Tuesday morning, August 24, Moore County Animal Control spent three hours trying to catch the elusive bird. Responding again on Thursday afternoon, officers and neighbors scoured the area and, after a lengthy search, the bird was located. Officers engaged in a second mad dash through the heavy woods and wetlands on the far border of Seven Lakes North. After tripping on vines, the emu was eventually secure; but, unfortunately, by then heat and stress had taken their toll.

The emu was put in a horse trailer for transportation; and officers poured water over him, improved airflow in the trailer, and even attempted CPR, but it wasn't enough to save the bird.

"This makes me mad and was the one thing I was afraid of when we were getting it down there running," said Animal Control Officer Bryant Voss. "It was way too hot, way too humid, and it just stressed him more than he could handle."

Voss explained that he was anxious to capture the bird because of the frenzy of calls received and published accounts of the emu's location.

A relatively docile animal, the emu is a native of Australia and can reach six feet, six inches tall. Emus can run thirty miles an hour and their powerful legs and clawed feet can serve as a formidable defensive weapon with a close range kick. While the bird's plumage can protect them from heat from the sun and they can pant to maintain body temperature, they do not sweat and cannot cool themselves easily.



The Seven Lakes emu spent part of one morning in the Northside yard of Dave and Ruth Shannon.





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"My biggest concern was that it could hurt somebody if they tried to grab it. That put a lot of pressure on us," he said. "We did everything we were supposed to do." Voss said a resident of Robbins had reported the escape of an emu, and the Seven Lakes bird is likely to be the escapee, though there is no way to be certain.

# Horizons Band ready to spice up your event

The new Horizons Band in the Pines is now offering an exciting different musical program to any group wishing to avail themselves of the opportunity to have this unique band play for them.

All members of the band are senior citizens of the local area who enjoy music and would like to extend an offer to perform for your organization.

There is no charge, so please check your events calendar, to see if there is an afternoon or evening this Fall or Winter, is open, so your group can listen to some great music at your meetings.

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# Carr takes reins at 7 Lakes Weight Watchers

new beginnings: the start of the school year, the football

September's a month for season, the Fall season for clubs and organizations.

And it can be a new begin-



Rachel Carr & Linda Ryder of Seven Lakes Weight Watch-

ning for you, says Seven Lakes Weight Watchers' new meeting leader Rachel Carr.

Carr became the Meeting Leader this Summer; Linda Ryder signed on as the Receptionist in the Spring.

Carr, a native of West Virginia, moved to North Carolina in the 70s — first to Monroe, then to Wilmington, then Rockingham, and finally to retirement in Moore County in 2006.

Teaching was Carr's first career; after retiring from education, she owned a Merle Norman Cosmetics Studio for fifteen years. She first became a Weight Watchers member while living in Wilmington. She became a Lifetime Member and began to work for the company in 1980; leading meetings in New Hanover and in Richmond County.

As a Lifetime Member (but not always at goal) Carr realizes the critical importance of attending weekly Weight Watchers meetings. Now that she is the Meeting Leader for the Seven Lakes Weight Watchers group, she knows her members will help keep her on track and account-

Carr always takes time to greet members with enthusiasm and her meetings offer that same welcoming spirit. She wants everyone to feel that they can reach their goal weight — and promises to be with them every step of the way and with support.

Carr resides in McLendon Hills with her husband Tom. Her daughter, Cristy Hunt, also lives in McLendon Hills.

Linda Ryder is the new Receptionist of Seven Lakes Weight Watchers group. Ryder grew up, married husband Tom, and raised three children in a small town in New York.

Ryder drove a school bus for twenty-five years prior to reiring to Foxfire Village in 2004. She is an avid golfer,

loves sewing and crafting.

Ryder's journey with Weight Watchers began in the 70s. She became a Life Time member in 1978. Although she has not always been at goal, Ryder says she knows the best way for her to stay committed and focused and to keep her weight loss under control was to become a team member of Weight Watchers. While on the Maintenance Program, Ryder became the receptionist at Seven Lakes this Spring.

Carr and Ryder will be on hand at the Seven Lakes meeting each week, and they welcome all new and rejoining Weight Watchers to visit their meetings and begin their own weight loss journey.

Weight Watchers meetings are held every Wednesday evening from 5 to 6 pm at St. Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

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Participants will learn about being on a nonprofit board and the duties and responsibilities that it entails in "Becoming a Board that is On Board." This free seminar meets Thursday, September. 9 from 6 to 9 pm

Other seminars include:

Essentials of Fundraising for the Nonprofit, Thursday, September 16 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Doing Business with the Government, Wednesday, September 22 from 9 am until noon.

Outstanding Customer Service, Thursday, September 23 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Best Small Businesses to Start, Thursday, Sept. 23 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Tax Implications for Starting a Business, Thursday, Sept. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Small Business Center offers seminars funded by a grant from the NC Legislature to increase the success rate of small businesses. Also available are resources (videos, books, CDs), one-on-one counseling, and referrals.

Please register for Small Business Center classes at least one week prior to the starting date. Classes may fill and prohibit further enrollment or they may be canceled if enrollment is low. Walk-in registration is at the Small Business Center located on the first floor of Van Dusen Hall during the college's scheduled hours of operation. Phone in registration to (910) 695-3938 or e-mail neelym@sandhill.edu.

View the entire fall semester schedule at www.sand-hills.edu.

# Planning for all your years ahead ...

# But are you sure you have all the facts?

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# Q

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- Lowell, member since 2003



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"I decided early on that I wanted everything under one roof in the Village Landing – even though I could have chosen one of the single-family Garden Homes. Retirement communities that offer both are not so easy to come by. We found everything we needed here at The Village."

- Martha, member since 2009



www.VillageAtBrookwood.org

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Wednesday, September 22
Choose either 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Beacon Ridge Country Club

6000 Longleaf Drive, West End

To reserve your seat, **RSVP by September 20**: Call us toll-free at **800-282-2053**E-mail us at **info@villageatbrookwood.org** 

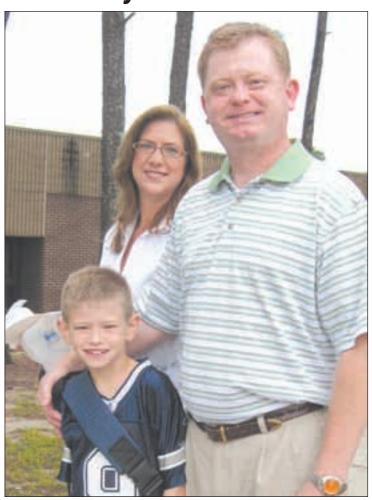


AT BROOKWOOD



NEWS September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

#### First Day of School



Austin Mackey of Foxfire with his parents, Buddy and Tamar at West End Elementary

# WEE PTA plans Yard Sale

How would you like to get rid of unwanted items around the house and help raise money for the West End Elementary School playground?

Or, if you make crafts or have a home based business that you would like to set up and sell your items, please feel free to join us.

The WEE PTA will be hosting a fundraising yard sale on Saturday, September 11, starting at 7:00 am on the school grounds.

Anyone interested in participating will need to rent a

10x18 space for \$20 to set up their items. If you are unable to set up and sale but would like to donate your items to be sold, the PTA will have a space to do this for you.

Contact Kay Miller (673-

2932) or Crissy Skipper (673-8185) to rent a space or to make arrangements to donate your items. All proceeds from the sale will be used to improve the school playground.



(on Selected Items)

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# Joe Cline's imagination lives on in 7 Lakes

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

"I couldn't have built Seven Lakes without Joe."

That's Seven Lakes' founder Fred Lawrence, talking about his lifelong friend Joe Cline, who died last month. Cline was a Vice President of Longleaf, Inc. Seven Lakes' original development company.

Lawrence told *The Times* that he and Cline met in grade school in Sanford. Cline, always a problemsolver, had risen through the ranks at Sanford Brick and Tile when Lawrence asked him to help build a new community out of a patch of Sandhills scrub in western Moore County.

"Joe oversaw all the construction for the community," Alan Shaw, who served as Longleaf's President. "He was a great team player."

"Whenever something needed to be built, Joe Cline was the eyes and ears of Longleaf," Shaw added, noting that Cline had overseen the construction of almost all the community's infrastructure, from the Northside roads to the first phase of the Lake Auman Dam.

Lawrence said Cline's common sense approach to problems was one of his most valuable assets.

"Let me tell you where Joe was marvelous," Lawrence told *The Times*. " We've got nine miles of fencing around Seven Lakes — split rail cedar fencing."

"It looks great, but when the termites or moisture gets to one of those posts, and it rots out, you've got a mess on your hands. Joe figured out that we could make a cast of one of those posts and pour a new one out of concrete. Once it weathers a little, you can't tell it from a real cedar post."

That Joe Cline idea is still being used to maintain the fences around Seven Lakes North and South.

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"I couldn't have built Seven Lakes without Joe," Lawrence said. "We sat down with Jim Pate, the engineer. We figured out what to do; and, after that, Joe took it over. All I tried to do was to raise enough money to pay for it." [James C. Pate, who handled most of the engineering involved in the development of Seven Lakes, died late last year.]

After Longleaf sold the Seven Lakes development, Cline continued to work for the buyer, Seven Lakes Development Company, Shaw told *The Times*. When the community's water system was sold to Moore County's water authority, Cline went to work with for the county, continuing to maintain the system.

He also became a developer himself, as one of the part-

ners who developed Stones Throw, a community just to the west of Seven Lakes.

Shaw told *The Times* that Cline was instrumental in the formation of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association and served on its Board of Director for a number of years.

"He deserves more credit and recognition than he probably got while he was alive," Shaw said.

"Joe Cline was a very loyal person," Lawrence told *The Times*. "He was as honest as the day is long."

"When I gave Joe a problem for work on, I knew I could forget about it, because I knew he would take care of it"

"He was a dynamic person. And I'm going to miss him."

#### Fall Fusion Art Show

The Artists League of the Sandhills brings three of the area's noted artists together for the exhibit "Fall Fusion," including Westsider Barbara Sickenberger

A reception for the exhibit will be held on Friday, September 10, 5 pm to 7 pm, and is open to the public.

The featured Artists in the exhibit are Sarah Clatworthy, Nancy Yanchus, and Sickenberger. The exhibit will run through September 29. The gallery will be closed for the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Exchange Street Gallery is located at 129 Exchange Street in the old Aberdeen Rockfish Railroad storage terminal. Visit the web site at www.artistleague.org. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 3 pm. Contact the League at 910-944-3979 (10 am - 4 pm, M-F) or artistleague@windstream.org for information on membership, classes, workshops and monthly gallery exhibits.

## SL Chapel fundraiser

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines is holding a fund raising pancake breakfast at Applebee's on Saturday, September 18, 7 am to 10 am. The restaurant is located on Sandhills Boulevard. Route 1, Aberdeen.

The breakfast is to raise funds for a future building project for the Seven Lakes Chapel Community. Applebee's Restaurant will be serving short stacks of pancakes for a tall cause. For tickets and information call 672-2118. Tickets are \$7 each. Come out to Applebee's on Saturday, September 18, have a great breakfast to support a great cause.



Your Foxfire Neighbor **Terry McLean** 

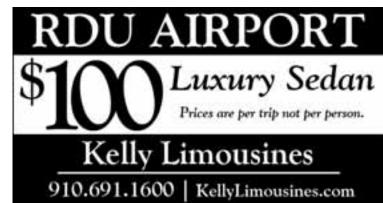
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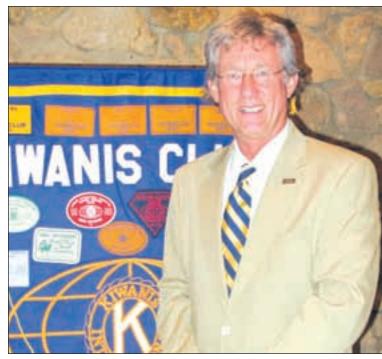
# Kiwanis get the scoop on Pauley series

by Frank Krohn

Seven Lakes Kiwanis

Dr. John Stacey spoke to the Seven Lakes Kiwanis on Tuesday, August 24.

Dr. Stacey is the Director of Learning Resources at Sandhills Community College, and in that capacity also is the Director of the Sandhills Community College Library. Dr, Stacey spent most of his time on the program speaking about the Ruth Pauley Lecture Series, but made one important comment about the Library. Although it is a school facility, and functions as an academic resource library, it also is open to the public, and functions just like a public library for the community.



Dr. John Stacey

Dr. Stacey's comments about the Pauley Lecture Series were most informative. He briefly touched on its beginning almost 25 years ago, and stressed its self-imposed challenge to "Think globally and act locally."

The up coming schedule of speakers is most impressive, including the likes of Jack Hanna, the well known Director Emeritus of the Columbus Zoo, and Nicholas Sparks, the best selling author and screenwriter, to

Dr. Stacey's comments name only a couple who are bout the Pauley Lecture on the 2010-2011 program.

Moore County is most fortunate to have local people from the community with the desire and talents to bring together such an impressive collection of personalities for everyone's intellectual enjoyment and stimulation.

Seven Lakes Kiwanis meets every Tuesday at noon at the Seven Lakes Country Club and visitors are always welcome.

#### Project Linus at the Snack Shack

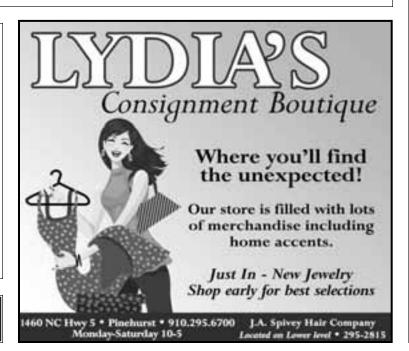


**Project Linus volunteers** spent an afternoon in the Seven Lakes Snack Shack working on blankets and enjoying delicious treats. Project Linus is a non-profit organization providing blankets to children in need in Moore County. Call Pat Weber 673-1457 if you would like more information.

Seamus Murphy sez:



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# New Kiwanians boast varied backgrounds



New Kiwanis members John Strohmenger, Jim Boyd, and Bob Racine

**by Frank Krohn** Seven Lakes Kiwanis

On Tuesday, July 27, the Seven Lakes Kiwanis got better acquainted with three of its newest members. Each of the three gave a brief personal biography, which proved to be both interesting and inspirational.

Bob Racine is a lawyer who, after a very active career filled with many moves, has settled in Seven Lakes, he previously resided in Florida. He has always been active in community affairs, and is currently working with the Scouting activity in Pinehurst.

John Strohmenger had an active career with the Air Force with assignments in locations around the world. After retiring from the Air Force, Strohmenger ended up owning his own janitori-

al service business in Pennsylvania. He moved to Seven Lakes several years ago, and has been active in the community since then.

Jim Boyd has had a most interesting career as a dentist. He ended his formal career heading a dental clinic in Williamsport, PA, before moving to Seven Lakes. He has been, and remains, active as a dental missionary to various countries in South America, particularly Columbia and Mexico.

These three men impressed their fellow Club members with their backgrounds, and Seven Lakes Kiwanis is proud to have them part of its organization.

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

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#### Seven Lakes Dance

Ballet, tap and jazz classes for children ages three and up begin Monday, September 13, at the Northside Community Activity

Started in the Summer of 1997 by lead instructor Marcie Milbredt, Seven Lakes Dance has grown to its current enrollment of over 100 students, from absolute beginners through

award-winning competition teams. Classes are divided by age group and dance style, with fees starting at \$45 per month for one class and \$55 per month for two classes, plus a \$15 annual registration.

Dancers may register the first night of classes. For information, visit www.7 lakesdance.com or email 7lakesdance@nc.rr.com

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NEWS September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

# In memory of . . .

Elsie Elizabeth Schultz,

77, of Seven Lakes, formerly of Huntington, NY, died August 26 at her home.

Mrs. Schultz was born in Richmond Hill, NY, the daughter of the late John and Martha Ernst. She worked as a Case Worker for the Child Protective Services Department of Suffolk County, NY, and as an advocate for the rights of children for over 15 years.

Mrs. Schultz and her husband retired to Seven Lakes in 1988. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Eastern Star.

Funeral services were held August 28 at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes. The Rev. Rick Schliepsiek of St. Paul Lutheran Church officiated. Burial followed in the Seven Lakes Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, Robert Schultz; two sons, Douglas Schultz of Asheboro, and Stephen Schultz of Orlando, FL and Greenwich, CT.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 1655, Pinehurst, NC 28370 or the Alzheimer's Association, 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215.

**Claude Roger Dutton**, 66, of Pinelake Health Care & Rehab, Carthage, died August 26, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Dutton was born in Moore County the son of Roy Lyman Dutton and Sue Wood Hunsucker.

Mr. Dutton was a 1962 graduate of Southern Pines High School where he played football and baseball. He joined the US Navy after graduating and served during the Vietnam War from 1962 to 1968

Mr. Dutton was preceded in death by his father Roy Lyman Dutton; stepfather, Havis Hunsucker; sister, Faye Burgess; and grandparents Claude Lyle Dutton and Grace Turnley Dutton.

He is survived by his sons, Michael Dutton of Seven Lakes; Mark Dutton of Foxfire Village; daughter, Katie Gosnell of Winder, GA; his mother, Sue Hunsucker of Southern Pines; brothers, Eddie Dutton of Southern Pines; David Hunsucker of Nashville, NC; Tom Dutton of Vass; eight grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

**Robert F. Hearn, Sr.**, age 85 of Seven Lakes died at home on Thursday August 19

A memorial service was held at the West End Presbyterian Church Sanctuary. Rev. Dr. Lawrence Lyon and associate pastor Rev. Chip Pope officiated. Burial followed in the family plot at Pinebluff Cemetery, Pinebluff Cemetery Road.

Mr. Hearn was born in Moore County and the son of the late William Frank and Ethel Perdue Hearn.

Mr. Hearn was a US Navy veteran of W.W.II. He was assigned to an Air/Sea rescue unit operating in the South Pacific. After his tour in the Navy his next 18 years were spent in aerospace as an electrical designer/engineer working on such projects as Vanguard (1st US satellite vehicle), Apollo (moon landing) and Titan I, II, and III (intercontinental ballistic missiles). During his last 12 working years he was involved with nuclear, hydro and fossil power plants, working in the design of instrumentation and control circuitry. He retired from Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1984.

He was preceded in death by his son Robert F. Hearn, Jr.; two brothers Joseph and John Wayne Hearn; sisters, Dixie Hearn Elmore and Janie Hearn Brandon.

He was survived by his wife of 62 years Gladys Hussey Hearn of Seven Lakes; daughter Deborah Hearn Owen of

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Miami, Florida; sisters, Mary Frances Hearn Ramsey of Pinebluff and Ruth Hearn Mills..

Memorials may be directed to: West End Presbyterian Church at PO box 13, West End, NC 27376 or FirstHealth Hospice and Palliative Care at 150 Applecross Drive Pinehurst, NC 28374 or to a charity of choice.

**Pamela A, Groetsch**, age 58, of Foxfire Village, died Monday, August 16

Memorial services were held Thursday, August 19, at Grace Presbyterian Church, Tega Cay, SC.

Mrs. Groetsch was born in Batavia, NY and graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 1970. She was an active participant throughout her life in church sponsored missions supporting youth, shut-ins, crisis pregnancies, and the Girl Scouts, in Rochester, NY; Ft. Mill, SC; Richmond, VA; and the Pocono Mountains of PA. She was also active in her local MS Society Chapters over the past sixteen years.

Mrs. Groetsch was preceded in death by her father-

in-law Kenneth G. Groetsch.

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She is survived by her husband Gary Groetsch; children, Heather Wall, Matthew Groetsch, Mark Groetsch, and Kristin Groetsch; her parents Dr. Warren and Dr. Dorothy McIntyre of Seven Lakes; sisters, Heather Knapp, Maureen Middleton, and Dr. Melanie Hawthorne, nieces, nephews; and her mother-in-law, Betty Groetsch.

Memorials contributions may be directed to the National MS Society 3101 Industrial Drive Suite 210 Raleigh, NC 27609.

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# **Adult Academy tackles** modern slavery in America

by Mary Price Seven Lakes West

The Adult Academy, sponsored by the Chapel in the Pines and West Side Presbyterian will hold its next seminar on Tuesday, September 14 and Tuesday, September 21, 7 to 8:30 pm each night, in the Crawford Center at the Presbyterian Church, 275 Knox Lane, West End. This program deals with one of America's least talked about, but most devastating problems, modern day slav-

In spite of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the anti trafficking law of 2,000, plus outlawing of slavery by the United Nations, the State Department estimates that 15,000 to 20,000 slaves are brought (i.e. trafficked) into the U.S. every year. Estimates by the CIA go even higher to 50,000, though no one knows the exact number.

How can this be? People are held in bondage for some of the following reasons: they need to repay large loans (often incurred by the slave's families) to "coyotes" who brought them into the U.S. and sold them to other organizations; their documents are being held by their masters; threats of harm to their families back home should they try to escape and beatings or threats to their lives should they try to escape. Many slaves are kept on drugs during the "off hours."

Though there is some resistance to following the law by some public organizations, slavery is also difficult to prosecute. Often the slaves are moved around (e.g. fruit and vegetable pickers) or even fall in love with their masters (prostitution) or fear for their lives and those of their families and refuse or are unable to testify. Though most slaves seem to be imported illegally into the U.S., domestic slaves are known to exist and even a few U.S. citizens are enslaved in Mexico.

The course will discuss all the above matters, cover case histories (including in North Carolina), and provide some suggestions as to what might be done about the problem. The need to provide training and health care for freed slaves is covered. Charlotte, North Carolina is said to be one of the five worst cities in the U.S. though verification for this statement has not been found.

The text will be "The Slave Next Door: Human Trafficking and Slavery in America" by Kevin Bales and Ron Soodalter (\$16.49 at Amazon.com). The course will include DVDs from the Free the Slaves organization.

West End Presbyterian will have a few books available for purchase if you choose not to buy through Amazon. Purchase of the text is optional, but preferred.

To sign up for this informative study, call Lynne at the West End Presbyterian Church office (673-4301) by September 2. By signing up ahead of time, you help the Academy knows how many to prepare for.

If you are unable to make a commitment until the day of the course, you are still welcome to attend.

#### **NAMI Support Group**

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)-Moore County holds its monthly meetings at the Community Room in the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Specialty Clinic Building, 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.Call (910) 295-1053 or go to www.nami-moorecounty.org

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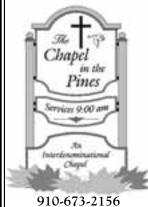
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NEWS September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

#### County

(Continued from front page) load a copy of those slides from sevenlakestimes.net.

#### Incorporation

Though it has been the hottest topic in Seven Lakes this Summer, incorporation was the issue the Board of Commissioners dealt with most quickly.

County Attorney Misty Leland had prepared an incorporation primer with detailed information on the process and the relevant state statutes that was available for meeting attendees to take away from the meeting [Download a copy at sevenlakestimes.net].

"Incorporation is a question that Seven Lakes needs to answer for itself," Chairman Tim Lea said. Lea was the only member of the Board to address the issue.

"We will be glad to work with you on any direction you want to go in."

A member of the audience asked whether, if Seven Lakes incorporated and had its own police force, it would also need its own judge and jail.

"They all come to Carthage," Sheriff Carer replied, explaining that, in North Carolina, the state provides the judges and the county provides the iails.

#### Gates 'keep the bad guys out'

Carter was on hand to address the GSLCC's questions on whether Seven Lakes had a better or worse crime rate than the rest of the county -- and what factors lead to a higher crime rate.

"In Seven Lakes, the area you have, the gated community you have, it's a wonderful thing," the Sheriff said. "It keeps the bad guys out." That comment was met with sustained applause from the audience.

"When they have to go through gates, when they have to worry about somebody taking down their license plate number, they ain't coming," Carter added. "They are going out to some rural area of the county, out where no nobody is going to see them, to go in that man's barn and steal his John Deere lawnmower."

The Sheriff said his office received about 29,000 calls for service of all types in 2008 -- harassing phone calls to murders -- from a jurisdiction

that includes 46,000 people. 502 of those calls, or 1.7 percent, came from Seven Lakes, which is home to roughly ten percent of the population for which the Sheriff's Office has responsibility.

The numbers were similar in 2009, with 28,000 total calls for service, of which 564 came from Seven Lakes.

#### Drugs a key factor in crimes

The Council had asked what makes crime more prevalent in some areas than in others. Carter said a key fact was drug use.

"People don't steal to feed their babies," the Sheriff said. "The government's going to help them do that . . . They steal to buy drugs."

"The areas that are prevalent with drugs is where your crime starts and it goes right down to the convenience store that gets robbed in the middle of the night."

Responding to information provided by the GSLCC that indicated only about eight percent of Seven Lakers obey the posted speed limits, Carter said "that's pretty much the case everywhere we go, ladies and gentlemen." He added that Seven Lakes is

fortunate because special state legislation allows Sheriff's officers to enforce speed limits on Seven Lakes streets, which is not the case, for instance, in the gated community of Woodlake.

Though the Sheriff's office has 74 sworn officers, many of those are investigators, court officers, civil process servers, and jailers, Carter explained, leaving 28 patrol officers.

"We get over here when we can," the Sheriff said, noting that his office "works constantly" with Seven Lakes' community managers to schedule patrols by deputies. "But when you have robberies, break-ins, and drug

dealers, speeding is a little down on the list. But we are going to do the very best we can."

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#### Cleaning up the 'Flea Market'

The Seven Lakes Council had asked the county what could be done about the "flea market area" across from the Exxon station at the intersection of NC Highways 73 and 211 in West End.

Assistant Planning Director Debra Ensminger had the unenviable task of explaining why that use of the property persists, even though the county has not issued the permits that would be nec-

(See "County," p. 16)



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# The people of West End United Methodist Church

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#### County

(Continued from page 15)
essary to allow it. "It is currently an active zoning enforcement case," she noted.

Ensminger said the B-2 Business zoning of the parcel, on which vendors set up to sell everything from military surplus to steaks and seafood, would allow for such uses, given proper permits. However, she also said the county had issued no such permits for that property. She explained that the vendors selling items on the property would need to have \$100 "Itinerant Merchant Licenses," also issued by the county. Finally, she noted that vendors aren't allowed to have items on the NC Department of Transportation right of way.

Though the county has attempted to enforce zoning and other regulations in the area, the planning department has only two code enforcement officers. Ensminger encouraged residents to call in complaints about the area to the Planning Department at 910-947-5010. "We are complaint driven," she said of the county's code enforcement efforts.

After the crowd continued to pepper Ensminger with questions about the lack of success the county has had enforcing regulation of the parcel, County Manager McSwain stepped in to commit to stepping up enforcement and trying to work with the property owner to recti-

fy the problem. The one-thirdacre triangular piece of land is owned by McNeill Oil Company of Aberdeen.

#### **New Developments**

The Council had inquired about the status of new developments -- like Pine Forest and Stonehill Pines -- that are planned for western Moore County, asking about their effects on the environment, water supplies, and the housing market.

Ensminger explained that developers have the right to submit plans that meet the conditions of the county's subdivision audience; the market determines the merits of a particular proposal. Environmental impacts are regulated by both the state and federal governments, she said.

Securing water for new major developments is ultimately the responsibility of the developer, Ensminger explained. The county requires that developers provide and pay for the additional water capacity needed.

Public Utilities Director Dennis Brobst expanded on Ensminger's statement, noting that the county has required that Pine Forest, Stonehill Pines, and the Dormie Club developments all pay for water to supply their future residents.

"I will not allow my existing customers to purchase water for a new development," Brobst said, adding that the county has also required these developers to use reclaimed water for irrigation of both golf courses and residential lots in order to achieve great water conservation benefits.

#### More water for 7 Lakes?

Brobst's presentation was the meeting's most extensive, as he took on the task of of answering the Council's questions about the county's ongoing water initiatives and whether any of those will bring more water to Seven Lakes.

He outlined three options for bringing additional water to the community: two that have been much talked about in the past and one new option.

The new option is likely the most expensive: to bring water from Harnett County, through the East Moore Water District and then through \$3 million of new water mains running along NC Highway 73 from Eastwood to Gretchen Road, and then down Love Grove Church Road to connect with the existing Seven Lakes system.

The county already has a contract to purchase up to two million gallons of water per day from Harnett County, which will soon open a new 36 million gallon per day treatment plant on the Cape Fear River below Jordan

Lake. Harnett is interested in selling the county a permanent stake in the plant, for \$1.85 per gallon, which would guarantee that source of water.

Buying that interest in the Harnett County plant, along with installing new water mains and other infrastructure upgrades, would bring the total upfront cost of the project to \$8 million, Brobst said.

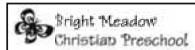
Owning an interest in the plant would likely guarantee a somewhat lower cost per thousand for water from that source, Brobst told *The Times* after the meeting. He also noted that selling shares in the plant's capacity appears to be the only way that Harnett County plans to sell water to other counties and municipalities in the future.

#### Montgomery County & Robbins

More familiar options for bringing additional water to Seven Lakes include buying water from Montgomery County or buying water from the Town of Robbins.

Montgomery County water would be piped through yetto-be-installed water mains from Candor to Seven Lakes, Brobst said. Those new pipes, along with some internal improvement to the Montgomery County system, are expected to cost \$2.7 million. The developer of Pine Forest was at one point expected to pay for that improvement, but that deal continues to be tied up in negotiations that county staff could not comment on during the meeting.

Brobst said one disadvan-(See "County," p. 17)



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125 N Trade Street Seven Lakes Village **NEWS Seven Lakes Times** September 3, 2010

#### County

(Continued from page 16)

tage of Montgomery County as a source is that they want \$2.60 per thousand gallons of water, significantly more than the \$2.10 rate that the county recently negotiated with Southern Pines and Aberdeen.

The county has been negotiating with Robbins since the Spring of 2009 about the prospects for bringing the town's water plant back on line to supply water to both Robbins and county customers. Brobst said a proposal is expected from the town in September. Bringing water from Robbins to Seven Lakes would involve installing a water main down NC Highway 705 and installing pump stations, since Seven Lakes is at a higher elevation.

#### **Seven Lakes Water Usage**

At present, almost all of Seven Lakes' water comes through a single water main connected to the Pinehurst system. Brobst said that pipe and the pump station in front of West Pine Middle School can supply approximately 1.05 million gallons per day. Maximum daily usage this Summer was 880,000 gallons on July 5; the top number in August thus far was 710,000 gallons.

The community is currently under no water conservation

restrictions. Brobst, who is a resident of Seven Lakes West, said he believes his fellow landowners have become more sensitive to the need to conserve. He noted that he used to see automatic sprinklers running even during a rain shower, but now observes that folks turn them off when it rains.

Overall, the largest single day usage of water in the county system was 4.2 million gallons, on August 7, 2007, but an average winter's day's consumption is only 1.56 million gallons. That rises to an average of 2.7 million gallons in the Summer. The county's water supply system, including its own wells and water purchased from Southern Pines, Aberdeen, and Harnett county through the East Moore Water District, can supply a total of 5.66 million gallons per day.

That production capacity will increase by 500,000 gallons per day when two new wells -- 5A and 9 -- come on line in Pinehurst, which Brobst said is expected by December. Well 6A, which is under contract to be drilled, could add another 129,000 gallons, as could Well 3A, which will be drilled near a new water tank that is under construction on Monticello Road in Pinehurst.

In addition to those capac-

ity enhancements, the county is near completion of a computerized hydraulic model of its entire system, which Brobst said will greatly aid decision making about new lines and new water sources. Also underway is a \$99,000, multi-year upgrade of the SCADA system the county uses to control its production wells and pump stations.

The county regularly monitors the level of water in the Middendorf aquifer, the underground water source that supplies its wells, Brobst said. A new water shortage response plan that was presented to the Board of Commissioners last week and is now out for public comment is tied to the aquifer level, as well as other drought indicators.

#### No Sewer for Seven Lakes

The Seven Lakes Council had asked whether the county has plans to extend sewer service to Seven Lakes, and the short answer from Brobst was "No."

"There are no plans to extend sewer into the Seven Lakes area," Brobst said, noting that it would be "phenomenally expensive." He added that the County's Environmental Health Department reports no unusual amount of septic failures in Seven Lakes. In fact, that department reports that the soils in Seven Lakes are well suited to septic systems.

"The main argument for extending sewer to Seven Lakes would be to get some more intense development in the business area," Brobst said, including larger restaurants and stores. He suggested that there may be other alternatives than connecting the area to the County's Addor wastewater treatment plant, but did not elaborate on what those alternatives might be.

#### **Commissioners welcome** future meetings

Thursday's meeting

between the GSLCC and the Commissioners was scheduled as an alternative to having Seven Lakes represented "at the table" when the county meets with elected officials from its municipalities. Members of both groups appeared to feel the maiden voyage for the format had been a success.

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Westside President Ron Shepard told The Times on Friday that he expected the joint meeting might become a twice-a-year event.

At the close of Thursday's meeting, Chairman Tim Lea made it clear that the County stands ready to schedule an encore.

'Whenever you would like us to come back," Lea said, "we would be more than happy to do that."









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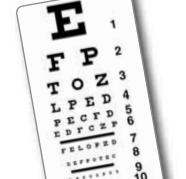
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NEWS September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

#### Jail

(Continued from page 5)

running a small business in the county and compared the limited obligation bond financing to a mortgage or other borrowing secured by property.

"When it comes to detention centers and jails and things like this . . . we're over-crowded and we have to do something," he said. "If we don't, the state can step in and force you to do something."

Picking up on that theme, Picerno noted that the Board had received a letter from the Grand Jury of Moore County in December 2009 urging the Commissioners to address overcrowding in the existing jail. He said the average inmate population in the 110-bed facility was 148 over the past three months and 151 in July -- with a peak population of 168 on July 19.

"That's overcrowded, in my book," Picerno said. "The environment right now . . . interest rates are at historic lows. This is a good time for us to build . . . we are building this thing at an '07 cost."

He added that, to date, he had had only one citizen, out of 84,000 in the county, call to discuss the matter with

Caddell noted that not just the jail is overcrowded. The sheriff's eighteen investigators work in an office area the size of the Community Center stage, he said. There is overcrowding in the courthouse, and conditions in the 9-1-1 call center, which is in a basement, "are deplorable."

"I did not do this haphazardly," Caddell said, adding that he is 110% sure that the Board is making the right decision.

#### Like Washington DC?

Picerno took an opportunity near the close of the meeting to rebut the claim that the County's spending decisions resemble those in the nation's capital.

Picerno noted that the county budget was \$85 million in 2009, \$71 million in 2008, and \$68 million this

year. The Board cut taxes last year and held them even this year.

"We don't do like Washington," he said, noting that he personally had worked hard to review every line item in this year's budget.

"We are being good stewards of your money. This Board does care. We are a good conservative, Republican Board and I hope you will continue to support us."

#### **Public comment**

Public comment on the matter was scant. John Marcum of Pinehurst said those Commissioners who voted in favor of taking on \$50 million in public debt without a vote of the people should ask themselves how high that number would have to go before they went to the taxpayers.

Linda Tableman of Seven Lakes West noted that providing the jail is one of the county's obligations under the state constitution -- an "essential obligation of government."

"What happens if it is voted down?" she asked. "Do you

get a cheaper building? Do you try again? How much money do you spend trying again? It has to be built."



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20 Seven Lakes Times September 3, 2010 WHAT'S WHEN

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- St Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church Holy Eucharist, 9:30 am. The Rev. Fred Thompson, Priest Associate. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. All are Welcome.
- Wildlife Pantry 3 pm, Local examples of seeds, fruits, nuts, & other plant parts which are utilized by native wildlife will be examined during a short slide presentation & a walk. Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd., Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167, weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- Awana 6:15 to 7:30 pm, at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Family Life Center, Seven Lakes. Children must be 3 years old by October 15, to participate. Three years through 5th grade. Questions SLBC 673-4656.
- The Rooster's Wife Featured artist is Shannon Whitworth w/Angela Easterling. Admission Charge. Poplar Knight Spot, 114 Knight Street, Aberdeen, 6 pm. 910-944-7502.

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

• Seven Lakes Baptist Church – 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Ladies Beth Moore Bible Study "The Patriarchs." Meetings held on Monday evenings. Study group will end November 15. \$16 for the workbook. Seven Lakes Baptist Church 673-4656.

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- Healing Service 11 am, every Tuesday. Intercessory prayers for the sick & troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes.
- Moore County Board of Commissioners 5:00 pm, regular meeting. Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- NAMI-MC Offers 11-Week Course to Help Family Members – this course is free to family members of close relatives with mental illness. Begins today, ends on, November 16, 7 pm to 9:30 pm each evening. At the FirstHealth

Moore Regional Specialty Clinic (formerly Pinehurst Surgical Clinic building) with limited seating. Call 910-692-6942 to register or www.nami-moorecounty.org



#### <u>wednes-</u>

#### DAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- Project Linus workshop in the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse, 10 am 3 pm. Fleece & supplies furnished. No sewing required to make a blanket! Join the group for a day of fun and charity. Blankets delivered to children in need in Moore County. Bring a lunch, stay all day or drop by at your convenience. Pat Weber 673-1457.
- Applause for Paws Bene**fit** -7 - 9 pm, join the fun and help homeless companion animals at Ironwood Café, for the third annual benefit on behalf of Solutions for Animals animal shelter. Ironwood Cafe invites you to - dance, sing, eat, drink, relax and unwind. Ironwood Cafe located at 2176 Midland Road, Pinehurst. Send "My Applause" donations to SFA, PO Box 2062, Southern Pines, NC 28388.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Kitchens and Moore Tour

 hours 10 am to 4 pm,
 Moore County Extension and Community Association presents "Kitchens and Moore" home tour. Six

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thage. \$15 in advance or \$20 day of tour. Ag Center at 947-3188.

- Moore County Republican Men's Club registration at 11:30 am, lunch served at noon. Held at the Country Club of North Carolina. North Carolina State Representative James L. Boles, Jr. (Jamie) will be the speaker. Call Harry Fekkes at 215-0120.
- Women of Seven Lakes Meeting 2 pm, Westside Park Community Center. Guest Marian Caso of Lady Bedford's Tea Parlour, Pinehurst will speak on the history, tradition & use of tea. All community women are invited to attend.
- **Wine Tasting** at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8:30 pm. \$10 for six wines and food from Goldie's.1057 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-2949.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

• Fall Fusion Art on Display – reception, 5 pm - 7 pm, for the exhibit. Feature three artists, Sarah Clatworthy, Barbara Sick-

enberger & Nancy Yanchus together. Exhibit ends September 29. 129 Exchange St., Aberdeen. Gallery hours Mon-Sat, noon - 3 pm. Sandhills Artist League 910-944-3979 (10 am - 4 pm, M-F).

#### <u>SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11</u>

- WEE PTA Fall Yard Sale 7:00 am on the school grounds. Rent a space for \$20. If you are unable to set up and sale but would like to donate your items to be sold, the PTA will do this for you. Contact Kay Miller (673-2932) or Crissy Skipper (673-8185).
- Mixed Paper Recycling Drive – 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, at the Kangaroo Station in the Fresh Market Shopping Center, Southern Pines. Contact Joan Neal, Executive Director, Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. at 947-3478 or kmcbinc@gmail.com.
- Celebrate the 10-Year Anniversary of the North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership – 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Join in for a series of nature walks,

demonstrations, displays, and presentations pertaining to the longleaf pine forest. Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167 or visit www.ncscp.org

- Belford Baptist Church hosting a Men & Women's Fellowship 11:00 am, guest speak Pastor Alvin Jones of Tabernacle International Church. Fellowship will continue Sunday, September 12 at 3 pm with Apostle Jury Price. 925 Windlblow Rd, Jackson Springs.
- Carolina Philharmonic Inaugural Gala held at the Fair Barn, Pinehurst. Exquisite catered cuisine will be served, and a potpourri of musical offerings from the Carolina Philharmonic and guest artists. An unforgettable Gala evening. Valet parking included. Tickets \$75 each purchased through Philharmonic box office or call 910-687-4746.
- Carolina Pines Chapter of USA Dance - 7 to 10 pm, will be "Puttin' on the



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WHAT'S WHEN August 20, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

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#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12,

- St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church Holy Eucharist 9:30 am, The Rev. Robert Brown. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. All are Welcome.
- Eagle Springs United Methodist Church Celebrates at 11:00 am, their 136th Homecoming with Rev. Nancy Willard as guest the preacher. Church, Marcus United Methodist Church Choir will provide special music. Dinner on the grounds at 12:15 pm.
- Weymouth Center Lecture Series 3 pm, "From the Thistle to the Great Lost Sea," Dr. Linda Carnes-McNaughton, professional archaeologist with 35 years' experience is currently the curator and historical archaeologist for the cultural resources management program at Fort Bragg. Reception to follow. Weymouth Center, 555 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. Free. 692-6261
- The Illustrious Longleaf 3 pm, learn about North

Carolina's state tree. Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd., Southern Pines, (910) 692-2167.

- Eddie Barrett and the Goodman Legacy Orchestra 4 pm to 6:30 pm, will perform at WFW Post, 615 South Page St., Southern Pines. Public invited. Cover \$5. 910-692-3772.
- The Rooster's Wife 6 pm, Sundays at Six music series. Artist – Caleb Hawley & Chuck Brodsky. Admission Charge. Poplar Knight Spot, 114 Knight Street, Aberdeen. 944-7502.

#### <u>Monday, September 13</u>

- Seven Lakes Landowners Association – 8:30 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.
- Go Pink with the Ladies of Seven Lakes West Annual Lunch & Golf Fundraiser to Benefit Susan G. Komen Foundation. Everyone in the community is invited. At Beacon Ridge Golf Club, 9 am. Lunch at 12:30 pm. Sign up in the women's locker at Beacon Ridge or contact Ellen Leslie at 673-5475.
- Moore Republican Women's Club – September Luncheon, registration at 11:30 am, luncheon begins at noon, at the Pinehurst

Members Club. \$16, checks made payable to Pinehurst Resorts LLC. Guest speakers Republican Judges running for office in November. For NC Supreme Court, Barbara Jackson, & for Court of Appeals, Ann Marie Calabria, Rick Elmore, Steven Walker and Dean Poirier. Cathy Wright, candidate for NC House, in Dist. 54. Call Pauli Curl at 215-9796.

- National Active & Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Sandhills Chapter 1895 – 10:30 AM, quarterly "Eating Meeting" at Kenny's Country Restaurant, US Hwy 1, Pine Bluff. Information about NARFE call Vilma Geisert (910) 215-5898 or George Sandoval (910) 246-9881.
- Monday Art Group 1-3 pm, at Seven Lakes North Clubhouse, bring your materials.
- Seven Lakes Baptist Church - 7 to 8:00 pm, Beth Moore Bible Study "The Patriarchs." Meetings will be held on Monday evenings. Call Seven Lakes Baptist Church 673-4656.
- Sandhills Photography Club – 7 to 9 pm, Christ Fellowship Church, Mid-

land and Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. Dr. Molly Gwinn will discuss some of the contributions to American photography by pioneers in the medium, including Mathew Brady, Timothy O'Sullivan, and Lewis Hine. Gwinn has taught art history at Rutgers, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at New York University, and the Dallas Museum of Art. All guests are welcome www.sandhillsphotoclub.org

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- Seven Lakes West Landowners Association – 9 am, work session. West Side Park Community Center. Open to all landowners.
- Healing Service 11 am, every Tuesday Intercessory prayers for the sick & Troubled, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- Seven Lakes Computer Club – 3 pm, announce a new "Getting back to Basics" program at the Seven Lakes North Club House.

• Adult Academy Meeting: Modern Day Slavery In America Seminar – 7 to 8:30 pm, sponsored by the Chapel in the Pines and West Side Presbyterian. Program discuses modern day slavery. Call West End Presbyterian Church office (673-4301) to sign up. The Crawford Center at the Presbyterian Church, 275 Knox Lane, West End.

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#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

• Wine Tasting – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8:30 pm. \$10 for six wines and food from Goldie's. Located at 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949.

#### <u>Friday, September 17</u>

• POW/MIA Remembrance
Day Ceremony – 6 pm,
hosted by Chapter 966 Vietnam Veterans of America.
Union Pines Navy ROTC
Color Guard to present the
colors. Short ceremony: the
POW/MIA table setting,
reading of reflections, the
reading of names of NC
POW/MIA, with the laying
of a wreath. All veterans
and the public invited.
Moore County Veterans
Memorial Park, Carthage.





#### **SLLA Meeting**

(Continued from page 3)

noting that the Roving Patrol pontoon boat is slow and cannot catch the faster violators.

However, Keyser said he was apprehensive to open any doors that could allow North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission officers onto the lake for patrols. He described such a decision as a one-way choice that, once in place, could not be altered.

#### **Finance**

Under action items, the Board approved a new investment policy which formalizes in writing the Board's power to direct investments as well as requirements for fund management and regular review schedules. In addition, the Board unanimously approved the revised Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget, which was revamped to correspond to the accrual method of accounting.

"This brings us from a cash basis to an accrual basis budget," said Treasurer Denny Galford. "It is a much more realistic budget in terms of expense categories."

He reported that major repairs were further broken down into capital and non-capital projects and that the unidentified category fund has increased for items less than \$2,500.

"There are a number of small items that need repair, but we haven't identified all the projects we need to get done. We're waiting for the Reserve Study report," explained Galford.

He thanked the Finance Committee for their dedicated work, including three meetings in August, each lasting four hours. Minutes of all Finance Committee meetings are available on the Association website.

Galford reported that Association investments are secured in FDIC-insured institutions, with two months of cash flow held in operating accounts, a small amount in money market accounts that can be easily pulled out if necessary, a portion invested in certificates of deposit for

staggered terms throughout the year that can be emptied and replenished, and the balance in other certificate of deposit accounts which pay a higher interest rate. In addition, the Association received a clean opinion certified audit report for last fiscal year with no deficiencies in management control identified.

#### Recreation

A bus trip to the North Carolina State Fair is being organized for this Fall, Community Manager Cochran reported. More information will be available soon.

The ten-week SLLA Summer Camp ended on Friday, August 20. While interest and enrollment were considerably lower than anticipated, Cochran thanked Camp Director Ginger McQueen and her staff for organizing such an excellent program.

"The kids who did attend had a good time," reported Director Keyser. "Next year we'll have to take a serious look at running the camp longer in the day. That was part of the problem this year -- and also we were not early enough with information."

The Recreation Committee next meets on Wednesday, September 8, and any interested residents are welcome to participate. Committee Member Bob Racine is compiling a list of all past recreational programs and events for review and discussion.

#### **Community Standards**

An amendment and an addition to the Association's rules and regulations related to Community Standards both received a unanimous nod of support from the Board.

Rule 5.1.11 was amended to clarify that any vehicle without current registration and tags must be garaged, and language was added to 5.1.8 stating that vehicles may only be parked in driveways or approved parking areas.

Director Kent Droppers reported that the Commu-

(See "SLLA," p. 23)



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3306	Waterfront	\$289,900
	Waterfront	

**NEWS** September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

# Interfaith Service highlights mental illness

public awareness of brain disorders and help eradicate the stigma associated with these illnesses, National Association of Mental Illness -Moore County is offering an interfaith worship service to the community. The worship service will be held Sunday, September 26 at 4 pm, at

In an effort to increase Congregational Church of Pinehurst, 895 Linden Road, Pinehurst.

The featured guest speaker for the service is Suzanne G. Martin, Ph.D., a licensed psychologist at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital. Dr. Martin has over 15 years of behavioral health experience and provides individual,

group, and family therapy to patients from age 5 through older adults. She also provides psychological testing for cognitive, personality, and basic neuropsychological assessment. Dr. Martin uses a strength based approach in a cognitive-behavioral/interpersonal treatment. She is the

Treasurer of the Moore County NAMI group and a board member of the state NAMI. Dr. Martin will bring a message of hope and resilience.

This special service was planned by members and pastors of several local congregations. The chairman of

the planning committee is Fran Stark, Minister of Outreach and Visitation at the Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes; and Associate Pastor at McDonalds Chapel. For additional information, call 910-673-5493 or visit namimoorecounty.org

## **SLLA Meeting**

(Continued from page 22)

nity Standards Committee has made good progress using the Talis Management database and that the vast majority of concerns were quickly corrected. A few less responsive cases will be heard by Judicial Committee.

Droppers said he was continuing work at Sequoia Point to develop a plan that would prohibit parking along Firetree Lane in favor of accessible but safer parking areas in the boat storage area and along Association-owned lots at Primrose Court.

#### **Architectural Review Board**

Director Scott thanked Don Fentzlaff for stepping in to chair the Architectural Review Board [ARB] during August while she was called out of town. Several projects were approved during this period, including three fences, one home painting, one beach renovation, three roofs, a garage and breezeway, and one dock.

Responding to a question about metal roofs, Scott said

#### **Angel Food Ministries**

Seven Lakes Baptist Church is the Host Site. Affordable food to fit anyone's budget.September deadline to order is Tuesday, September 14. September Distribution date is Saturday, September 18, 9:30 am - 10:30 am.

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they were originally discouraged because of limited color selection and high cost, that materials available today are more attractive and desirable because of competitive costs, energy efficiency, and durability.

#### **Capital Infrastructure**

A contract for the Reserve Study is signed but a commencement date has not been set, reported Director Shaver. The Study is a long-range planning tool and will include a physical and financial analysis of Association assets.

Shaver said once the Study is complete, a large share of residents will be needed to fill the ranks of seven subcommittees to review results.

"My view is that anybody who wants to run for the Board and has not been a committee member is not qualified," Shaver said. "You need to have a feeling for what goes on here. I am offering an open invitation to every member to join one of these committees."

Subcommittees will include Roads, Recreation, Security, Community Standards, Lakes & Dams, Maintenance, and ARB.

#### **Other Business**

In other business on Wednesday, August 25, the SLLA Board:

Reappointed Dennis Roberts as the alternate member to the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council. Roberts, a former president of SLLA and the Seven Lakes Civic Club, was thanked for his service to the community and received a hearty round of applause.

Heard from Cochran that Debbie Caulk, a longtime SLLA administrative employee, submitted her resignation on August 3. She said the Association wished Caulk well and thanked her for many years of service. Jenny Herring has been hired as the new operations administrator and will be working in the office four days a week.

Heard from Northsider Mary Pagano that the intersection of Cardinal and Firetree Lanes is extremely hazardous. She recommended installing a four-way stop or cutting back overgrown foliage.

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#### **Foxfire**

(Continued from page 4)

part-time police position is currently undergoing a background investigation and that, once in place, he would be of tremendous assistance in covering gaps in police coverage.

For long range planning, Campbell asked the Council to consider police facility needs – particularly in filing and evidence storage – and also proposed adding the NIXLE system to the Village website. A free internet-based message board, it would not replace the existing Code Red system but be an additional communication source for official announcements.

A primary new concern for budgeting, Campbell explained, were discussions at the Moore County level to adopt a new and potentially expensive radio system that would render the Foxfire Department's equipment obsolete.

The Viper System will be presented to the Moore County Board of Commissioners next month for consideration. The digital system meets Federal requirements for narrow bandwidth regulations and is a State-maintained system. However, each municipal department must provide their own equipment. Campbell estimated \$20,000 would be needed to upgrade Foxfire.

Other anticipated Public Safety expenditures include installing a legally-required water sprinkler system at the Fire Department building and potentially more work necessary on the sleeping quarters firewall to stay in compliance for a 24-hour manned facility.

#### Foxfire Police underappreciated

After completing his official report on Public Safety issues, Chief Campbell spoke ment, which is a self-supporting public water utility. Reviewing major events over the last few years, he reported new wells were brought on-line to remediate a radon problem, less labor-intensive electronic meters were installed, and an agreement

"We know as policemen we won't be rich, but we're looking for a feeling of appreciation from the board."

- Foxfire Police Chief Mike Campbell

to the Council on a more personal level, for himself and Sgt. Chad Shue.

"This had been bothering me for awhile now . . . we fulfill our obligations day in and out — and we get paid for that — but we've had no pay increases even with extra rank and responsibility," said Campbell. "We work hard and put in the time, but sometimes it just doesn't feel like its being returned."

"It hurts," he said, describing how another Foxfire department added an employee and another doubled an employee's salary.

"You have qualified and dedicated people here. We know as policemen we won't be rich, but we're looking for a feeling of appreciation from the board."

#### Water

Lauer said providing a safe and adequate water supply is his primary goal in overseeing the Foxfire Water Departwith Moore County allowed the Stonehill Pines Planned Unit Development [PUD] to move forward.

"We have been very proactive in looking to the future and ensuring our water is of quality that we want," said Lauer, noting that rates were increased to cover debt incurred for the new wells. "It's critical. Without good water then we have to hook onto the County system sooner rather than later."

Mayor George Erickson reported that the newest well, located near Woodland Circle, is also Foxfire's best producer, at nearly 50 gallons per minute.

The Foxfire Water Department maintains six wells total, producing a total of 210 gallons per minute. During the Summer months, the system runs at approximately 75% of capacity.

John Sedlak reported two water main breaks occurred this year, on 8" and 3" lines, and were quickly repaired using available parts; however, Foxfire lacks a complete inventory for each size and type of line. He recommended purchasing the necessary parts at an estimated the cost of \$3,500.

Other goals for Foxfire Water include implementing a more rigid flushing schedule, installing fifty to sixty more electronic meters, and painting the water tower interior.

Addressing compliance monitoring, Sedlak said the Village received permission to reduce radiological testing at the SH1 treatment plant from quarterly to once every three years, starting January 2011; however, a slight spike at SH1, which may be related to a throttling problem at well #10, will require four additional quarterly readings.

#### **Streets and Parks**

New Councilman John Eltschlager said he was busy learning the ropes with assistance from Koos. Current projects include paving Wildwood Lane this Fall, using Powell Bill funds.

The Council also discussed maintenance of the 30' right of way and how landscaped pine straw at residences is washing into and clogging roadside drains during heavy rains.

#### **Long Range Planning**

The Long Range Planning Committee has drafted and begun distribution of a new survey, reported Erickson.

A similar survey conducted in the early 2000's resulted in construction of the Village Green Park, with fifty percent of funding through a North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund

(See "Foxfire," p. 25)





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**NEWS** September 3, 2010 **Seven Lakes Times** 

# Carolina Philharmonic plans Inaugural Gala

11, The Carolina Philharmonic will host its Inaugural Gala at the Pinehurst Fair

Maestro David Michael Wolff, Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the

On Saturday, September Carolina Philharmonic, has planned a program of glorious musical entertainment sure to delight. Guests will also be treated to elegant international cuisine catered by Elliotts. The evening promises to be an harmonic con-

vergence of superb music and fine dining. Tickets are \$75 and still available by calling 910-687-4746.

Founded eighteen months ago by Maestro Wolff, the Carolina Philharmonic is establishing one of the most

ambitious educational outreach programs in the state. including master classes, concerto competitions, youth orchestra workshops and joint productions with youth orchestras.

In March 2011 Ode to Jov will be performed in concert at Pinecrest High School involving a student honors chorus of over 100 and a student honors orchestra of 40 paired with Carolina Philharmonic's musicians. Given Maestro Wolff's extraordinary talent, vision, energy and enthusiasm, the Carolina Philharmonic will meet its goal of transforming Moore County into the artistic capital of North Carolina.

For additional information visit carolinaphil.org.

#### **Foxfire**

(Continued from page 24) [PARTF] grant.

Erickson serves on two County-level transportation subcommittees related to Hwy 211; one focused on the four-lane widening project, the other on the proposed bypass. In particular, he explained, a portion of the proposed bypass road traverses the 400-acre Edward's property.

On Stonehill Pines, Erickson reported two test wells have been dug and a third well site purchased on Linden Road.

#### Administration

With file storage maxed out, Village Clerk Lisa Kivett said that excess documents will be purged and shredded. Residents will be contacted and given the option to

collect house plans that have been filed.

Looking ahead, Kivett asked the Council to consider long range office space needs and recommended that a central location of all departments with a single computer server would be more efficient.

Kivett also recommended a review of the water billing policy for renters and reported that she has revamped a compliance request letter for use by the Appearance Committee.

Property tax bills have been mailed and Deputy Village Clerk Sharon Sanchez is setting up a fixed asset control system.

#### **Triangle J Council**

What can the Triangle J Council of Governments do for Foxfire?

Last November, the Village joined the organization and Executive Director Kirby Bowers and Marla Dorell, a project consultant, met with the Council at the Wednesday, August 25 retreat.

"There is value in membership, "Foxfire has a voice - a seat at the table - in regional planning through Triangle J," responded Bow-

"We can be, and should be, viewed as an extension of your staff," he continued, noting that membership dues includes a free hours policy to their on-staff experts in water quality, planning, finance, energy and environmental needs.

The Triangle J Council is a voluntary organization of municipal and county governments from Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Orange and Wake counties. In 1972, the North Carolina General Assembly established Triangle J as one of seventeen regional councils developed to aid, assist, and improve the capabilities of local governments in administration, planning, fiscal management, and develop-

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#### Study 'The Patriarchs' at SLBC

Seven Lakes Baptist Church is beginning the Beth Moore Bible Study "The Patriarchs."

The meeting will be held on Monday evenings beginning Monday, September 6, 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

For more information call Seven Lakes Baptist Church at 673-4656

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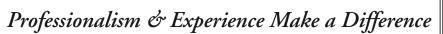
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Seven Lakes Times September 3, 2010

# OPINION

# Encounters of the almost Jurassic kind

day and nothing remarkable will happen. Zip, zero, zilch.

And another day an emu will show up in the yard.

Okay, you got me. That only happened once.

A known softie and noneto-proud owner of about three pets too many, I was a bit skeptical: especially since I just recently resigned as 'patron saint of homeless animals in need of veterinary attention,' in favor of my new role, 'chief executive goddess of the food bowl.'

My first instinct was that my neighbor was pulling my

cated. I know about nat-

ural emu migration patterns [read: there aren't any].

A llama on the loose?

That I would have believed. A ferret on the fly? Sure, it could happen.

But an emu?

Here in the Sandhills we've got plenty of woods out back but this isn't exactly The

Sometimes I'll go an entire leg, trying to put one over Outback. There may be this odd Australian inter- ble three-toed emu for inspithe press. After all, I'm edu-steaks on the barbie and

> Laura's -**Learning Curve**

> > Laura Douglass

coldies in the fridge, but this isn't the bush. And at the Douglass station, we have a Jackaroo but no joeys, a bitzer but no dingoes.

So I was quite shocked to find myself nose-to-beak with loper.

Massive and tragically unattractive, the head-high creature was more velociraptor than raven. Perched on bony stilts, he delicately picked his way across pine straw and gravel, concealing an uncanny ability to spin and outrun just about anything else afoot – man or beast.

Have you ever seen a dinosaur walk?

I haven't either. And neither has any paleontologist worth his pedigree; so, when those lofty PhDs study fossilized tracks, they look to the humration.

Seriously, it's not hard to see the resemblance. Pop in a few banana-size teeth, tack on a reptilian tale and lose a few feathers, deposit a bigger brain — nah, you can probably skip that — and you've got emusaurus Seven Lakus.

After visiting with the impromptu block party, our camera-shy new neighbor ambled deep into the woods when the television news arrived — I guess he wasn't ready for his close up. Farewell, my friend.

# Second opinion needed on Auman dam road

(SLW) Board and the Lake/Dam Committee have a major decision regarding reopening the roadway across the dam now that the dam remediation is complete. This is decision directly affects every SLW resident, and the 680 residences/properties between the northwest end of the dam and Tucker Court that have only Longleaf Drive for access. As neighbors it is incumbent that the right thing be done for everyone.

Dr. Marks previously stat-

The Seven Lakes West designed such that the roadway could be reopened. He also stated that the remediation results were better than expected. However, most recently he recommended keeping the roadway closed as vehicular impact loading could hasten damage the dam core.

> Do we simply accept "no" as the final decision or is it prudent that a second opinion be obtained from another qualified dam engineer, of which many are available?

Since this is a material ed the remediation was issue affecting the total community, alternative solutions also need to be investigated, and presented, includ-

- 1. Upgrading the dam and roadway.
- 2. Limiting vehicle access to passenger and emergency vehicles.
- 3.Construction of a bypass road,
- 4.Construction of a second

entrance/exit comparable in quality and convenience

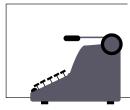
to the existing back gate, 5. Other ideas.

6.A combination?

There are also possible liability issues if emergency services cannot access a location in a timely manner?

Your Turn

Jim Johnson Seven Lakes West



Delays of as much as 5 minutes are possible when emergency vehicles have to use the present alternative routes.

The Board has spent \$20,000 on a preliminary beautification study for the front and rear gates including relocation of the guard house and mail house which apparently must be done by 2015.

This will require considerable monies for additional planning and design and probably total well in excess of a million dollars when construction is completed.

Further, at the most recent Board meeting, an excellent mail delivery plan was presented by the Long Range

Planning Committee/Ron Shepard including the history, alternatives and a practical recommendation. Implementation is projected to start within two years with an estimated cost exceeding \$350,000.

Since the roadway is our most immediate issue, spending \$20,000 on a second opinion on the dam seems very prudent and could allay many concerns.

This is certainly a matter of "significant interest to the membership" as defined by Seven Lakes West By-Laws. Thus, I urge the Seven Lakes West Board and Lake/Dam Committee to do the right thing for the total Seven Lakes West community and use this as an opportunity to begin rebuilding community cohesiveness.

If you concur, let the Board know.

EVEN TIMES

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Sign up for email updates at sevenlakestimes.net NEWS September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

# Septic lot dues decision was wrongheaded

Dear Editor

Thank you for your article on the Westside Land Owners meeting of August 10, 2010 in which you reported on my comments to the Board of Directors regarding septic lots. To date, August 24, two weeks later, no one from the Board of Directors has had the courtesy to inform us of their decision on this matter. Good communication ladies and

gentlemen!

The Board of Directors obviously did not do any research on this proposal, instead making an uninformed decision. Regarding Mr. Wimberly, he is in fact wrong

about Moore County. When notified that our septic lot was neither saleable nor buildable the County significantly lowered the tax rate.

We believe it would be appropriate for the Board to notify us directly why their decision is logical and reasonable when a septic lot is neither saleable nor buildable. This causes the landowner's dues to almost double even though they will put no additional demands on amenities, infrastructure, etc.

It just doesn't make sense.

Phil and Judy Streit Seven Lakes West

# Scary incorporation

Editor

After listening to Darrell Marks' July presentation on why we should incorporate, his repeated use of "scare" tactics was ineffective.

Scare tactic number one: He could have rented the Brick Oven Bistro space to a strip club. Scare tactic number two: We could have had a gay bar in the Seven Lakes shopping center. It is doubtful either of these establishments would be likely to last a month. Scare tactic number three: The town of Pinehurst is looking to annex Seven Lakes. It is unlikely Pinehurst would benefit to assume the responsibility of our lakes, dams, marinas, and other ammenities, miles away from their current city limits.

A real scare: The budget that was based on five cents a hundred per assessed value. The state of North Carolina has been ranked the sixth highest in the nation in budget cuts at nearly 31%. Since our current Moore County tax bill is based on forty-six and a half cents per hundred per assessed value with an additional six cents for fire protection, how could this committee expect to run an entire town on a "nickel"?

The scariest concept: The right of eminent domain. The newly minted town of Seven Lakes could claim our our lakes, parks, marinas, pools, etc. for public use.

It is quite obvious that this committee had better jump back on the bus, because they sure missed the boat on this whole idea, there is real problem spending more in tax dollars just to fix up someone else's property. If Darrell Marks was so concerned about the appearance of the business district, why was his name was not listed as a contributor to the Seven Lakes Beautification Fund?

R.J. Williams Seven Lakes West



#### POW/MIA Remembrance

Chapter 966 Vietnam Veterans of America will present their annual POW/MIA Remembrance Day ceremony on Friday, September 17, 6 pm at the Moore County Veterans Memorial Park in Carthage.

The Union Pines High School Navy ROTC Color Guard will present the colors. The brief ceremony will include the POW/MIA table setting, a reading of reflections, the reading of names of NC POW/MIA, along with the laying of a wreath. All veteran service organizations and the public are invited to attend.

# Jennifer S. Massey, DDS, PA ——— Family Dentistry ———



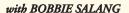
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# Holistic Health





#### **DECONSTRUCTING CRAVINGS**

Nobody can give you wiser advice than yourself. — Cicero

The body is an amazing source of intelligence. It is always there for you, pumping blood, never skipping a heartbeat, digesting whatever food you put in it and maintaining homeostasis. Is this reliable, intelligent bio-computer making a mistake by craving ice cream or a hamburger or chocolate? Are cravings due to lack of will-power or discipline? I'd like to suggest that cravings are not a problem. They are critical pieces of information that tell you what your body needs.

The important thing is to understand why you crave what you crave. Perhaps your diet is too restrictive or devoid of essential nutrients. Perhaps you are living a lifestyle that is too boring or stressful. Your body tries to correct the imbalance by sending you a message: a craving. A craving for something sweet could mean you need more protein, more exercise, more water or more love in your life. The key to stopping the sugar craving is to understand and deliver what your body really needs.

Your body knows best and is always trying to create balance. However, products like refined foods, sugar, caffeine, alcohol and drugs (which have little or no nutritional value) are confusing to the body. They throw the body off-balance and can create serious cravings as your body tries to get what it needs to restore internal harmony. The more your food is whole and healthy, the easier it is for your body to stay in balance and provide you with a happier, healthier life.

No book or theory can tell you what to eat. Only awareness of your body and its needs can tell you. Of

all the relationships in our lives, the one with our body is the most essential. It takes communication, love and time to cultivate a relationship with your body. As you learn to decipher and respond to your body's cravings, you will create a deep and lasting level of health and balance.

The next time you have a craving, treat it as a loving message from your body instead of a weakness. Try these tips to respond to your body:

- Have a glass of water and wait 10 minutes.
- Eat a healthier version of what you crave. For example, if you crave sweets, try eating more fruit and sweet or root vegetables.
- What is out of balance in your life? Is there something you need to express, or is something being repressed? What happened in your life just before you had this craving?

When you eat the food you are craving, enjoy it, taste it, savor it; notice its effect. Then you will become more aware and free to decide if you really want it next time.

Adapted with permission of Integrative Nutrition



For more information about Holistic Health, contact Bobbie Salang at info@sevenlakesmassage.com or (910)673-2000.

# **Fond Farewell**

Dear Editor:

As I leave Seven Lakes to begin a new chapter in my life, I would like to thank all those who have been friends of the Pattons over the past 15 years.

During our happy retirement years among you, both Bob and I were blessed with innumerable kindnesses in the form of caring, cheerful, and generous acts of fellow Seven Lakers. Thank you.

I regret not being able to say good-bye to friends individually, but after the last stay at Moore Regional, the "keepers" wouldn't let me out of the cage! Please know that I will keep up with you through the "Times," and wish you all the best.

Living in Friendship Village in Columbus, OH, with my son 10 minutes away, will eventually feel like home, but I do not expect to replace the affection gained for Seven Lakers. As the 7Lks axiom goes — there's no better place to live!

I will miss you.

Fondly, Jan Patton

# **Smart Bird**

Big Bird - Good Thinking I guess it didn't matter to the escaped emu whether we had gates or not gates; if we were incorporated or not incorporated, or even which side of Seven Lakes (North, South, West) he wound up

He knew a good thing when he found it. Too bad he couldn't have stayed around a little longer to bring a smile to the Seven Lakes community and to those who need to smile more often.

Love that Big Bird's GPS.

Bunny Whelan Seven Lakes South

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117 Cardinal - New Listing! 102 Firetree - New Listing 144 E. Devonshire - New Listing

Lot# 3169 - Lake Auman Waterfront - New Listing - \$47,500

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**NEWS** September 3, 2010 **Seven Lakes Times** 

# Let's sign the petition so we can vote on it

In the last issue of *The Times* the Editor wrote about using facts to build firm foundations on incorporation. Eddie Jackson wrote in his letter that Kara Millonzi stated "If the General Assembly doesn't include it, then there is no vote. They can automatically incorporate you." He is very correct in Millonzi's quote, but there is more to it.

I called the North Carolina Secretary of States office in Raleigh and spoke with a

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division. He said that the General Assembly has never incorporated a community with only fifteen percent of the registered voters on a petition.

Only if fifty-one percent or more sign have they done an automatic incorporation. So, Millonzi did not give us the full picture.

Also, I must ask, do you really think that Senator Blake and Representative Boles are going to put on

supervisor in the corporate hold an incorporation petition with 600 or more signatures on it when eight members of a volunteer West Side board send them a letter?

> Personally, I think Boles and Blake are more intelligent than that. Don't you?

> Let the West Side board do their study and have it ready in December; but let's get the petition signed, so we can vote next year and settle this issue.

There is plenty of time

between a volunteer board's tion, isn't there? findings and the NC General Assembly acting on a peti-

Steve Hudson North Side

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# Board bound & determined to move gate house

Dear Editor

The SLWLA board has recently stated that they agreed to a stipulation placed in the settlement agreement with Lakeside. It was evident at the time that the board actually inserted the misleading stipulation in the agreement. The stipulation is an attempt to encumber the gatehouse with a June 2015 tear down deadline in order to accelerate decisions to be made on the mail house as well as initiate planning for a new gatehouse.

A new gatehouse has long been an agenda item for this board and previous boards and is a supposed centerpiece for a front entrance beautification enhancement. The current gatehouse works just fine but the board is determined to build another.

The Planned Communities Act (PCA) does not allow a board to encumber any piece of commonly owned property without the written concurrence of 80% of lot owners. The board surely is aware of this PCA provision but moved ahead anyway, following along behind the completion of a premature land design plan initiated by the board. Even this design plan

may have been initiated without approval of funds.

By this action the board has demonstrated that they are willing to do anything to construct a new gatehouse. In this case, their effort was inept and undignified and they deserve the criticism of every lot owner, even those that support construction of a new gatehouse.

At present, there is no need to make a decision on mail house(s). Growth is slow and may get even slower. New and nearby subdivisions may take the new immigrants. The number of lake lots is reduced. A new gatehouse is not going to be the attraction that keeps this community growing. Still, this board may move ahead under the claim that the stipulation is a valid condition to both contract parties or they may just move ahead as a representative authority that knows best for all of us.

Rest assured, the board used the word stipulation simply hoping to mislead. In this particular case, dealing with a settlement over real estate the resulting action is properly called an encumbrance because it restricts or limits the use of the prop-

erty in question. There is absolutely no doubt that the board attempted to do that (having received ownership from Lakeside) in order to force near term planning for new mail house(s) and a following expensive beautification program.

However, the PCA makes clear that this is an unenforceable condition, even to Lakeside, without 80% lot owner approval. To Lakeside this is simply an inconsequential matter because they have no interest in the disposition of the current gatehouse anyway and had no role in the insertion of the disguised encumbrance.

One group which would have been affected is the gates up incorporation group. It is clear that this board action is an end run around that group.

Finally, the board is going to bring other excuses to you for their agenda to such as traffic stacking and safety, control of access, increase in house value, and any other thing they can think of. These are all smoke blowing.

Tom Snead Seven Lakes West

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# Kudos for SLCC's Clawson

Dear Editor:

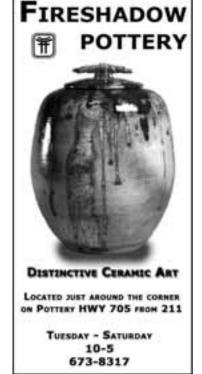
I had the pleasure of playing the Seven Lakes Country Club [SLCC] golf course on Wednesday, August 18. Scott Clawson and his staff are to be congratulated on the condition they have been able to maintain the course. Many area courses have experience major problems which Clawson has been able to avoid. Clearly, Clawson is a major asset to the club and the community as his knowledge combined with work keep the golf course in top condition.

When I spoke to Clawson, he was quick to add that the SLCC has provided him the budget to do the job. Kudos to the membership for making available the money required. Clearly all preventative measures for quality turf grass are in use. Also, equipment must be maintained to deliver quality cutting.

It should not be taken for granted the effort and knowledge required to maintain a golf course in the manner that I saw at the SLCC. Great job Scott!

The course is one of the best, if not the best, conditioned course in the area. The club has made play more open and affordable during the summer months. If you play golf, you should call the pro shop and set up a time to enjoy a great facility at a very reasonable price.

D. Alan Shaw Seven Lakes South



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**NEWS Seven Lakes Times** September 3, 2010

#### Westside

(Continued from front page)

Negotiations with USPS officials at all levels, and the involvement of Congressman Howard Coble and then-Senator Elizabeth Dole, produced another "No" -- this one from the Postmaster General's office -- in 2009.

The help of US Senator Richard Burr produced a meeting in March of this year with USPS regional managers, during which Westside representatives made an extensive case for home delivery.

The response, received a few weeks later, was anoth-

"Once delivery is established it is our policy not to alter that service unless it will improve delivery efficiency for the Post Office," the letter received by the Association read. "It was determined that it would be neither cost effective nor efficient for the Postal Service to change the established mode of delivery."

#### The options

Dan Kidd

Sales Consultant

Shepard said that final "No" left three options:

- Moving to cluster boxes throughout the communi-
- Eliminating mail delivery altogether inside Seven Lakes West, instead asking Westsiders to rent boxes

at the West End Post Office,

• Building new mail hous-

Cluster boxes might have made sense as a part of an overall home delivery scheme, Shepard said, with some neighborhoods -- like Morgan Wood or Carriage Park -- served by clusters. But potential traffic problems, the need for parking, safety concerns, and the NIMBY (not-in-my-back-yard) issues make them an impractical solution in Seven Lakes West today. So the committee ruled out that option.

The West End Post Office can add enough boxes to accommodate the residents of Seven Lakes West -- even at full build-out, Shepard said. And USPS would welcome the revenue, with the average mail box renting for \$56 per

But that rental fee would be borne by Westsiders forever, and is likely to increase over time. An added problem is the travel time from the West Side to West End -- and the cost of gas, which the committee estimated could add up to \$125 per year per household.

Building one or more mail houses is less costly, more convenient, and continues the sense of community forged by chance encounters

at the mail house, Shepard said. In addition, new USPS procedures mean that residents will be able to, at long last, use their street addresses, instead of a box number, as their mail delivery address.

The \$365,000 cost of building one mail house amounts to \$106 per Association member per year for two years, Shepard said, comparing that to the \$56 per year, forever, cost of renting a box at the West End Post office.

Shepard said more details on the recommendation would be presented during the Board's September 14 Work Session. A decision is likely in October or November, once the Board has received input from the membership.

#### **Volunteers Recognized**

President Shepard began Tuesday night's meeting by recognizing the crew of volunteers, led by Director Hoffmann, who recently repainted the existing mail house and gate house. Based on estimates the Association had obtained on both projects, Shepard said, the volunteers saved the Association literally thousands of dol-

Shepard then played a video presentation that provided scenes of a recent sailing school for kids, organized by the Community Events Committee.

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"Here's another group of volunteers who spent a great deal of time over four days teaching a handful of kids to sail," he said, noting that a family could easily spend \$350-\$400 per child for a comparable summer camp experience.

#### Gate house removal questioned

During the public comment segment of the meeting, resident Tom Snead questioned

(See "Westside," p. 32)

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#### Westside

(Continued from page 31)

the legitimacy of a requirement in the Association's settlement of a lawsuit against former developer Lakeside Development, Inc. that calls for the current gate house to be removed by 2015. The Association's Entries Master Plan calls for the existing gate house to be demolished and a new one to be built near the current location of the mail house.

Snead argued that the stipulation was in fact an encumbrance on the property, and that the Association, under the Planned Community Act, cannot encumber property without the affirmative vote of eighty percent of the membership. He implied that SLWLA negotiators had inserted the stipulation in the agreement in order to provide an additional rationale for moving the gate house -- which he called strictly a beautification issue.

Snead left the meeting shortly after making his comments and so was not on hand for a rebutting explanation from Legal Director Silberhorn, who argued that "the Board did not encumber the land without a vote of the Members because the agreement to move the Gatehouse in five years was made before we officially acquired the property and the transaction was not in the form of a security interest."

Silberhorn explained that Lakeside had its own reasons for wanting the entrance area reconfigured without the gatehouse, which dovetailed with the Board's desire to move the entrance further into the community as part of the overall plan for the entrance and Lakeway Mall area.

Director Hoffmann added that the issue of "stacking" -- cars getting backed up to the railroad tracks and beyond -- is a significant safety issue at the entrance that will be addressed by moving the gate house further into the community.

#### **Committee Reports**

Other committee reports during the August 24 meeting included:

Finance. Treasurer Joe Sikes provided newly-formatted financial reports that could be picked up by those attending the meeting and noted that they would be updated monthly but available at each of the Board's two monthly work sessions.

Sikes said two recent meet-

ings to gather member input on priorities for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget had attracted about twenty landowners, whose comments will be summarized in a report to be published on the Association website.

He noted that he is in the process of analyzing a suggestion that payments on the West Side Park mortgage be accelerated. \$100 of the annual dues paid by Westsiders are dedicated to West Side Park and will total \$155,000 this year, Sikes explained. The mortgage payments total \$105,000 annually. Applying all of the West Side Park dues to the mortgage would allow it to be

retired in seven years instead of twenty.

Architectural Review. At the request of Architectural Review Director Adam Wimberly, the Board approved the recombination of a half lot and full lot, 5350 and 5351. Wimberly said the AR Com-

(See "Westside," p. 33)



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NEWS September 3, 2010 Seven Lakes Times

#### Westside

(Continued from page 32)

mittee will be studying the issue of lot recombinations, analyzing whether they make good long-term economic sense for the Association, since they eliminate in perpetuity the dues that will be collected from one of the lots. Legal Director Silberhorn noted that Westside covenants allow recombinations at the Board's discretion, but not as a right.

Another item the ARC will be considering is a suggestion that visible house numbers be made mandatory and, perhaps, standardized in appearance, Wimberly said. Noting the critical importance of house numbers for emergency workers trying to locate a home, Security Director Hoffmann spoke strongly in favor of making numbers mandatory and said he expected to introduce a motion to that effect, perhaps in the September 14 Work Session.

Wimberly and Hoffmann both also commented on a recent incident on Longleaf Drive when a large dog charged a walker and was hit by a car. "People need to be aware that there are rules and regulations about pets and pet containment," Wimberly said. Hoffmann said: "The walker has a greater right to be on the road than the homeowner has a right to have dog in his yard untethered. An owner has a legal obligation to keep his dog under control even on his own property."

Lake & Dam. Director Herdrich said his Dam Committee met on Monday, August 23, and expects to present a recommendation on the question of reopening Longleaf Drive across the dam to the Board at its Tuesday, September 14 work session.

During public comment, one resident suggested that leaving the road closed could block certain residents from exiting the community during road repairs or storm-related road blockages. He noted that opening the road would likely cut traffic through the front gate by

twenty-to-twenty-five percent and recommended using a system of gates to slow traffic over the emergency spillway "dip" on the west end of the dam, to minimize any impact loading in that sensitive area.

Herdrich responded that the real problem with allowing traffic over the dam is not impact loading from vehicles passing through the emergency spillway, but rather the fact that, during repairs, Dr. Marks and the community learned that the core of the dam, on its western side, is apparently made of much weaker stuff than had been thought. As a result, the core in that area will continue to deteriorate, though at a much slower rate, after the recent repairs.

Security. Director Hoffmann said he and Herdrich had met with Seven Lakes Fire Chief Calvin Loy and West End Fire Chief Wayne Kennedy to discuss options for providing emergency vehicles access across the Lake Auman Dam, should the roadway remain closed to other traffic. A side benefit of those meetings was the gathering of information on the jurisdiction of the two fire squads, the services they offer the community, and details about their response procedures. Hoffmann said a member of the Communications Team was on hand to take notes on the meetings, which will be turned into a report to the community.

Communications. At the request of Secretary Karen Milligan, the Board approved a new mission statement for the Communications Team, which reads: "The Communications Team, appointed by the SLWLA Board of Directors, serves to promote communication in the Seven Lakes West community. Specifically, the Team's purpose is to present information regarding Board policy decisions and actions to Seven Lakes West landowners, to encourage neighbors' involvement in community organizations and events, and to

generate presentations and reports that increase understanding and unity in Seven Lakes West."

Community Events. Director Jane Sessler reminded landowners that the final First Friday concert of the season will kick off the Labor Day Weekend on Friday, September 3, with a performance by the band "Ad Nauseum." Her committee is exploring the idea of hosting some informal dance parties during the winter months, echoing the First Friday format of "bring your own everything."

Fall classes on the schedule include yoga, tai chi, painting, bridge, and shag and line dancing. An Oktoberfest celebration is planned for October 16. "Suggestions from the community about activities or classes are always welcome," Sessler said.

Infrastructure. Director Goodman listed several infrastructure projects scheduled for the next few weeks, including the repair of two culverts on Longleaf Drive and substantial pavement repairs near Beacon Ridge Country Club and the foot of Lakeway Drive. Six fire hydrants are on order to be installed this year, and a

design for repairs to the lower Lakeway Mall pond dam is expected from engineer Dr. Dan Marks.

Legal. Director Silberhorn said Jim Johnson and Community Manager Joan Frost had completed a line edit of the rules and regulations and forwarded them to each Director for review before the Board begins the formal approval process. He asked Board members to provide any feedback, comments, or edits prior to the September 14 work session.

**Manager.** Community Manager Joan Frost reported that the office had sent out thirty-five compliance letters since the last meeting, including some first notices, some second notices, and one third notice. The first notice seeks compliance; the second, sent certified mail, informs the

violator that they risk being referred to the Judicial Panel; and the third informs them that they have been referred to the panel.

33

Frost said the office staff has implemented a new procedure for the reservation of rooms in the community center. An application must be filled out and approved, and any applicable fee paid, before the date will be reserved on the calendar.

#### **Other Business**

In other business during the Tuesday, August 24 Work Session of the SLWLA Board: Director Goodman acknowledged that some of the Association's incorporation study subcommittees may not have their interim reports complete by September 14, but expressed hope that all would be in by the September 28 work session.

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**Seven Lakes Times** September 3, 2010

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