

## Pine Forest back on the County's agenda

by Stacy Naughton  
Times Reporter

The 1,700-acre Pine Forest Development, which would stretch along the north side of NC Highway 211 from West Pine Middle School to West End, is back on the agenda of the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

During their Tuesday, January 4 meeting the Commissioners issued a call to a quasi-judicial public hearing for the Planned Unit Development Hamlet [PUD-H] rezoning requested by developer MHK Ventures, Inc. The hearing will take place during the regular Board of Commissioner meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 18 at 6 pm. If

approved, approximately 1,652 acres from RA-20, RA-40, RA-5, and B-2 to a Planned Unit Development-Hamlet (PUD-H).

Pine Forest developer Bob Hanson has proposed a community with 710 residential units, commercial/retail space, two 18 hole golf courses, and a 9 hole golf course, as well as a hotel. Among the unique aspects of the development is a private tertiary wastewater treatment plant that would serve Pine Forest and another nearby MHK Ventures Community, the Dormie Club, as well as a tertiary water reuse facility that will process treated water to be used for irrigation on the golf

(See "Commissioners," p. 24)

## Westside budget draws few complaints

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

There were few complaints about the proposed FY 2011-2012 Westside Budget at a special public input session hosted Tuesday night, January 4, by newly-appointed Treasurer Don Freiert and his Finance Committee, but there were a number of questions.

The sharpest criticism came from Nancy Workman, a former Finance

Committee member who worked on the FY 2010-2011 budget. That budget was cut after a majority of annual meeting voters rejected it, stunned by a proposed 36 percent increase in homeowners dues and an even larger increase in lot owners dues. In the wake of that vote, the Board cut the expense budget by roughly twenty percent. At the time, the cuts were called "deferrals," with

(See "SLWLA," p. 23)

## Snow Day!



**Taylor St. Onge and Grace Jarchow** enjoy the fine wintry weather in Seven Lakes, taking advantage of a surprise post-Christmas snowfall to build a highly patriotic snowman.  
[Michelle Bolton photo]

## The Year in Review

2010 was an exciting year for *Times* reporters, with plenty of news to write about, from the drive to make Seven Lakes a full-fledged town to the decision to permanently close Longleaf Drive over Lake Auman Dam to vehicular traffic.

Seven Lakes North and South got a new management company and struggled to complete an agreement with Seven Lakes Country Club. Westsiders battled over a big dues increase and planned for new entryways, only to be dealt a financial blow by the US Postal Service. Foxfire Village continued to push the town limits outward.

We take a look back at those events and more in the next few pages, before moving forward into what promises to be a New Year just as newsworthy.

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## 2010's Top Story —

## The drive to incorporate Seven Lakes

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

There's little doubt that the news story that dominated conversation in the greater Seven Lakes area in 2010 was the proposal to turn three privately-managed gated communities and business area into a full-fledge North Carolina municipality.

The idea was first introduced in mid-March, when *The Times* published an interview with the Randy Merritt, Darrell Marks, and Van

Joyce, three local businessmen who created IncorporateSevenLakes.com, a concrete proposal for incorporating Seven Lakes while keeping intact the gates at the entrances of the private communities.

The trio came equipped for their campaign with a website, a proposed town charter, an initial budget, and a petition that supporters could sign. Their goal? To gather enough signatures in favor of their model of incorporation to persuade State Senator Harris Blake and State Representative Jamie Boles to introduce legislation in the General Assembly that would make Seven Lakes a North Carolina town.

Keeping the gates meant foregoing a large chunk of state shared sales tax revenue, but the IncorporateSevenLakes.com plan was designed to create a modest town government, with a total initial budget of just \$400,000.

That's the amount of revenue that would be produced by the state-mandated minimum property tax assessment of five cents per hundred dollars of valuation.

Marks, Merritt, and Joyce argued that amount of revenue would support a town manager/planner, and a

small police force able to enforce traffic laws in the village and inside the gates of the residential communities.

The town they envisioned included Seven Lakes North, South, and West, along with McLendon Hills and the business village, but did not include West End.

The trio sponsored several open forums on incorporation and began to collect signatures on their incorporation petition.

### Seven Lakes, Together

Two months after interviewing the founders of IncorporateSevenLakes.com, *The Times* interviewed members of The Seven Lakes Study Group, which put forward a quite different vision of what a Town of Seven Lakes might look like — without gated communities.

Westiders Fred Young, Dudley Crawford, Carolyn Mealing, and Kathy Kirst had teamed up with Northsider Don Welch and McLendon Hills resident Joe Kralinger to present a vision of incorporation that would allow the Town of Seven Lakes to take in \$1.6 million per year in state shared tax revenues. Added to \$400,000 in local revenue from a five cent property tax, that would give the town enough cash to pay for

24/7 police patrols, a full-fledged planning office, and to take over responsibility for maintenance of the aging and deteriorating streets within the residential areas.

All that state revenue would come with a price: Seven Lakes North, South, and West, as well as McLendon Hills, would have to take down their gates and dedicate their street systems to the new town. State funds can only be used to maintain public roads, and state law allows most state shared revenues to flow only to towns that have a majority of their road mileage in public hands.

While they lacked a website, The Study Group offered both a professionally-produced brochure — inserted into locally-distributed copies of *The Times* — and a full report detailing their plans. They did not, however, put forward a proposed charter or an incorporation petition for supporters to sign. Their goal instead, they told *The Times*, was to spark a year or two of public discussion about incorporation, to allow time for local residents to weigh the advantages and disadvantages, and for the Landowners Associations, at the appro-

(See "Incorporation," p. 22)

### CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

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

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The year in review —

# New Management takes the SLLA reins

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] kicked off 2010 with a seismic shift in management. Community Manager Dalton Fulcher retired after twenty-three at the helm and, after sixteen years of service, Assistant Community Manager Chad Beane accepted a new job with Moore County.

In January, the SLLA Board announced that Talis Management Group, a full service property management company based in Raleigh, would take over operations. Founded in 1991 by a merger of Ross Taylor Management and Southlantic Management, Talis oversees 140 associations throughout the Triangle area of North Carolina.

Talis brought in Community Manager Alina Cochran to take the reins on February 1. A certified manager with a degree in Management Information Systems, she had most recently managed the 1,400 lot Carolina Lakes development near Sanford.

Using up-to-date property management computer applications, Cochran improved the Association's database, website, accounting, and work order tracking programs. With the new fiscal year, the Association converted its accounts from a cash basis to the preferred accrual basis.

## SLLA Board

Newcomers Melinda Scott, Chuck Mims, Bob Racine, and Charlie Hannel joined incumbent director Bud Shaver and former President Don Truesdell on the 2010 SLLA Board of Directors slate of candidates. Competing for three open seats, Scott, a member of the Architectural Review Board, drew the highest number of votes at 295, followed by Shaver [248], and Mims [226]. A total of 380 landowners cast ballots, compared with 539 the previous year, when a dues increase was up for a vote.

Randy Zielsdorf was reelected for a third year as SLLA President and votes of acclamation filled the remaining

officer slots, with Kent Dropers as Vice President, Denny Galford as Treasurer, and Bruce Keyser, Jr. as Secretary.

The Board's top priorities including evaluating a new system of governance, providing better continuity from one Board term to the next, taking a hard look at the community's infrastructure needs, and developing a plan for appropriate reserve savings levels.

## 2011 Fiscal Year Budget

The Association began the year with a \$375,000 fund balance and Galford anticipated \$444,000 would be in reserves at the end of the year.

A \$1.37 million dollar budget was approved, with \$124,000 set aside for road repaving and state-mandated dam repairs, leaving \$1.25 million in unrestricted income.

Anticipated operating expenses of \$1.1 million will leave \$149,000 for capital expenditures. Talis Management received \$140,000, and

\$50,332 was paid in consulting fees to former manager Fulcher.

There were a few unexpected issues with the annual registration process; however, a new form and procedure were developed late in the year that will allow for a more efficient process in the future. An updated registration form will be sent to residents along with election ballots and the proposed FY 2012 Budget — with a second, separate mailing of the

dues statement with instructions to mail payments directly to a lock box. Once payment is received, the office will then mail out vehicle stickers and membership cards.

Also this year, an investment policy that formalized in writing the Board's power to direct investments was approved.

The policy also spells out requirements for fund management and regular review

(See "SLLA," p. 15)



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## The year in review —

# A year of battles in Seven Lakes West

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor

It was a year of battles in Seven Lakes West, one that began with a fight over a hefty dues increase proposed by the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors and that ended with a fight over the decision to permanently close the roadway across Lake Auman Dam.

Looking at reserve accounts significantly depleted by expensive repairs to Lake Auman Dam in Spring 2009 — and at the impending need for extensive repaving in the future — the Westside Board just before Christmas 2008 approved a budget and fee schedule that hiked homeowner's dues 36 percent and lot owners dues by 69 percent.

The proposed budget included only a 2.5 percent increase in operating expenses, but would add \$424,000 to Association reserves, with \$250,000 of that allocated to road repaving. In a presentation to the membership, President Ron Shepard detailed other big-ticket projects on the horizon, including up to \$200,000 in repairs to eroded culverts carrying water under Longleaf Drive, a reconfiguration of the front and back entryways (including building a new mailhouse at some other location), addi-

tional perimeter fencing, and, potentially, an electronic card entry system at the pool and other amenities.

Reaction was swift, with criticism coming from those worried the Board was setting a precedent for large annual dues increases and those concerned that the long-range projects on the table were more than the community needed or could afford. Others suggested debt-financing projects like road repaving, rather than adding to reserves during a period of week interest rates. But the NC Planned Community Act [NCPCA] limits the Association's ability to pledge its assets against indebtedness.

Despite its unprecedented size, the dues increase — and the projects it was intended to fund — found considerable support in the community. When the votes on budget approval were tallied at the annual meeting, 300 landowners weighed in on the Board's side of the ledger. However, 690 members voted to reject it.

Even that 70/30 opposition was not, however, sufficient to overturn the Board's plans. The NCPCA requires a majority of all members to reject a budget — not simply a majority of those who chose to cast ballots.

It fell to newly-elected Treasurer Joe Sikes to review

the budget with the public and propose changes to the Board. Sikes recommended \$217,000 in cuts to the budget, including deferring \$125,000 of the \$250,000 transfer to road repaving reserves. The Board accepted \$100,000 of Sikes' proposed cuts, a 20 percent reduction in the nearly \$500,000 budgeted increase, rolling back the proposed 36 percent increase in homeowners dues to 27 percent, and the proposed 69 percent increase in lot owners dues to 58 percent.

### New Directors elected

In addition to Sikes, who was named Treasurer, Westsiders also elected Jane Sessler and re-elected Mick Herdrich to the Board at the annual meeting. Sessler took over the Community Events portfolio, while Herdrich continued to chair the Lake, Dam, and Human Resources Committees.

After differing with the Board majority on a range of issues, from whether to get involved in the debate about the incorporation of Seven Lakes, whether to publish a set of guidelines for

Director nominees, how to handle public input on the FY 2011-2012 budget, and how to respond to member petition, to re-open Longleaf Drive across Lake Auman Dam, by November Sikes had enough and resigned his post as Treasurer and Director, being replaced in both positions by Don Freiert.

### Incorporation Study

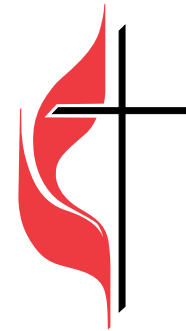
As two separate proposals for the incorporation of Seven Lakes were introduced and began to win support in the Spring, an overtly skeptical SLWLA Board launched its own multi-part study of the topic, with opposition from only Sikes and Secretary Karen Milligan. While declaring his personal opposition to incorporation, Director John

Goodman proposed that subcommittees of Westside Residents, chaired by Board members, explore the potential impact that making Seven Lakes a town would have on various aspects of life in Seven Lakes West, from security to infrastructure.

The initial plan was for the subcommittees to produce by September draft reports which would be discussed, refined, and then assembled into an final report that could inform the Board's thinking as it prepared an overall recommendation on the subject for members' consideration.

As the subcommittees worked through their internal compromises to produce draft reports, however, it became clear that those

(See "SLWLA," p. 12)



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## The year in review —

# Foxfire Village continues to add acreage

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Two years ago Foxfire Village nearly doubled in size with the annexation of Stonehill Pines, a 1,500-acre proposed Planned Unit Development, and a 404-acre parcel owned by Robert and Diane Edwards.

In 2010, growth continued to be an issue with the completion of a voluntary annexation of the 750-acre Wilson tract into the Foxfire Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ] and a twice-called motion to approve a twenty-year annexation agreement with the Village of Pinehurst.

As approved in two duplicate 3-2 split votes held in January, the zoning pact lays out parcels that are available for annexation by each municipality. The revised agreement extends Foxfire's reserved area north from the Foxfire Village center to Hwy 211 and then west to NC Hwy 73W; east beyond the Stonehill Pines development to encompass Lake Diamond, and south beyond Roseland Road. The area reserved for Pinehurst heads north from Roseland Road, skirting east of Lake Diamond, Stonehill Pines, and the existing Foxfire Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction [ETJ], and ultimately crosses over NC Hwy 211 from near Ellis Road all the way to NC Hwy 73E in West End: an area that includes nearly all of the proposed 1,800 acre Pine Forest Development.

The agreement requires each village to provide 60-days notice to the other prior to any annexation. The agreement can be terminated by either entity with five years notice.

### Finance

The Council approved a \$1,077,310 million budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 that did not include any revenue or funding from Foxfire Golf & Country Club, which is undergoing bankruptcy proceedings.

Currently, Foxfire Village

has the second lowest tax rate in Moore County; however, debt service on the Woodland Circle Extension project is a significant budget concern going into the New Year.

Finance Director Leslie Frusco cautioned that, with a finite revenue source — currently at \$156 million in property tax valuation — she would be recommending a tax increase in 2011.

### Woodland Circle Extension

Construction of a new 54,000 square foot roadway extension connecting Woodland Circle was interrupted early in the year due to inclement weather and then bogged down by delays from the culvert supplier and concerns over the permanent storm water erosion control devices and the quality of the pavement.

After corrective action was taken, two areas of gutter along the road still did not

meet specification and will allow water to pool for longer than desired periods; however, neither area will affect the long term integrity of the road and the project was approved as is.

The total cost of the Woodland Circle Extension came in under-budget at \$1.6 million. One hundred percent of that cost will be assessed to the fourteen affected property owners. Unspent proceeds from the project's loan have been returned to the bank and the first payment of \$199,869 from the General Fund and \$14,813 from the Water Fund will be due in April 2011.

A public hearing on the project has been called for Thursday, January 13 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

### Forest Lake Drive dam

The condition of the dam on Forest Lake Drive proved to be better than anticipated. A mid-February inspection

by the Division of Land Quality determined the dam was in "fair condition."

The five-year inspection was initiated by Foxfire a year early because repairs are needed on the roadway. While the road is maintained by the Village, the dam is privately owned.

Currently the Forest Lake Drive dam is classified as low-hazard but, as homes are developed in the Woodland Circle Extension area, that designation could be

amended.

### Parks and Recreation

A five-year \$1,593,196 Capital Improvement Plan [CIP] was added to the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund [PARTF] grant application that was resubmitted for a third time in 2010 — and again declined.

The CIP prioritized pool improvements in the first year, with work at the Village Green Park scheduled in

(See "Foxfire," p. 11)

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# Kiwanis name Holiday decorating winners

The homes of Gale and Kenny Mace (Westside), Diane and Damon Boston (Southside), and Sandy and John Sackman (Northside), were

chosen as winners in this year's Christmas decoration contest. Each couple received \$65 gift certificates for their laudable efforts.

This is the sixteenth year of this event, sponsored by the

Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club.

Three teams of judges toured the community prior to Christmas to select the winners. While the extreme cold temperatures this year, somewhat curtailed partici-

pation, there were many beautiful displays. The Mace and Sackman families have been prior winners, but the Boston's display earned them their first award.

The Kiwanis Club dedicates

their energy toward uplifting the community and children. Potential new members are invited to join the Kiwanis any Tuesday, 11:30 am, at the Seven Lakes Country Club.

## Modern Woodmen help needy

Local Modern Woodmen members reach out to those in need in Pinehurst. Modern Woodmen of America members recently provided assistance to the Family of Promise of Moore County.

The Pinehurst Modern Woodmen chapter donated basic necessities for homeless families as part of the organization's Care and Share Program.

Coordinated by local members, chapters provide opportunities to connect through social activities and volunteer projects.

Care and Share is a nationwide program that offers Modern Woodmen chapters an opportunity to provide up to \$250 of basic life necessities to individuals and families in need in their communities.

Each year members from over 600 chapters purchase and donate thousands of dollars worth of food, clothing and more.

"When a family needs household items after a natural disaster or other crisis, or a shelter or food pantry needs more supplies to help families, Modern Woodmen members can help through this annual project," said Mike Bernard, local Modern Woodmen activities coordinator.

For more information about the local chapter and how you can get involved, contact Bernard at 910-315-2378.

Annually, Modern Woodmen and its members provide more than \$23 million and nearly 1 million volunteer hours for community projects nationwide.



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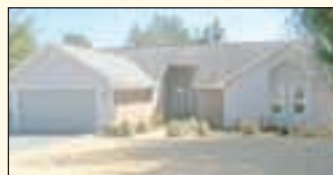
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# Bortins promotes classical model for education

by **Laura Douglass**  
Times Reporter

A leader in the classical education model for home-schoolers, Leigh Bortins' most recent book *The Core, Teaching your Child the Foundations of Classical Education* was published in June 2010 and was ranked number one in educational books by Amazon for several weeks last year.

Bortins describes the book not as a curriculum, but rather, as a parenting education book. A prolific author, this is her eleventh book, but the first one she's written with a broader audience in mind.

"Parents can use the book as a supplement of their children's education or to start an conversation with their teacher," she explained. "Teachers are often as frustrated as parents — even

more so."

"The book is tips and tricks to get you to the goal of a good grammar education. It's about how you set a goal and the basic activities to get you there," Bortins said.

The first three chapters describe the loss of classical education, which was the traditional curriculum of American schools prior to the 1950s, while the last nine chapters offer a "how to" guide. Each subject is considered with ideas on how to recover a classical education and include rote memorization, systematic learning in geography and historical facts and timelines, reading of the great books and important historical documents and training in math and natural sciences.

Bortins explained that in the classical model, the younger years of education

focus on the grammar — that is the basic information memorized as foundational material as opposed to modern classrooms with educators focused on thinking skills.

"But you can't do that if you don't have information in your head to think about," said Bortins. "Grammar is foundational in any subject. It's just like drilling in sports."

Grammar emphasizes very basic skills that all children learn. There are no surprises and children know what is expected of them. As Bortins explained, classical educators think in terms of learning — not school.



The founder and CEO of Classical Conversations, a very successful business that models classical, home-centered education, Bortins has

twenty-years experience as an educator. She has a degree in Aerospace Engineering

and completed the Doctoral program in Global Education. (See "Bortins," p. 12)



**Leigh Bortins of Classical Conversations**

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# ICM helps businesses tap vast online market

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Did you join the Facebook community this year?

If so, you can count yourself among nearly 500 million users across the globe. In fact Facebook is so well-populated that, if it were a country, it would be third largest nation in the world.

Tapping into this massive audience, and other similar social media outlets such as Twitter and LinkedIn, has become a primary goal for nearly every level of business — from major corporate entities to mom & pop shops.

Here in Seven Lakes, Sven and Carmen Schaefer of ICM [Internet Consulting & Marketing] are creating a viable and productive social media presence for their clients, both local and afar.

"We have created an all-in-one resource. The main concept around each marketing plan evolves around web design, search engine optimization, social media marketing, hosting and analytics — that is, web statistics, and online business networking," said Schaefer.

Using webpage design as the jumping off point for marketing materials, ICM develops an integrated and consistent advertising and corporate identity, from logo to stationary to video content.

Important tips for business websites include the addition of a video on the homepage and also an easy link to a free offer such as a newsletter or simple service, but most important are the key words for searches.

"A website can be as nice as you want to make it but if people can't find it, it's worthless," he said. "Key words are essential and that is where we start. They are the building block for the whole marketing approach — how to put your ads out there."

Schaefer said that the internet and websites have gone

from not much more than an extended electronic business card to a necessity. In

nity for businesses and Schaefer noted that youtube is currently the second largest



**ICM owner Sven Schaefer and his wife Carmen, who is the marketing manager, are assisted by David Blide, the ICM sales and social media manager. Not pictured, Catherine Potter assists with video narration and is the featured video presence for ICM and Deborah Paul is responsible for email marketing and serves as the customer relations manager.**

just the last two months of 2010 alone, over twenty million new users joined Facebook.

Video marketing is also an important growth opportu-

search engine behind Google. Each second, 3,000 videos are streamed onto youtube in the United States alone; with two billion videos added each day worldwide.

Twitter is another go-to place for up-to-date marketing plans. Unlike Google, which ranks websites by popularity, Twitter uses realtime functionality to post information and, with an annual income of greater than \$100,000 for forty percent of its users, businesses are paying attention.

"Social media is where it's at and it is going to get even bigger. Marketing on the internet is not only hype, it really works," Schaefer said.

In business for three years, ICM moved their base of operations from the Schaefer's home in Seven Lakes to an office on Grant Street a year

and a half ago. Clients include local realtors Tammy Lyne, Scott Lincicome, and Whelan Realty, as well as The Italian Table, Temp-Control and Cottage Chic.

Based in Southern Pines, Cottage Chic has a storefront location; however, 85% to 90% percent of their sales come through their online e-commerce site developed by ICM.

Active locally, they are members of the Seven Lakes Business Guild and Moore County Chamber of Commerce. ICM has also developed and maintains websites for Pinecrest Patriots foot-

(See "ICM" p. 9)

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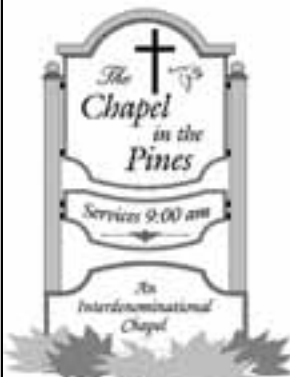
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# ICM

(Continued from page 8)

ball and the West End Elementary PTA.

Schaefer also shares his knowledge by teaching courses at Sandhills Community

College in the Small Business Center. Last year, he taught nine courses and his next offering, 'Social Media as Business Tools,' begins on February 7. Classes are free

and held on Monday nights at 6:00 pm.

"The one thing I don't like about IT technology companies is the reputation as being a rip-off," said Schaefer. "We

are very professional and always include a six-month service guarantee on our projects. In the first six months, any changes that you'd like to make to the website are

done free of charge."

A first-time consultation with ICM is free. Visit their website at [www.icmltd.com](http://www.icmltd.com) for more information or call 877-426-8880.



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**REDUCED!**

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WATERFRONT LAKE AUMAN  
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**480 LAKE FOREST DR. SE**  
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5 Bed / 3.5 Baths w/fenced yard. All brick, waterview, all the upgrades!  
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**162 PINE LAKE DR.**  
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**103 CHEROKEE TRAIL**  
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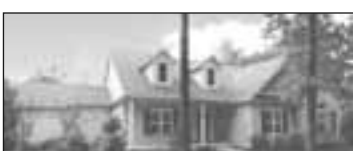
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**172 MORRIS**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

4/3 on oversized lot! Spacious with lower level walkout featuring family rm, 4th BR & full BA plus lots of storage! Well maintained, open plan & affordable! **\$250,000**



**103 CLAY CIRCLE**  
SEVEN LAKES WEST

3 Bed, 2 1/2 bath plus Office and Carolina Room Spacious home on oversized lot Hardwood floors, Granite, Formal Dining and Eat-in kitchen, Tons of storage, Over-sized Garage with even more storage!  
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**142 OTTER**

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**\$725,000**



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**108 Douglas Dr — \$310,000**

**Betz Ct — \$385,000**

# In memory of . . .

**Mary C. Ross**, 81, died at her home in West End, on Friday, December 31, of pancreatic cancer.

She was born in at Satanta, KS, the daughter of the late Charles J. and Mildred (Snyder) Conover.

She graduated from Satanta High School in 1947 and married Kent Ross in 1948. She graduated from Dodge City Community College Department of Practical Nurse Education, with a LPN degree, and was awarded the Nightingale Award for excellence in nursing. She worked as a nurse at the Dodge City Medical Center for 25 years before retiring in 1992. She moved to North Carolina in 2006.

Survivors include two daughters, Brenda Scott and husband Larry of Seven Lakes, and Sue Franks and husband Alan of Alexandria, VA; one son, David Ross and wife Becky of Medicine Lodge; brother, Jack Conover of Satanta; and her grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life Reception will be held at Swaim Funeral Home, Dodge City, on Friday, January 14, 2 - 4 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Animal Advocates of Moore County, NC or the American Cancer Society in care of Swaim Funeral Home, 1901 Sixth Avenue, Dodge City, KS 67801.

**Howard Eugene Crane**, 93, of Pinehurst, died Sunday, December 26.

He was born in Oelrichs, SD, and raised in Omaha, NE. He attended Creighton University, George Washington University and the USDA Graduate School. During World War II, he joined the U.S. Coast Guard and served in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Pacific theater aboard the Navy's minesweeper USS Bibb. Mr. Crane retired from the U.S. Department of Justice after 33 years of Federal service. He and wife, Barbara lived in Annapolis, MD, for 32 years before moving to Pinehurst in 2006.

He is survived by his wife of forty years, Barbara Kephart

Crane; son Gary of The Villages, FL, and daughter Cheryl Brobst of Seven Lakes, and their spouses; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Peters Episcopal Church, Poolesville MD, on Sunday, January 2.

Memorials may be made to the N.C. Schnauzer Rescue Inc., PO Box 1147, Holly Springs, NC 27540.

**Dolores Dunning**, 82, of Seven Lakes, died Saturday, December 25 at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Mrs. Dunning was born in Bridgeport Connecticut, the daughter of the late Harold and Dorothy Dunning.

A funeral mass was held Wednesday, December 29, at Our Lady of the Americas Roman Catholic Church, Candor. The Rev. Ricardo Sanchez officiated. A Rite of Committal followed at the Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Ms. Dunning is survived by her brother Jerome Dunning of Seven Lakes.

Memorials can be made in memory of Dolores Dunning to Seven Lakes EMS, 969 Seven Lakes North, West End, NC 27376

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

**George Mercer**, of Seven Lakes, died December 25, at home. Born in Bogota, NJ, he was the son of the late George and Anna Goss Mercer.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, March 12, 2011 at Boles Funeral Home in Seven Lakes.

Mr. Mercer was a graduate of Colgate University and began his career in insurance with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company in Hartford, CT. He served in many management executive positions over a 40 year career with Connecticut General, Puritan Life and Celtic. He and his wife, Barbara

moved to Seven Lakes in 1993 from Barrington, RI.

Mr. Mercer very active in the community. He served as President of the Beacon Ridge Landowners Association for three years, Area Representative for the West Side Landowners Association, tutor at Sandhills Community college, and starter-ranger at Beacon Ridge Men's Golf Association and Seven Lakes Health and Fit-

ness Center, Kiwanis, and the Coalition.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara Drury Mercer; three children Richard Coburn Mercer of Soddy Daisy, TN, David Drury Mercer Rehoboth, MA, and Sara Anne Worthington of Cranston, RI; a sister, Anne of Acton, MA; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

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## Foxfire year in review

the second year, work at Lake McKenzie and the old beach property in the third year, the addition of a playground to eastside in the fourth year, and the construction of a community center at Village Green Park in the fifth year.

With hopes for the coming year, the Foxfire Village Council agreed to resubmit the grant request in 2011.

A memorial fund was created in honor of the late Kate Erickson to benefit the Village Green Park. Using monies raised, two benches were placed in memory of Kate Erickson and Carl Munro, and also additional electrical outlets and lighting were installed at the picnic pavilion.

In the Fall of 2010, a memorial garden and lighted flag pole were dedicated.

### Public Safety

Speeding is an ongoing concern in the Village and with three traffic-related fatalities in 2010, the Council is looking for solutions — particularly along Hoffman and Richmond Roads.

Two years ago, a request to reduce the speed limit was denied on these state-maintained roads that crisscross the Village; however, in response to the fatalities, a letter was sent to the NC Department of Transportation requesting another evalua-

tion of the main intersection.

The Foxfire Fire Department gained a fulltime First Responder following a county-approved budget request by West End Fire Rescue [WEFR]. A two-hour firewall was installed in the sleeping quarters and a sprinkler system was added to the Foxfire building to allow for 24/7 coverage. The building was also treated for termites.

Early in 2010, Councilwoman Page Coker recommended hiring a part-time officer to the Foxfire Police Department to provide additional support to the existing two-man force. After budget discussions, the position was approved using funding from the vacant Zoning Administrator post. In the Fall, Officer Scott Patterson was hired for twenty-hours per week.

Coker resigned from the Council in August and John Eltschlager was appointed to complete the remainder of her term.

In November, the Council swore in K9 Officer 'Ruger,' a five-year-old, a fully trained Czech shepherd police dog. Dual-trained, Ruger can perform searches for both people and illicit drugs and will attack on command. Well-trained and gaining respect quickly in the local law enforcement community, Ruger has been called on to perform narcotic searches

on suspects in other local municipalities.

### Water

Voluntary water restrictions continued in 2010 following last year's drought conditions.

Currently, the Foxfire Water System consists of six wells that collectively produce 210 gallons per minute. During the Summer months, the system typically runs at 75% of capacity.

In 2010, several major projects were undertaken, including installation of less labor intensive electronic water meters and a fifteen-year maintenance of the water tank. In addition, an agreement was reached with Moore County to provide water to Stonehill Pines development.

A Water Shortage Response Plan, as required by North Carolina, was approved late in the year. During periods of drought, the new plan out-

lines the State's requirement that reductions be measurable through a demonstrated decrease based on the customer's previous billing period. The new plan includes reduced fines for non-compliance in Foxfire, but a surcharge will be added when voluntary restrictions are in place. The Council also approved a new irrigation meter application and fees, also as required by the State. Per new regulations, a separate meter is now required for new irrigation systems in addition to the primary water meter.

### Other Events

Other significant events in Foxfire Village in 2010:

- Wildwood Lane and several adjacent cul-de-sacs were repaved using Powell Bill funds.

- A long range planning survey was drafted, distributed and results compiled.

After review, a baseline of cost information was added and smaller focus group discussions were scheduled.

- In September, the Council approved a new zoning designation for recreation areas that was developed to encourage and preserve recreational and open space in the Village.

- At an investment cost of nearly \$1 million, Progress Energy converted the Village's old 12 kilovolt system to a standard 23 kilovolt electric lines.

- As required by North Carolina, the Council adopted a Code of Ethics.

- Non-resident pool fees were increased in 2010.

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# SLWLA year in review

(Continued from page 4)

reports would likely not be revised once issued. Four subcommittees have reported thus far; three remain to be presented, held up, to some degree, by the more pressing business of dealing with a controversy over the permanent closure of Longleaf Drive over Lake Auman Dam.

## Closing the Lake Auman Dam Road

The SLWLA Board of Directors first voted to close the portion of Longleaf Drive that passes over Lake Auman Dam in 2007, when Dam Engineer Dan Marks expressed concern that vibration from traffic passing over the dam could cause soil on the backside of the dam, saturated by seepage through the dam's core, to slough down its face, weakening the

structure.

After repairs to the dam were completed in the Spring of 2009, Marks recommended that the road remain closed — and, in fact, asked the NC Dam Safety Engineer to mandate that closure as a condition of granting final approval of the repairs. The process of installing a slurry wall within the dam, to prevent seepage, revealed that the clay core near the western end of the structure was far softer than expected, leading to concerns about the integrity of that section of the dam. Vibration caused by the passage of motor vehicles over that area — which includes a dip that serves as the emergency spillway, could accelerate deterioration of the core in that area, Marks reported.

Though the state decided not to order the roadway

closed, the Dam Committee, and then the Board, voted to follow Marks' advice and make the road closure permanent. The Dam Committee argued that, given Marks' stature as an expert on earthen dams, failing to follow his recommendation would, should the high-hazard dam ever fail, expose the Association, its Board, and its members, to catastrophic liability. The committee recommended against seeking a second engineering opinion, because, regardless of what that opinion said, Marks' recommendation for closure could not be wiped out of the public record.

The Board's decision to close the road generated substantial public debate, both during public comment in Board meetings and in letters to the editor in *The Times*. Longtime Westsider and local attorney Mike Gorenflo offered his office for a meet-

ing of those concerned about the closure and eventually helped lead a petition drive that called for the second member-called Special Meeting in the history of the Association.

But, once the meeting was called, the opposition appeared to collapse. The Board turned administration of the meeting over to its outside counsel and then actively campaigned to win support for its decision to close the road, gathering an overwhelming number of Special Meeting proxies assigned to President Ron Shepard. When the votes were counted, the Board's decision to close the road was affirmed by a vote of 473.5 in favor and only 65 against.

## Entries plan unveiled

The Westside Board received — and displayed for public comment — a design for the reconfiguration of the

front and rear entranceways prepared by LandDesign, an international design firm based in North Carolina.

The plan envisions removing the existing mail house and building a new front gatehouse in roughly that location, allowing both for better stacking of traffic entering the community from NC Highway 211 and for enhanced beautification of the entranceway.

Two options were provided for the back gate, one of which has the Association purchasing additional land in that area, possibly to serve as a mail house site.

## Developer era ends

The Association has the freedom to reconfigure the front entrance — and in fact, is obligated to remove the existing gatehouse by 2015 — as a result of an agreement reached with Westside devel-

(See "SLWLA," p. 13)

# Bortins

(Continued from page 7)

tion at the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary near Boston.

In addition to 'The Core' which is available for purchase online at Barnes and Noble or at the Classical Conversations warehouse which

is located on McDougall Road in the Seven Lakes Business Village, interested parents may also access a free download of 'Echo in Celebration, a Call to Home-Centered Education,' from [www.classicalconversations.com](http://www.classicalconversations.com)

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112 Dorset \$234,500

### NEW LISTING!



Great curb appeal. Well cared for light-filled ranch. Three bedrooms, two baths. Move-in-ready. Screened porch. Large Garage for x-tra storage or workbench.

128 Pleasant View Lane \$184,900

### 4 BR Lakeview



New Deck to enjoy lakeview. Screen porch, new hardwood floors in living, dining room, and eat-in kitchen. Four bedroom, three bath, large coren lot and oversized garage.

101 Pinewood Court \$209,900

### Great Price



3/BR/2BA Ranch with good potential for the do-it-yourself-er. Needs TLC. Could be great investment property. Generous-sized Living, Dining, and Master bedroom. Best Price in Seven Lakes!

102 Pleasant View Lane \$114,900

### Golf Front - New Updates!



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105 W. Devonshire \$184,900

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5707.....Pond view, Walk to Pool..\$34,500	487.....Great Price, Rare Lot.....\$26,900
5201.....Across from Country Club \$35,000	3306.....Waterfront.....\$289,900
5237.....Close to Clubhouse.....\$47,500	3156 & 4107.....Waterfront.....\$145,000

# SLWLA year in review

(Continued from page 12)

oper Lakeside Development, LLC.

The Association filed suit against Lakeside in March, claiming the developer had failed to pay its fair share of the cost of security at the front gate. Ultimately, that suit was settled in a way that transferred ownership of the front gatehouse and the surrounding land to the Association, giving it control over the community's front door.

In addition, Lakeside surrendered its rights to serve as developer of the entire community, retaining developer rights only for the unbuilt homesites and undeveloped Westside land that it owns.

## Mail House Move Hits a Snag

The possibility of curbside mail delivery to West Side homes has been the dream of a number of Westsiders and an on-going project for the Board and its Long Range Planning Committee for a number of years. After literally years of interaction with various levels of US Postal Service [USPS] management, the Association received a final "No" in the form of a letter from the Postmaster General's office this year.

That set the stage for the Long Range Planning Committee to present the result of its on-going investigation into the options for building one or more new mail houses to replace the existing structure, which is generally seen as inadequate, deteriorating, a traffic safety hazard, or all

three.

The Committee made a recommendation that the Board consider building one, two, or three new mail houses and was ready to present financial estimates for those options at a Board Work Session, when yet another letter from the US Postal Service upset the apple cart.

The USPS had long ago offered to provide new mailboxes to outfit a new mail house, assuming the SLWLA covered the cost of the structure. But newer USPS managers sent the Association a letter in September suggesting the Postal Service had little interest in helping defray the cost of beautifying the entrance to Seven Lakes West by covering the cost of new mailboxes in order to facilitate the construction of a replacement mail house.

The Long Range Planning Committee postponed its presentation on moving the mail house and the topic has, thus far, not reappeared on the agenda of a Board meeting.

## Other highlights

Among other news-making — if not headline-grabbing

— stories *The Times* reported on Seven Lakes West in the past year were:

- The Board approved a time-consuming line-by-line edit of the Association's rules and regulations, with Community Manager Joan Frost and volunteer Jim Johnson shouldering much of the burden of proofreading the text.

- The Westside eliminated the diving board at its pool, and with it an estimated \$15,000-\$20,000 in expense for lifeguards and another \$10,000 in liability insurance. Instead, the Association employed a pool monitor to check the IDs of landowners using the pool. The result, according to post-season reports from Manager Joan Frost, was a much smoother pool operation at less cost.

- Director John Goodman

discovered that more than a dozen culverts carrying water under Longleaf Drive were in serious need of repair before they collapsed and threatened the integrity of the roadway. Initial estimates put the possible repair cost at \$15,000 each. Repairs on this first of those culverts began on January 3 of 2011.

- The SLWLA Board renewed the West Side Park mortgage with First Bank

and decided to accelerate  
(See "SLWLA," p. 15)

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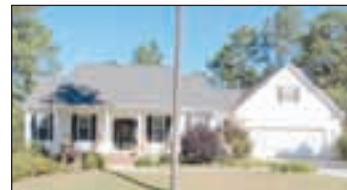
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## SLLA year in review

(Continued from page 3)  
schedules.

### Road repaving project

Although the Board voted early in the year to begin repaving in Fall 2010, progress was delayed for several reasons, including assessing costs for initial repairs to problem areas, completion of the Reserve Study, and discussion of pos-

sible improvements to the North/South entranceways and Dogwood Lane.

A heavily eroded section of roadway at the Echo Dam spillway was particularly worrisome, as the Board awaited word whether repairs would be considered jurisdictional by the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Once

given the green light to proceed, bids were sought and Civil Group was awarded a \$31,000 contract to repair and repave the road. Work began in December, but quickly stalled due to exceptionally cold and wet conditions.

### Lakes and Dams

Founded as an ad hoc com-

mittee in 2006 in the wake of a \$250,000 state-mandated repair of Echo Dam, the Lakes and Dams Committee became an official Board-sanctioned group in 2008 and was given a \$100,000 budget for dam maintenance projects.

In 2009, the committee was rolled into the Maintenance Committee. In the Spring of this year, Zielsdorf opted to disband the committee in favor of moving control and

responsibility of the lakes and dams back to management.

As the year progressed, members of the former committee pressed for updates on maintenance and, in the Fall, met with members of the Board to hash out differences.

In December, Zielsdorf reversed course and announced he would reconstitute a Lakes & Dam Com-

(See "SLLA," p. 16)

## SLWLA year in review

(Continued from page 13)

mortgage payments, using a surplus of dues in the West Side park account.

- Fighting persistent speeding problems on Longleaf Drive, Director Hoffmann conducted radar speed surveys that found a majority of vehicles traveling above the posted 35 mph speed limit. He studied, but ultimately rejected, the idea of installing speed tables at key areas on Longleaf.

- A new, significantly more attractive Seven Lakes West website was unveiled that included a public area and a separate members-only area that required registration and a password to access.

Some residents complained about the process used to obtain a login name and password.

- The Westside Board's adoption of a "barcodes-only" policy at their gate removed residents' windshield stickers — and, along with them, the ability of Westsiders to easily enter the gates of Seven Lakes North and South. After a few weeks of consternation, the Association made available Westside windshield stickers for a modest fee.

- The Association annexed the Parkwood subdivision that lies near the front gate and mail house, with the exception of one lot, already the site of a home and a

stockade fence that doesn't meet SLWLA standards. The homeowner was offered annexation, if the fence were removed, but declined.

- The Board declined to offer a discount for septic lots — lots that are used exclusively for septic repair fields and cannot be built upon.

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## SLLA year in review

(Continued from page 15)

mittee and volunteered to chair the group.

How often lake water should be tested was also on the table for discussion this year.

In 2009, Northsider Ron Erskine provided frequent testing using home-based laboratory equipment; however, Manager Cochran expressed concern that results of such testing could be misleading and argued in favor of professional laboratory testing only, per requirements at three times per year. Following a meeting in October with members of the former Lakes and Dams Committee, that figure was upped to four times per year.

A new style of boat that creates a much larger wake caused a stir last Summer with several lakeside property owners reporting that their bulkheads were washing out due to excessive wake damage.

In addition, boating violations including drunken operators, excessive speed, and weaving in and out of buoys prompted conversations between members of the Board and Sgt. Mark Dutton of NC Wildlife Resources Commission [NCWRC]. Whether or not the state will be invited to patrol the community's lakes in the future is still an open question.

A popular weekend haunt, Sequoia Point draws crowds and, unfortunately, trash and cigarette butts, and a large number of haphazardly parked cars along the roadside. The Board considered alternative parking solutions using Primrose Court and modifying the existing boat storage area, but no plan was finalized.

### ARB, Community Standards and appearance projects

New concrete curbing was installed at the main parking lot and both the North and Southside mail houses were repainted, with new carpet installed.

Community clean-up days were held in July and September and evening hours were extended at the Yard Debris Site during the growing season.

The Board approved a rec-

ommendation to double the ARB Compliance Fee from \$1,500 to \$3,000 to deter builders from opting to remain non-complaint rather than adhering to standards that may require a more expensive fix. The fee is fully-refundable if ARB rules are met.

### Barcodes and stickers

A decision by the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board to eliminate windshield stickers in favor of a barcode-only system left many Westsiders idling at the North and South gates, since SLLA guards could no longer identify their vehicles for courtesy access.

The issue was resolved when SLWLA provided an option for their members to purchase window stickers for a small fee.

(See "SLLA," p. 17)



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# SLLA year in review

(Continued from page 16)

## Recreation

The Easter Bunny and Santa Claus visited Seven Lakes in 2010, delighting community children and parents alike. Recreational programming also included a widely successful Halloween Party, a Family Camp Out and S'mores Party at Sequoia Point Beach, the annual Fourth of July fireworks celebration, a Dog Day of Summer especially for pooches at the Northside Pool, and a sold-out bus trip to the North Carolina State Fair.

The opening of Northside Pool was delayed until mid-June while safety grates were installed over the two main pool drains, a requirement to comply with the Virginia Graeme Baker Act; however, fair weather allowed the regular pool season to be extended an additional two weeks following Labor Day. Pool hours were also extended throughout the Summer until 8:00pm on weekends.

In June, hundreds of competitive swimmers from across the state visited Seven Lakes again this year, testing their mettle at Lake Echo in the annual NC Open Water Swim.

SLLA Stables held Horse Camp over three separate weeks and local children also had the opportunity to attend the ten-week long SLLA Summer Day Camp. With a modified half-day schedule, daily activities included swimming, crafts and games. Fees were reduced in July, but enrollment continued to be spotty with low attendance.

A new modern, modular playground structure was installed at Northside Park in Summer 2009, but, for safety reasons, 2010 saw the removal of many other older pieces — including the red metal slide, galvanized steel jungle gym, tether ball pole, and wood modular gym.

## Seven Lakes Country Club

The SLCC Tennis Center reopened in September with new managers Don and Susie Campbell. With a steady stream of social events, les-

sons and tournaments, the facility is a hub of activity. In addition to the Tennis Center, the Campbells also own and manage The Lawn and Tennis Club of North Carolina.

The SLCC golf course was named the Sandhills Golf Association's Chapter Course of the Year for the second consecutive year.

## Old Driving Range

With hopes to finally complete a three-year-old agreement between the Association and Seven Lakes Country Club over future development of the old driving range property, SLLA President Randy Zielsdorf, as the only current Board member who participated in the contentious 4-3 split vote that approved the agreement in July 2007, pushed to see the matter finally put to rest.

Drafted in response to the Club's desire to sell the five-acre tract for residential development, the agreement sets forth several requirements, namely that the Club will establish covenants limiting the use of all other Country Club property to the operation of a golf course, that a ten foot 'green space' easement would be granted along Seven Lakes Drive, that sufficient land for five additional parking spaces at the Southside mail house would be granted, and that future residential uses of the driving range would be subject to existing South Side Covenants.

In August, the Board delivered two key documents to the Club; however, the year ended without a resolution. Zielsdorf reported that the Club and Association were very close to completing discussions on several nagging issues and that attorneys from both sides were meeting to draft an addendum to the agreement that addressed those points.

The property remains on the market for sale with a list price of \$240,000.

## Vicious dogs reported

In October, the Board learned that two pit bull terrier dogs had attacked a

Northside resident's pet while she was out walking.

The incident was reported to Moore County Animal Control and a subsequent inves-

tigation revealed that the dogs had also been involved in another incident the previous year. Animal Control declared the dogs 'vicious'

and the homeowner was called before SLLA Judicial Panel. The outcome of that hearing has not been made public.



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**SUNDAY, JANUARY 9**

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Eucharist 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **Reid Heart Center Open House** – 2 to 5 pm, FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital, Pinehurst, on Page Road between Memorial Drive and Hwy. 211. Enjoy refreshments, tours and entertainment. For more information or directions, call (800) 213-3284.
- **Artists League of the Sandhills** – "An Art Exhibit and Demonstrations" by the instructor's for 2011. Opening Reception/Demonstration, 2 - 5pm. Come and meet the artist working. Exhibit runs through January 27. Gallery noon-3 pm, Monday - Saturday. Sign-up for classes and workshops available. 944-3979, 10 - 4 (M-F). [www.artistleague.org](http://www.artistleague.org). Artists League, 129 Exchange St., Aberdeen.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6 pm, presents April Verch. Poplar Knight Spot, 113 Knight Street, Aberdeen. Ticket Price: \$15 - \$18. 910-944-7502 or [www.theroosterswife.org](http://www.theroosterswife.org)

**MONDAY, JANUARY 10**

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 8:30 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.
- **Sandhills Photography Club** – 7 to 9 pm, Christ Fellowship Church, Midland and Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. The Program for 2011 will begin with a presentation by Portrait Artist Janice Clewis. Clewis will be speaking on informal Portrait Photography. Everyone will learn tips and valuable techniques on how to improve

your own portraits. [www.clewisphoto.com](http://www.clewisphoto.com) Guests are encouraged to join the club for the meetings. For infor-



## What's When Calendar

mation, visit [www.sandhillphoto-club.org](http://www.sandhillphoto-club.org)

- **Bingo Night at Our Lady of the Americas** – 7 pm, Early Bird Bingo; and 7:30 pm, Regular Bingo. Located at 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211, just east of Hwy 220, Candor. Minimum purchase \$15. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Everyone over the age of 16 is welcome. For more information, 910 974-3051.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 11**

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. West Side Park Community Center. Open to all landowners.

- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes.

Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.

Carol Burgess, Deacon. All are welcome.

- **Seven Lakes Computer Club** – 3 pm, meeting, at Seven Lakes North Game Room. Doug Rosskamp, of G&D Computers, will discuss Email programs. Check out Windows Live 2011 at the meeting. All interested residents are invited to attend.
- **Seven Lakes West** – 7 pm, Community CPR, at West Side Park Community Center. To register, call 673-5314.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12**

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

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- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 13**

- **Moore County Republican Men's Club** – 12 noon, at the Country Club of North Carolina. John Hood, President and Chairman of the John Locke Foundation, a North Carolina Think Tank, will be the guest speaker. Interested persons can call David Williams at 910-215-9443.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Gallery 'Open' flag will guide you to a cheerful showing of local artist's and photog-

rapher's works.

- **"Candyland"** – opening reception 4 to 6 pm. The Art of Play on Display. The whimsical world of Eric A. Ton art comes to Hastings Gallery in the Boyd Library on the Campus of Sandhills Community College. Ton's exhibit will include traditional, digital and photographic works that represent the whimsical world of play and toy inspired art. The exhibit will run through February 25. Sandhills Community College, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst.
- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8:00 pm. \$10 for six wines and food from Goldie's. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. [www.sandhillswinery.com](http://www.sandhillswinery.com)

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**August Special: \$25 Sports Physicals**

• **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – 7:30 pm, North Club House. The guest speaker from Sandhill Turf will speak about the environmental and ecological benefits of a grass lawn. All residents are welcome. Please join the Garden Club for this program – you do not have to be a member to attend.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

• **Sandhills Community College** – 11 am, The Rev. Nathaniel Jackson, retired principal of Moore County Schools will speak in Owens Auditorium. Reception following in the Teresa Wood Reading Room in Boyd Library.

• **Seven Lakes West** – 7 pm, Winter Music Series presents "The Musicians" at West Side Park Community Center. For more information, call 673-5314.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

• **Mixed Paper Recycle Day** – 9 am - 3 pm, at the Kangaroo Station in the Fresh Market Shopping Center, Southern Pines. Acceptable items include anything that is paper: \*\*Also accepting: Any type of Household and Rechargeable Batteries, Inkjet Car-

tridges, Cameras, Cell Phones, diskettes, CDs, DVDs, and Laptop Computers.\*\* Contact Joan Neal, Keep Moore County Beautiful, Inc. at 947-3478 or jneal@moorecountync.gov

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

• **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Eucharist 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

• **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. Carol Burgess, Deacon. All are welcome.

• **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – 11:30 am, Table on the Green at Midland Country Club. Representatives from Moore County School Superintendent Dr. Susan Pursuer's Core Team on the US educational program, "Race to the Top" will speak. Their topic is "The Federal Role in Education in Moore County." Reservations required. Please contact Charlotte

Gallagher, 910-944-9611. Cost: \$12.

• **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, regular meeting. Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

• **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

• **Kool Kids Parent Date Night** – 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Recreational play for kids grades K-5th. An evening out for just the two of you. Cost for 3 hour evening is \$7/child registered Kool Kids students, or \$12/child for others. 4139 Hwy 211, Seven Lakes, 2 doors from McDonald's.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

• **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal church** – 9:30 am, Holy Eucharist 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

• **Shag and Line Dance (SLW)** – instruction on Monday evenings, 6:30 pm at West Side Park Com-

munity Center. To register, call 673-5314.

• **Bingo Night at Our Lady of the Americas** – 7 pm, Early Bird Bingo; and 7:30 pm, Regular Bingo. Located at 298 Farmers Market Road, off Hwy 211, just east of Hwy 220, Candor. Minimum purchase \$15. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Everyone over the age of 16 is welcome. For more information, 910 974-3051.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

• **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased. All

are welcome.

• **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association** – 7 pm, work session. West Side Park Community Center. Open to all landowners.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 24

• **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Gallery open for your viewing pleasure.

• **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

• **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7:30 pm, monthly meeting. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.

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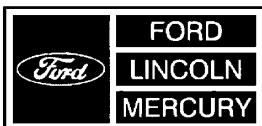
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## Singing (not exactly) like an angel

Have you heard about Ted Williams?

Sorry Boston Red Sox fans, not that Ted Williams. I'm talking about the homeless man in Ohio with the golden voice.

In case you spilled your New Years champagne toast on the computer or haven't had the heart to click on the television since Dick Clark's countdown, let me fill me you in.

A 90-second long video clip of Ted and his amazing instrument went viral on Monday morning.

Twenty-four hours and four million YouTube hits later, Williams was the feel good Cinderella-story of the inter-

net. Forty-eight hours later and sporting a fresh haircut and shave, he was fielding major press interviews and job offers from the NFL and the NBA. Though considering his namesake, I think MLB is where Ted's baritone rightfully belongs.

Mellifluous.

There, I used one of my most favorite words. A gorgeous jumble of letters as melodic to hear as it is tough to spell – and even harder to pronounce.

Ted Williams has a mellifluous voice.

I don't.

I sing shrilly and have an unfortunate and jarring mish-mash clash of accents gath-

ered from my round-the-world childhood travels. Born in Charm City, I'm a natural Balmer [that's Baltimore to the



### Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

rest of the known world] squawker burdened with occasionally splashes of polite Canadian up-speak and, like, some SoCal valley girl remnants.

If Ted's pipes are gold, mine are more like cadmium. You

know, that cheap metal used in children's jewelry that causes cancer and disrupts the reproductive system.

I should probably keep my day job, since radio work is clearly not in my future.

Though perhaps what's needed for this fair Eliza is a modern-day Henry Higgins.

A stash of chocolates and marbles might be useful to help me overcome my stutter over mellifluous, or my stumble through superfluous –

another syllable-filled gem mine. Just ask Mr. President.

I figure, with a little practice, I could be spouting tongue-twisted riddles and weather predictions with, if not precision, at least derision.

After all, since hurricanes hardly ever happen in Hampstead, Hereford, and Hertfordshire, it's no wonder the rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain.

But here in Carolina, hurricanes are a Charlotte sensation and snow tends to blow only during school vacations.

## Do I really need a church to know God?

**Question:** I am not a member of a church but I do believe that there is a God. I would call myself spiritual but not religious. I think religion is nothing but a crutch for weak people. I am getting along fine without it. How can I keep my wife and her relatives from trying to convert me?

**Response:** Congratulations on your seaming ability to live without the help of religious beliefs or religious friends. Several years ago, I heard the Reverend William Cof-

fin, then chaplain at Yale University, answer the question of a student who held similar beliefs. The student



### Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

asked Coffin: "Don't you think religion is just a crutch?" Coffin replied: "Sure, religion is a crutch, but who

told you weren't crippled or if you aren't now, that you won't need a crutch in the future!"

Many people think that asking for help when help is needed is a sign of weakness. Ask a recovering alco-

holic how he moved to sobriety. Was he able to do it all by himself? Does he think the higher power that helped him achieve sobriety was "just a crutch?" Ask a mother or father who have lost a child if the faith and hope that sustained them was only a crutch. The amazing paradox of the Christian faith is that when we are the weakest, our faith is the strongest.

In truth, you may never reach a point in your life when you need faith. I pray that your life may be free from sickness, failure, disappointment or despair, but don't count on it. I promise you this; if you ever feel the

need for comfort or strength that comes only from God, you can be sure that God will be there to meet your need, even if now you cannot even imagine such a situation.

I can empathize with your desire to stop your wife and her relatives from harassing you about your lack of religion. There are hundreds of people who think I am going to hell because I do not believe the way they do. I am inclined to believe that you wife and others are genuinely concerned about the welfare of your soul, however misguided or over zealous they may be. Evangelicals often believe that the salvation of their own souls is somehow dependent on trying to save yours. I have found this simple answer works wonders, "Please pray for me, but not out loud and not in my presence."

I am sure that you like many of my humanist friends are living an ethical, moral life without the assistance of religion, but nevertheless dependent on a moral cli-

mate of a society influenced by the teaching and ministry of churches and synagogues throughout the land.

So, my friend if you find sometime in the future that you do need a crutch, my closet is full of them, and perhaps you may someday want to distribute crutches to crippled souls yourself. If ever you have that urge, give me a call, or just walk through the door of the nearest church or synagogue. You will be warmly welcomed.

Rev. Don Welch welcomes your questions and responses. Write him at [dwelch1@nc.rr.com](mailto:dwelch1@nc.rr.com)

### SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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### Your letters welcome!

The Times welcomes letters from our readers. You will need to sign your letter, and give us a phone number where you can be reached. **We ask that you limit the length of your letter to 300 words.**

# The Westside Board has gone bonkers

Dear Editor:

For those of you that did not attend the recent Special Meeting of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA]: If you had wanted to vote at the meeting a picture ID was required to vote. That's not even a requirement for voting in a national election. I wonder how many of the Proxy votes supporting the Board's deci-

sion were checked with a photo ID?

Another nice touch was the Sheriff's car parked in front with a deputy inside the meeting room. Did they really think their neighbors would riot and would need to be subdued?

This is just a couple of examples of this Board not knowing and/or caring about their neighbors. They have

shown on many occasion by their actions at meetings that they don't want to hear from us or care what we think.

Did you know that you can run to be president of the United States with the following qualifications:

- Must be a natural born U.S Citizen,
- Must be at least 35 years of age, and
- Must have lived in the

U.S for at least 14 years.

Now, to run for the SLWLA board the following are the qualifications, which the board will assure you meet before you can run:

1. Resident Owner in Good Standing.
2. Availability. Willing to spend time.
3. Involvement in SLWLA Activities.
4. Involvement in Nonprofit Activities. A record of volunteer service in nonprofit or business boards.
5. Professional Skills. Executive management, advocacy, law, etc.
6. Personal Skills. Including, but not limited to intelligence and courage.
7. Code of Ethics. Goes on for another page of Does

and Don'ts.

A complete description of the qualification needs to be read and can be found along with the Code of Ethics in the Legal Requirements Documents Section on the Seven Lakes West web site.

Congratulations to those of you that passed the boards review. Those that didn't can take solace in the fact that you can be President of the United States, just not President of this board.

In closing, I think the boards actions over this past few months have been both unprofessional and inflammatory.

Max Foley  
Seven Lakes West

## Candyland - The art of play

The whimsical world of Eric A. Ton art comes to Hastings Gallery in the Boyd Library on the Campus of Sandhills Community College with "Candyland — The Art of Play." The opening reception will be on Thursday, January 13, 4 to 6 pm.

Ton's exhibit will include traditional, digital and photographic works that represent the whimsical world of play and toy inspired art. The exhibit will run through February 25.

"I hope people will remember how much fun play is when they look at my images," said Ton.

"Visually I try to connect different mediums so that when people view them, it excites their eyes and fills them with the desire to play. I am the first of the Saturday

morning cartoon generation and my first art influence were the pop, mod, and psychedelic art of the 1960's. Fireworks, cartoons, Christmas trees, toys, board games, and candy are the inspirations that lead to my images."

His photographic images are mainly of toys. Ton remarked, "I have a large collection of figurative toys and they visually inspire me everyday. I began posting them on the Internet and the photographs resonated with people. My art page began receiving thousands of views from other artists who love toys. I set up a page where artists from all over the world now post their toy

images.

His digital and traditional works cover a wide range of themes, inspired by the idea of visual play. Several works inspired by Hindu-Buddhist Mandela circular art will also be on display.

Ton's acrylic paintings are often 3 dimensional and are reminiscent of pop-up books.

"My works are not about the deep musings of our inner souls," said Ton.

"I strive to use art to remind viewers that there is still a kid inside that wants to come out and play. If nothing else, a happy feeling or a smile is good enough."

### Need A Miracle?

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# Incorporation

(Continued from page 2)

priate time, to mount a concrete incorporation effort.

## Supporters and skeptics

The competing notions of how to make Seven Lakes a town sparked the full range of public reaction, from whole-hearted support to full-throated opposition.

Members of The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board were early critics of the idea and ultimately mounted a seven-committee study aimed at determining how incorporation would impact Seven Lakes West. So far, four of those committees have produced reports.

Westside Legal Director Ed Silberhorn determined that the dedication of SLWLA roads to any town would require the affirmative vote of eighty percent of the membership — a nearly insurmountable bar standing in the way of The Study Group's plan.

Members of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board took a more hands-off approach to the issue, heeding Director Bud Shaver's warning that incorporation was a political matter that lay beyond the gates and thus beyond the purview of the landowners association board.

By late Summer the temperature of the public discussion had begun to cool and Seven Lakes West in particular found itself focused on the emerging debate over the permanent closure of Longleaf Drive over Lake Auman Dam.

The Study Group, rather than mount a series of small group meetings on the issue, as originally planned, instead endorsed the SLWLA study process, which began to issue reports on various aspects of incorporation.

The number of signatures gathered on the Incorpo-

rateSevenLakes.com petition slowed to a trickle. By November, founder Merritt told *The Times* that it was clear they would not obtain even the minimum number of signatures required to present the petition to the General Assembly's Joint Commission on incorporation — let

alone the majority support required to convince Senator Blake and Representative Boles to throw their weight behind the effort.

In practical terms that ended the immediate push to create a Town of Seven Lakes. There remain three SLWLA reports on the subject to be issued, as well as the possibility of an overall recommendation from the Westside Board.

Members of The Study Group have made no public statements on the subject

since praising the Westside's study process.

Whether to become a town is a perennial debate in Seven Lakes, one that seems to bloom roughly once every decade.

If the failure of the IncorporateSevenLakes.com petition is, in fact, the final fading of the bloom this time around, it is quite likely that *The Times* will again be reporting on a proposal for the incorporation of Seven Lakes, perhaps in the year 2020.

## Christmas present



**Rob Barrett, pharmacist at Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe, and his wife Katie welcomed a new daughter, Caroline Whitley Barrett, into the world on December 18. Caroline weighed 8lbs 3oz and was 21 inches long at birth.**

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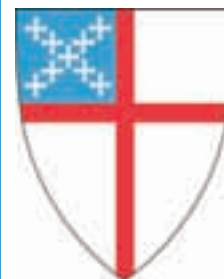
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### Tuesday Mornings

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## SLWLA budget

(Continued from front page)

the implication that those expenditures — as well as allocations to reserves — would be brought back in the budget for FY 2011-2012.

"I think it is a mistake that this Board has not chosen to honor that commitment to the hundreds of people who voted for that dues increase," Workman said.

Freiert's proposed budget includes only a two percent increase in dues. "With these two-to-three percent increases, you are holding your breath every year to see whether it will be approved," Workman said.

The Treasurer had heard a similar point made by others, he said at the beginning of the input session. He explained that the twenty percent cut out of last year's budget had not been added back for a number of reasons:

- "We realized that certain expenses that were anticipated for the current fiscal year were actually incurred

before this year got started, so we accomplished some prior to the end of April 2010," Freiert explained.

- After a line by line review of the operating expense budget, the Finance Committee, Board, and management, "decided we didn't need them at all," he added. "The Board and CAS were very prudent in planning the expenses for this year and planned them for a level marginally below the current year."

- A major expense component of the FY 2010-2011 budget was a proposed contribution of \$250,000 to road repaving reserves, Freiert explained. After the annual meeting vote, that amount was cut by only \$22,000, and the proposed FY 2011-2012 budget will add another \$280,000 on top of that.

Freiert said his review of long range spending needs "has shown that, at our current revenue levels, if we maintain those levels and

implement a two percent dues increase each year through 2020, over the ten-year period that began last year, we will put \$5.9 million in reserves over that period of time." During that same time period, he said, expenditures from reserves are expected to total \$3.9 - \$4.0 million, which would leave a surplus of \$2 million in reserves in 2020.

Those estimates also assume that the Association will accelerate the payoff of the mortgage on West Side Park, using the \$100 in annual dues dedicated to that purpose. Speeding up those payments will save \$100,000, he said. Once the mortgage is paid off, the \$152,000 per year in West Side Park dues can go directly to reserves, he added.

Freiert cautioned that those projections are predicated on existing long range expenditure estimates and those estimates are in need of updating, a project that the

Finance and Long Range Planning Committees will be undertaking over the next year.

As just one example of how difficult those projections can be, Director John Hoffmann reported that the current effort to repair a culvert that runs under Longleaf Drive is likely to cost more than expected because the existing soil in the area does not meet state regulations, requiring new soil to be brought in from elsewhere.

One item that seemed to catch some of those attending the meeting by surprise was the relatively modest

\$10,000 contribution to Dam reserves. The community spent more than \$500,000 on a dam remediation in 2009. Former Treasurer Kathy Kirst explained that the remediation was an anticipated expense that the Board saved for over a period of years.

But no such major repair is now on the horizon. Should something develop, Kirst said, contributions to the dam reserve could be accelerated.

The Board of Directors is expected to consider — and potentially approve — the proposed budget during its Work Session on Tuesday morning, January 11.

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## Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

courses and elsewhere in the development.

If the rezoning is approved, that water reuse facility and its associated access road will be the first phase of the project, scheduled for construction in 2011-2012.

Subsequent phases include a "private" golf course development, with an entrance off NC Highway 73 in 2011-2014; the "resort" golf course, hotel, and residential lots, with an entrance off NC Highway 211 in 2014-2017; and the wastewater treatment plant, hotel and conference center, and retail village in 2017-2020. The application notes that phasing is subject to change based on market conditions.

The county zoning ordinance requires that major developments like Pine Forest obtain a certification from Moore County Public Utilities that water will be available for the community, and the public works department has typically looked to developers to pay for that additional water. Hanson originally proposed to pay up to \$3 million to bring up to 500,000 gallons per day from Montgomery County. When the Pine Forest rezoning request first came before the Board of Commissioners last

February, it was tabled while details of the water contract were worked out.

No details on the status of the agreement were presented during Tuesday's meeting. Speaking with *The Times* on Wednesday, County Attorney Misty Leland said a water supply agreement has been worked out between herself, the County Manager, and Public Utilities Director on the one hand and MHK and its attorneys on the other. Leland could not share details of the agreement, but noted that it will have to be presented to and approved by the Board of Commissioners.

The Pine Forest community has met with some opposition from the State Natural Heritage Program and Save Our Sandhills [SOS], who believe the development will destroy the unique natural environment of the area, which has been described by state botanists as one of the largest intact Longleaf Pine Forests in the state.

Pine Forest has answered this objection by meeting or exceeding the "open space" requirements in the county Subdivision Ordinance, which requires that at least twenty percent of the total land developed be reserved as open

space. According to the Pine Forest PUD-H application, out of the 1652 acres in Pine Forest 330.4 acres is required to be open space.

Currently the Pine Forest Development has allotted 237.67 acres of primary open space, which includes wetlands and vegetative buffers. Secondary and Tertiary open space -- which includes woodlands, community greens and parks, and the pools and golf courses will total 515.63 acres. According to the application forty-six percent of the total development will be reserved as open space.

### Sandhills Center Report

Victoria Whitt, CEO of Sandhills Center for Mental Health, presented the center's quarterly report to the Board of Commissioners during Tuesday's meeting. Covering the period from July to September 2010, the report addressed the challenges of delivering mental health services in an environment of ever-evolving state and federal rules.

Whitt stated that \$1.1 million in funding, lost to budget cuts last year, is scheduled to be restored in this fiscal year. But she also predicted "further financial austerity as the state looks to continuing record shortfalls for yet

another year."

The Sandhills Center has taken on greater responsibility for services provided to the public through Medicaid because of a "Medicaid Waiver" which is paid for by federal and state funding. This waiver will allow the center to have "greater responsibility to screen and authorize services" while maintaining "newer and higher standards."

The Sandhills Center provides services for mental and development health as well as for substance abuse in eight counties. According to the report, 4,700 patients were treated in the Center's first quarter of the fiscal year through Medicaid or state funding. Because of cooperative efforts between the Center, FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital, and other providers, Whitt said, of 282

Moore County clients requiring hospitalization in the quarter, only 20 had to be referred to the state mental hospital.

### County will support Carolina Eye Expansion

In a 4-to-1 vote, the Board of Commissioners Tuesday night approved a water system upgrade that will allow Carolina Eye Associates [CEA], on Midland Road to meet Pinehurst fire flow regulations while expanding their current facility and hiring additional staff. The project will improve flows in the county water system, as well, relieving a current bottleneck that prevents the county from pumping the entire one million gallons per day that it has contracted to purchase from the town of Southern Pines.

(See "Commissioners," p. 25)



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# Commissioners

(Continued from page 24)

The project is expected to cost \$724,800, of which \$150,000 will be covered by a grant from the NC Rural Economic Development Center, \$166,600 will be paid by CEA, assessments for future tap-ons to the water line will cover \$241,600, and the remaining \$166,600 will be paid for by the Moore County Public Utilities [MCPU]. Overall approximately \$408,300 of the cost will be paid for by the County.

The CEA project anticipates adding at least 15 new jobs in the area; the Rural Center grant is based on \$10,000 per new job created, for a total of \$150,000.

Commissioner Tim Lea cast the lone vote against the project, warning that the county was bearing too much of the cost, setting a precedent for future requests from developers and businesses. Lea said that if the board agreed to this project, any future requests would mean the possibility of MCPU having to bear the cost. "When FirstHealth needed to add on," Lea said, "they paid for all of the upgrade costs. When Pinehurst, Inc. needed to

upgrade, it paid for all of its own water and sewer systems." Lea asked to table the proposal pending further negotiations.

In response, Commissioner Larry Caddell, who helped negotiate the deal with Carolina Eye and had already moved to approve the project, argued that upgrading the water system in the Midland Road area is something the county would have to do one day. "It would eliminate bottlenecks while making improvements to the county water system," Caddell said. "We have made a contract to benefit both sides."

Commissioner Jimmy Melton, also part of the negotiating team, agreed with Caddell: "Giving this approval can't do anything but strengthen our water system." Chairman Nick Picerno, weighing the pros and cons of the project, placed in the "pros" column: creating jobs, solving the bottlenecking issue, and increasing the property tax base with new construction. The only "con" he identified was that the \$246,000 in revenue from future tap-ons is not guaranteed.

The BOC approved the project in a 4-to-1 vote, with Commissioner Lea opposed.

## Other Business

In other business during the Tuesday, January 4 meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Sitting as the Board of Directors of the East Moore Water District [EMWD], the Commissioners approved EMWD Phase 3 so that it can be let for bids. The total anticipated cost of construction is \$4,395,000 with a total project budget of \$5,191,816. The EMWD received a USDA rural fund for 100% of the project financing with the exception of tap on fees totaling \$111,816.

- A motion to direct staff to explore a new avenue for property owners to appeal lodging tax penalties was approved 5-0 by the Board.

- Commissioner Craig Kennedy was appointed to committee positions previously held by former Commissioner Cindy Morgan, including the Sandhills Center Board, Emergency Services Advisory Committee, Drug Free Moore County, and as liaison to the Nursing

and Adult Care Home Community and Advisory Committee. He was also appointed to the Partners in Progress Board and Workforce Development Board.

- Commissioner Picerno will take over Morgan's seat on the Emergency Services Advisory Committee.

- The Board appointed Carthage Police Chief Chris McKenzie and reappointed of Employment and Training Representative Teresa Hall to the Criminal Justice Partnership Board for 3 year

terms expiring in January 2014.

- The Board appointed Tim Boyte, D.V.M. and Pat Henderson, M.D. to the Board of Health.

- The Board was given a potential agenda for the upcoming annual retreat, which will be held at the Senior Enrichment Center on Thursday and Friday, January 13 & 14.





*Times Editor Greg Hankins contributed additional reporting to this story.*




## Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

The Seven Lakes Alzheimer's/Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Chapel in the Pines on Seven Lakes Drive. For more information, call 673-5493.

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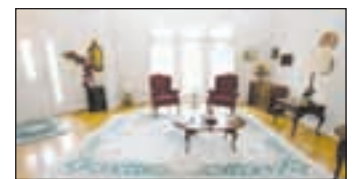
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