

## SLLA Board votes to outsource maintenance

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

With a 4-2 split vote, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors has outsourced roadside mowing and landscaping of common areas to Davenport Landscaping, a Raleigh/Apex area firm that specializes in home owner association landscape design, installation and management.

Both Infrastructure Director Bud Shaver and Treasurer

Denny Galford opposed the decision, taken during the Board's Wednesday, February 23 Open Meeting.

The move toward outsourcing the maintenance func-

over the \$146,000 landscaping contract was particularly contentious because of a unanimous "thumbs down" recommendation from the Finance Committee and overwhelming opposition by landowners present at the last two open meetings.

In a re-run of January's public comment session, the Board heard during last weeks' meeting a variety of concerns about the outsourcing contract — from a lack of Moore County firms among the bidders to the impact of outsourcing on current SLLA

(See "Outsourcing," p. 28)

### Seven Lakes Landowners 2/23 Association Meeting

tions is in keeping with decisions over the past few years that have eliminated in-house community management and security staff. But the debate

## New Lake Auman layout gets nod from Directors

by Stacy Naughton  
Times Reporter

On a motion by Lake and Dam Director Mick Herdrich, the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve on first reading the Proposed Buoy and Boating Rules Revision Committee's proposal to expand Lake Auman ski area by as much as fifteen percent and

make other adjustments to buoy placement and speed limits.

The action was taken during the Board's Tuesday,

### West Side Landowners 2/22 Meeting

February 22 Work Session and moves the process forward to a second reading

and a final vote on April 12, when the Board will also vote on a rule change that would allow novice skiers to start their runs at the bulkhead of the northeast side of the island before entering the ski zone.

With the current Lake (See "Westside," p. 25)

## Rising star



Southsider Emma Lewis has been down in Wilmington filming for a TV show. Read about her adventure on page 5.

## County wants to use hotel tax to support airport

by Stacy Naughton  
Times Reporter

When you stay in a Moore County hotel, a three percent Lodging Occupancy Tax is added to your bill.

That's a lot less than in many North Carolina counties, but both the Moore County Board of Commissioners and the Convention and Visitors Bureau [CVB] are looking at some ways to expand their use of those

tourist-generated dollars.

In their regular Tuesday, March 1 meeting, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a motion to take seven percent of the proceeds from the Lodging Occupancy Tax and create a fund to help the Moore County Airport expand its runway and improve its ramp prior to the 2014 Men's and Women's US Opens in Pinehurst.

The Board approved the \$250,000 airport grant match in February, and Chairman Nick Picerno spearheaded the idea to use the existing Lodging Occupancy Tax to pay for improvements to the airport.

Picerno was adamant about not increasing taxes to the residents of Moore County, but instead visitors to the area pay for the improvement. (See "Commissioners," p. 24)

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# Business Guild honors Platinum Members

by Darrell Marks, President  
Seven Lakes Business Guild

When a new member joins the Seven Lakes Business Guild, they become part of the guild membership. Con-

tinuous membership in the guild is a way for the the organization to be able to afford the constant maintenance of the district streets.

It is hopeful that the recent-

ly held honor recognition reception will become a yearly event, since there are several businesses that will become Platinum eligible in the coming years.

Approximately one half of the businesses in the area are Guild members and the organization welcomes anyone not contributing to area maintenance and beautification to become involved.

For the first five years of membership, the decal is bronze; the next five years are signified by silver, and the next five years by gold. Only when a member reaches their sixteenth year of consecutive membership do they receive a Platinum decal, marking the highest designation possible.

Marks spoke briefly about

the importance of Guild membership.

Fourteen local businesses that have been a part of the Guild since the beginning were honored at the reception held at CommunityOne Bank. The event was hosted by CommunityOne, Phoenix Fashions, and Seven Lakes Friendly Mart. Member present to receive their Platinum decals were Mace Electric, Seven Lakes Country Club, Jubilee Screen Printing, Crouch Machinery, Boles Funeral Home, Carolina Car Care, Whelan Realty, First Bank, Evergreen Lawn Main-

(See "Guild," p. 27)



**CommunityOne Bank hosted a reception for Business Guild Platinum members** — *Pictured above are Sherri Adams - CommunityOne Bank, Kenny and Gayle Mace - KR Mace Electric, Steve Ritter and Carol Yeoman - Seven Lakes Country Club, Bill and Judy McNeil - Jubilee Screen Printing, Peggie and Bob Crouch - Crouch Machinery, Michael St. Onge and Hale Richardson - Boles Funeral Home, Susan and Darrell Marks - Phoenix Fashions, Phil Cook - Carolina Car Care, John Whelan - Whelan Realty LLC, Chris Brady - First Bank, and Mike Phillips - Evergreen Lawn Maintenance.*

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Mar 25	Apr 1
Apr 8	Apr 15
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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

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# SLLA Board approves ARB appeals process

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Though the debate over outsourcing landscape maintenance dominated the Wednesday, February 23 Open Meeting of the SLLA Board, there was other Association business to be done, including the approval of a process to appeal decisions of the Architectural Review Board [ARB].

Most committees serve an advisory function to the Board of Directors but others, such as ARB and the Judicial Committee, are empowered to make independent decisions. ARB Director Melinda Scott recommended creating a defined, formal process for appeals from ARB to be Board of Directors. During the February Open Meeting, the Board unanimously approved several amendments to the community rules related to the ARB appeal process.

Under the new process, home or lot owners have thirty days from notification of an ARB rejection to submit an appeal request to the Board. The request must include all materials that were submitted for original ARB consideration, as well as a written statement identifying the basis for the appeal. If complete and accepted, all documents will

be reviewed by the Board, and the Board's consideration of the appeal will be held in open session. The Board's decision is final.

## Vicious dogs update

Two pit bull-type dogs that were involved in an attack on a Northside resident's pet last Fall no longer pose a threat to residents, reported Community Manager Alina Cochran. However, dogs complaints continue to be an issue.

"This past week, I was informed by the owners that the dogs involved in the attack on another dog have been removed from the community," Cochran said. "But, also, there were other attacks in the past weekend, and the Association will address this as well," she explained.

"Dogs remain a problem . . . we would appreciate it if all dogs were leashed when off-property. It is the dog owner's responsibility to take care of their animals."

## Infrastructure

Formal discussion of the Reserve Study recommendations has stalled because the Finance Committee has been tied up with other projects, explained Director Bud Shaver.

"We haven't been able to determine the impact on res-

idents," Shaver said. "Also, this Board has not replied to my recommendation to form committees."

In previous meetings, he has encouraged the formation of multiple committees for the purpose of studying multiple focus areas identified in the Study.

## Seven Lakes Landowners Association Meeting

2/23

## Architectural Review

The Architectural Review Board [ARB] reviewed plans for a new addition to The Chapel in the Pines," ARB Director Scott reported.

Though ARB's approval of the structure is not technically required, the plans were given an informal blessing by the committee, she said. "It looks like it will be a wonderful extension of the current Chapel."

In addition, ARB approved two fences and a new roof.

## Community Standards

Director Kent Droppers said the Community Standards Committee had reviewed a

large number of compliance issues on which the property owners had been notified by letter.

"We have received a lot of good feedback from residents and feel that many issues have been addressed," he said. "I feel there is a good portion of landowner's properties making real progress."

The few items that are not progressing are being prioritized for review by the Judicial Committee, reported Droppers.

Taking time to appreciate the efforts of his committee members, Droppers thanked them for their selfless investment of time to ensure the community maintained a good appearance.

## Security

Security Director Chuck Mims reported that he and Manager Cochran have begun to attend quarterly meetings with representatives from a number of local gated communities to discuss security issues. The meetings have included security teams from Pinewild, CCNC, National, Seven Lakes West, and Mid-South, among others.

"We all seem to be having the same problems," he said.

Mims said he is acquiring estimates on the cost to upgrade the community cameras and security equipment around the various buildings and facilities.

## Finance

Treasurer Denny Galford addressed a number of questions on finances received  
(See "SLLA," p. 29)

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# Guild plans to 'accentuate the positive'

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Stop and shop before you turn at the light.

"Right here in Seven Lakes we have restaurants and a hardware store, clothing shops — and plenty more," said Darrell Marks, who was recently installed as President of the Seven Lakes Business Guild. "Here you'll find not only similarly priced items, but the service is superlative

compared to 'in town.'"

Organized over twenty years ago, the Guild's purpose is to accentuate the positive, Marks explained, and sharing their understanding that what is good for local businesses is also good for the community.

"To be successful in business, you have to get people vested in your success — and the best way to do that is to share good things back

with the community."

A brand new initiative this year for the Guild is the decision to take over the 'Adopt a Highway' program along NC Highway 211 from the Seven Lakes Lions Club.

"The amount of roadside trash from Seven Lakes to West End can be atrocious,"

exclaimed Marks. "We expect to change that outlook and intend to sponsor community clean up days and involve local businesses through sponsorships."

In addition, the Guild will continue to host several popular mainstay events for the community, including the much-anticipated Chili Cook Off, a Spring and Fall "Meet the Merchants" event on the village green, a Community Yard Sale, and the Christmas tree lighting.

"Last year's incorporation efforts took a lot of our time, and we learned some valuable lessons," Marks told *The Times*. "Number one is there is a total misunderstanding of what the Business Guild is and who it represents," Marks said. "Part of our goal this year is to raise the consciousness of who we are and what we provide to the

community."

In particular, he is hoping local residents will take an interest in the business community, to evaluate what role they are playing, and to reward those that have "stepped up to the plate" and are doing the right thing to help create a beautiful and desirable shopping district.

"The businesses that are in the Guild realize that if you give a little time to build the community, the community will in turn build your business," he said. "Hopefully, folks will appreciate the difference and stop in and visit our members."

Members can be identified by recognition plaques posted at their place of business in appreciation of their service to the community. For more information on the Seven Lakes Business Guild, visit [www.7lakesbusinessguild.org](http://www.7lakesbusinessguild.org)



Darrell Marks

## Taste of the Town!

A sell-out event every single year, the Women of Seven Lakes' 'Taste of the Town' is moving to a new, larger location this year that will allow for plenty of space to mingle and sit.

Join your friends and neighbors on Monday, March 28, from 5:00 to 7:00pm, at the Crawford Center at West End Presbyterian Church.

Enjoy the tastes and temptations of many of the TOT's most popular restaurants, including Nina's, Outback Steakhouse, Corfu Taverna, Thai Basil, Goldie's Gourmet, Dog Nation Grill, Sandhills Winery, Cold

Stone Creamery, plus many more.

Tickets are on sale now! Don't miss your chance to enjoy this annual event, which benefits the West End United Methodist Church Food Bank.

Tickets are \$20 per person, please contact Polly Cummins at 673-2260 or you may purchase your tickets at the Sandhills Winery on Seven Lakes Drive.

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# Little Laker's lighting up the small screen

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

"She just shines."

That's how eight-year old Southsider Emma Lewis' mother describes her. A natural entertainer whether she's on stage or not, the young thespian always enjoys making people laugh and recently shared her talents on the small screen after landing a recurring role as an extra on the television drama, *One Tree Hill*.

Filmed in Wilmington, North Carolina, the show is now in its eight season and primarily features young adult storylines, but sports have always played an important part in the plot framework. Emma was cast as a baseball teammate to one of the series regulars.

"It was really fun to see how they worked on a scene and how they did stuff," explained Lewis. "I made a lot of new friends and the people were very nice to me."

What was difficult was standing still and waiting, and waiting, as the cameras would first film a scene ten times from one angle and then ten times from another.

Accompanying her each day of the shoot was her mom, Tonya Lewis, who also volunteered as an extra, so she could stay close to Emma.

"The first day she was an extra during the baseball team try-out scenes, but then she was called back to play third base for a two-day shoot that turned into a three-day shoot, ten hours a day," said Tonya.

But the heat and boredom of standing for hours at a time weren't the hardest part, said Emma. It was losing her friends back home for three days and then having to make-up all her schoolwork.

## Spring training

Baseball is not one of Emma's frequent hobbies, she's actually a much more accomplished soccer player, but after hearing about the *One Tree Hill* part, she spent time with her father as he coached her on how to bat, catch and throw the ball.

She also enjoys going fish-

ing with her dad, Gary, an activity that Emma lists near the top of her favorite hobbies, along with riding her bike, playing with her sisters Mackenzie and Kamden, playing the piano and singing in her church choir, spending time with her dog.

But acting is where she shines.

As a player in the Moore County Arts Council productions for the last two years, it was obvious that being on stage was where Emma needed to be, explained Tonya.

Through a model and talent management company, she enrolled and recently completed a 20-week acting course and has already been accepted as a client of a more comprehensive management company. Currently, she is preparing a monologue to

present during an annual talent showcase this Summer that regularly draws established directors and producers.

It was through these industry contacts that Emma garnered her role as an extra

in Wilmington.

"Her first scene she was paid a little, but her callback scenes were a bit more lucrative," joked her mother. "Each

day was different, but the way they film the scene is very repetitive. The kids were just great and very patient

(See "Emma," p. 8)



Emma Lewis

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You can't turn on the TV, drive down the road or go to a party without being confronted with America's hottest obsession: weight. Diets are a billion-dollar industry; companies spend millions and millions luring you to try the latest diet (low carb, high protein, low fat, no fat, you name it) with promises that this will (finally!) be the solution—your shortcut to a thinner body. Advertising efforts also deeply affect our children, who develop distorted body images and are often on diets as early as nine or 10 years of age.

Our culture touts diet pills, celebrity workouts, convenience foods and trendy diets to help us achieve our desired weight, but these quick-fix solutions have backfired. America's populace has reached its highest weight in history. About half of Americans are overweight; one-third are obese. Diets steer us away from our common sense and dip deeply into our pocketbooks while eliciting few, if any, lasting results.

Diets don't work because each person is unique, with different needs based on gender, age, ancestry and lifestyle; how could one diet be right for everyone? Diets don't work because they are extreme solutions. As in physics, if a pendulum swings to one extreme, it has to swing equally to the other. A diet might work for a short amount of time, but research shows that almost all diets result in a 10-pound gain once off the diet. Diets don't work because they are too restrictive. People who fail on diet plans are not

flawed and weak. Diets by nature require discipline and restriction at levels that are unsustainable by a healthy human body.

Most people are disconnected from why they gain weight and see diet as the only culprit. For example, ignoring or discounting emotions is often the first thing to cause weight imbalances. In our fast-paced world, we have lost sight of many aspects of life that truly nourish and balance our bodies, such as slowing down, eating a home-cooked meal and spending quality time with loving people. Eating consciously and making simple lifestyle changes will create positive results and release you from the endless cycle of dieting.

Balance and a sustainable weight are your birthright. Given half a chance, your body will balance out by itself, but this is only possible by getting out of the diet mentality and listening to what you truly need. Imagine taking all of the outward energy you expend on diets, fads and gimmicks and turning it inward, so that you can listen to your heart and inner wisdom. There is no such thing as a quick fix; you already have everything you need within you. With careful thought and loving reflection, you can feed yourself wisely and purposefully and be completely nourished. Working with your body rather than against it will bring about increased energy, stabilized weight and sustainable health.

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# Council hopes to reduce loan payments

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Looking for a temporary reprieve from having to fund the full annual loan payment due in April for the Woodland Circle Extension project, the Foxfire Village Council approved a loan modification with BB&T requesting a two-year grace period of interest-only payments.

Approved unanimously during a Special Meeting on Monday, February 28, the request must also be approved by the NC Local Government Commission.

"Right now, this is the best we can hope for," explained Finance Director Leslie Frusco, "and it essentially gives us two years to accept the gift of property and, hopefully, find a buyer for it."

The gift of property is the as-yet-unaccepted 156-acre tract owned by the McKean Brothers Trust, which was offered to the Village last month as a charitable donation in lieu of the \$1.4 million assessment due.

The largest property along the extended Woodland Circle roadway, the tract also garnered the largest assessment — at nearly 75% of the project's \$1.99 million total cost.

Frusco estimated that the first annual interest-only payment would total \$28,000. The Village is expected to collect \$100,000 in assessments this year, so any funding above and beyond the interest payment will be applied to the principal.

The following year's inter-

est-only payment is expected to be approximately \$100,000, and the full amount of assessments collected will be necessary to satisfy the payment.

## Gift versus foreclosure

That the 156-acre property will eventually be owned by Foxfire Village is practically inevitable, since the landowner is unwilling to pay the assessment due. However, the legal ramifications of accepting the donation of land versus gaining the property through a foreclosure process has the Council asking pointed questions.

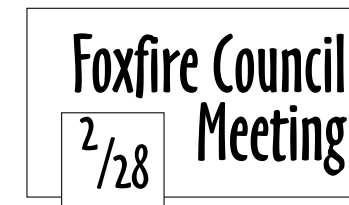
A limited title search for any legal encumbrances has been completed, but a specific outstanding concern is the potential liability of any pre-existing environmental impacts on the undeveloped land.

Councilman John Eltschlager also recommended a Phase 1 study that includes an on-site visual inspection for contamination and also a record check of historical uses of the land. Noting that this sort of study is normally performed on commercial rather than residential property, he explained that he supported the study, but cautioned against spending excessive money on research.

"At the end of the day, we're going to wind up with the property anyway, but it would be good to be aware of it [any potential problems]," he said. "My concern is: if we are

aware of the issue and accept the donation — do they still have to clean it up, or will we be responsible?"

The Council was also



unclear on whether a survey of wetlands was necessary, or if some existing survey might save the Village the expense of a new one.

Frusco recommended the Village send a formal request to McKean's attorney asking for copies of any legal surveys or similar documents related to the property.

"If there is an environmental problem, we need to know: Does it make a difference whether we accept the gift or foreclose whose responsibility it is to clean-up that issue?" Frusco said. "If it makes no difference, what do we care? But if it does make a difference, we need to know."

Mayor George Erickson agreed and said that he would like to see the concerns wrapped up so that a motion to adopt the property could

be voted on at the Tuesday, March 8 regular meeting.

## Local funding for state roads?

A bill currently being considered by the North Carolina General Assembly could transfer the responsibility and cost to maintain some state roads to municipalities. If approved, such a transfer would saddle the Village with future paving needs on Richmond and Hoffman Roads.

"This is not a cost savings, but a cost transfer," said Frusco.

Lauer agreed and said he did not understand why the legislature was proposing such a bill.

"NC-DOT is not lacking for

funds," he noted. "They are scrambling to spend money, so they can pave all these roads and get all the same money from the federal government as last year."

"So, I'm confused why the State wants to push this burden on municipalities when we have to save for years to get enough funding to do minor repairs."

He continued, "We have the highest gasoline tax in this state. I'm all for saving money and cutting, but this is just like the federal government passing an unfunded mandate on the state. Well, now the state is shoving a mandate down on us."

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# Cochran will shave her head to fight cancer

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

What began as a challenge between friends at a St. Patrick's Day party a little over ten years ago has evolved into one of the world's largest volunteer-driven charity programs. To date, St. Baldrick's Day has raised over \$90 million dollars for childhood cancer research.

This Saturday, March 5, Alina Cochran, the Community Manager of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA], will become one of 147,000 participants — including 12,000 women — who shave their heads in solidarity with cancer patients.

As captain of the five-man "Anglo-Romanian MeetUp" team, Cochran will also be

cheering on her husband, Andy, who is a four-time St. Baldrick's "shavee," and also her two close friends and her Talis Management Group boss, John McInerney.

Currently, Cochran's team has slipped to second place in fundraising for the Hibernian Irish Pub in Cary event this weekend, but she is hoping they'll regain the lead.

"I am committed to doing this and I am very excited," said Cochran, noting that she has already bought a wig and is looking forward to her "new look."

"This is for a good cause and that's why I'm doing it," she explained. "So far the response has been very positive."

For more information or to make a contribution, please visit her sponsorship page

at <http://www.stbaldricks.org/participants/mypage/participantid/420928>



Andy & Alina Cochran and Talis' John McInerney will go bald to raise cash for childhood cancer research.

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### Ranch Party Mix

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Drizzle with 1/4 cup melted butter.

Shake in bag.

Put in roasting pan and bake at 300 degrees for 8 minutes, stirring two or three times in between.

1 cup pretzels (I also added 1 cup dry-roasted peacuts).



from Lucy's  
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# Red Cross' Buddy Spong at 7 Lakes Kiwanis

by Frank Krohn  
Seven Lakes Kiwanis

The Kiwanis hosted Buddy Spong, current Executive Director of the Moore County American Red Cross, on Tuesday, February 9. A native Carolinian, Spong had a dis-

tinguished 33 year career as Professor and Dean at Sandhills Community College, before retiring and starting a new career at the American Red Cross.



**Buddy Spong**

As Director, Spong oversees all of the important tasks that the Red Cross performs in Moore County, and also is close to Red Cross operations around the world. He specifically highlighted the severity of the current winter and the need for blood donors and warm clothing.

Spong feels that a goal to make Moore County the most "heart safe" county in the

USA has been achieved, because of a very aggressive countywide training program in CPR and the use of the AED units that have been

made available around the County.

Spong's experience and personality have always made him an interesting and enter-

taining speaker. Today was no exception and he not only entertained, but also educated the group about the important activities of the

Red Cross.

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



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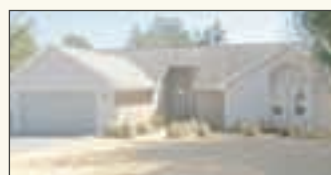
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## Emma

(Continued from page 5)

and Emma was able to make a ton of new friends."

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# St. Mary Magdalene helps feed the hungry

by Skip Ragland

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal

Five members of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church attended this year's 195th Episcopal Diocesan Convention. Delegates included: The Reverends Bob Brown, Fred Thompson, Carol Burgess as Clergy and Brenda Yarish and Skip Ragland as Lay participants.

The theme of this year's NC Diocese Convention was "Reflecting the Radical Welcome of Jesus by Being a Church for Others." Deacon Carol Burgess commented, "Community outreach has been the focus of St. Mary Magdalene since our beginning, so it was rather easy to identify with the church's call to go even further opening our church and hearts to others — especially in our

efforts to embrace those who are much different than ourselves."

Most of the budget of St. Mary Magdalene is devoted to community outreach. "Over 10 percent of our budget is dedicated to helping others and we take great pride in that," according to St. Mary Magdalene Vicar, the Reverend Bob Brown.

One of the programs that receives attention from the church is MANNA, an organization devoted to the local hunger effort. Once a month members of St. Mary Magdalene prepare meals at the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association kitchen to be delivered to a distribution point for needy individuals in Moore County.

Recently, Seven Lakes Andrea Schmidt, Paula Hill,

Dona Rouse, Jan Standing, Betty Hanham, Grace Kirkpatrick, Sandra Morris, Linley Cox, Mercedes Herdrich and Carol and Tim Burgess prepared meals for the hungry.

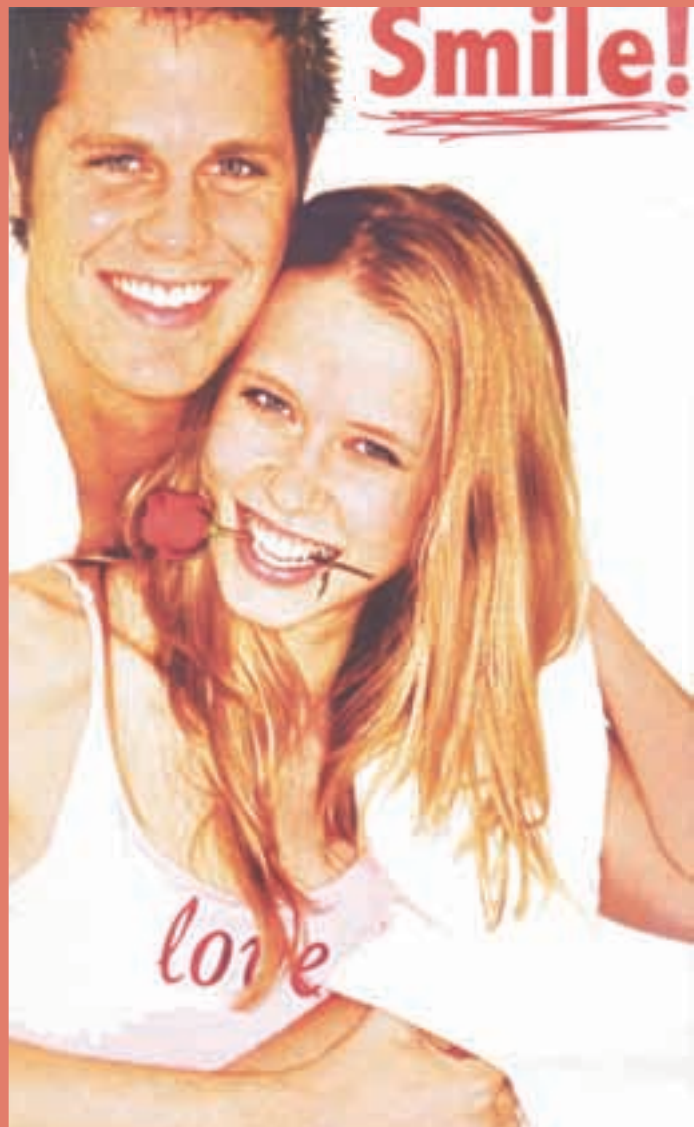
Paula Hill is in charge of the overall outreach program of St. Mary Magdalene, but MANNA is a particularly strong draw for her. "I got involved because I feel there is a need in this county and food is so important. Many times I've seen people begging on the side of the road and I think "but for the grace of God, that could be me." This program is very special to me. MANNA takes approximately two hours of my time a month and yet the rewards are so great! MANNA is even more important during these times of financial stress," she said.

Westsider Andrea Schmidt feels much the same way. "I thought it would be fun to volunteer and also be very rewarding working together to help others in the com-

munity. I love to cook and my MANNA job in helping at the stove. We have lots of laughter and good times together and it warms my heart."



Carol Burgess, Dona Rouse, Sandra Morris, & Betty Hanham, whip up MANNA meals.



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# SLLA Candidates face the membership

by Laura Douglass  
Times Reporter

Members of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] are being asked to cast votes for four Directors in this Spring's elections — a majority of the seats on the Board.

That vote comes at a critical time for the Association. A comprehensive tool for long-range financial planning — the Reserve Study — has just been completed by a team of outside consultants. The new Board's decision about how and when to implement the Study's recommendations will chart the future of the Association — and Seven Lakes North and South — for years to come.

On Wednesday, February 16, the full slate of six SLLA candidates met at the North Clubhouse for a Candidate's Forum moderated by Greg Hankins, the publisher and editor of *The Seven Lakes Times*, with assistance from usher Brenda Massimo and timekeepers Sharon and Craig Voegel.

Using a format initiated by the Seven Lakes Civic Group several years ago, each candidate was offered six minutes to introduce themselves, their relevant background

information, how that experience would contribute to service on the Board, and what they see as the three top priorities for the community. Later in the forum, candidates were asked to respond to questions submitted in writing by the audience.

## Randy Zielsdorf

A resident for eleven years, but a frequent visitor since 1978, two-term incumbent director Randy Zielsdorf said his long history with the community provides him a unique perspective.

"Seven Lakes used to be a very different place. It was a lot more resort-looking and

primarily for retirees," he said. "But, since I moved here, there has been a huge demographic shift and the Northside is at least fifty percent working families now. My priorities are road paving and appearances. We used to be more 'resort-ish.' Our lakes are a great asset, but we can't just depend on the lakes to keep pulling us through. We need to make Seven Lakes as attractive as possible considering our budget constraints."

Roads are the top priority for Zielsdorf, "Two years ago, the Board voted in favor of a \$100 dues increase for road repaving . . . I want to be a vote to start some kind of paving this year."

First elected to the SLLA Board in March 2007, he chaired the Community Standards Committee before moving into the president's seat, a position he has held for the last three years. In this role, he was instrumental in the transition from an individual community manager to a professional management company. Providing conti-

nuity to complete the transition process is why Zielsdorf said he decided to run for another term, though he would prefer to serve as an advisor and is not interested in continuing as president.

"The last year has been difficult," Zielsdorf said. "We were with an individual manager for twenty-three years. There are a lot of things that needed to be changed. There is a cultural mindset that needs to be worked with."

## Bruce Keyser, Jr.

Incumbent director Bruce Keyser, Jr. said his priority issue is infrastructure — both monetarily and structurally.

"The current Board started

implementing changes to help guide the community into the future . . . and accomplishments in the last two  
(See "SLLA Candidates," p. 11)



Bruce Keyser, Jr.



Randy Zielsdorf



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7 Vegetable Soup ♥ Shepherd's Pie Dinner	8 Split Pea with Ham Soup Chicken Enchiladas Dinner ♥	9 Chicken & Dumpling Soup Sausage & Cheese Manicotti Dinner	10 Beef Barley Soup Lemon Shrimp Oriental Dinner ♥	11 New England Clam Chowder ♥ Smothered Pork Chops Dinner
14 Tomato Basil Soup ♥ Italian Meatloaf Dinner	15 Goldie's Chili Lemon Chicken with Rosemary Orzo	16 Cream of Chicken Soup Beef Stroganoff Dinner	17 Split Pea with Barley Soup Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	18 Manhattan Clam Chowder Pecan Crusted Tilapia Dinner
21 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Baked Spaghetti Dinner	22 White Bean Chicken Chili ♥ Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	23 Potato Leek Soup Pork with Sage & Apples Dinner	24 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Bourbon Salmon Dinner ♥	25 Mushroom Bisque Chinese Pepper Steak Dinner ♥
28 Potato Bacon Soup Turkey Meatloaf Dinner ♥	29 Mexican Meatball Soup Chicken Divan Dinner	30 Navy Bean Soup ♥ Pot Roast Dinner	31 Beef Vegetable Soup ♥ Shrimp Enchiladas Dinner	April 1 Shrimp & Corn Chowder Swiss Steak Dinner

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## SLLA Candidates' Night

(Continued from page 10)

years have been a step in right direction," said Keyser, mentioning the road repaving plan, new playground equipment installation and removal of old pieces, transitioning to new management, and introduction of a new boating safety class this Spring. "I hope we are on the right path, and I hope to finish what we started."

The current Secretary of the Board and Director of Recreation, Keyser has a professional background in restaurant management and is a successful, self-employed business owner and builder. He explained that he does not consider himself an expert on community concerns but, rather, someone who is always learning.

"Serving on the Board is no easy task," Keyser said. "There is a thin line between doing what is right for the community and listening to what the community has to say, then still making the right decision when asked to vote. There is no easy answer, and there is not always a wrong and a right," he explained. "But, I listen to both sides and draw my conclusion from there."

### Bob Racine

An active member and secretary of the Recreation Committee and alternate member as well as secretary on the Judicial Committee, Bob

greater than it is now," said Racine.

Active with Boy Scouts, his church, and chair of the local Blood Drive, he also developed, compiled and reviewed the recent Recreation Committee survey and attends all meetings of the Board. Now in his third year of residence, he said he knew little of Seven Lakes at first, but has grown to love it.

"I enjoy seeing kids out in community, the walkers and the joggers, they know they are in a community — there is no fear. This is a community for folks who are retired and there are also those who are working two jobs."

Racine prioritized member involvement and responsibility as the key components to a successful future.

"Efforts to make the community more attractive will have a limited effect if the roads continue to be littered with debris, if there is graffiti

on walls, and dogs roaming. These are things that we can do to make our community better," he said. "This is not up to the Board, but up to members to accept responsibility, and it doesn't cost a penny."

Racine also said the Board must temper their wish list based on budget limitations, and he encouraged a more open forum of discussion that would allow residents to express themselves at any meeting.

"We must make ourselves, as a Board, available, and not stifle that input," he said.

A retired attorney, small town moderator, and former chairman of a budget committee, Racine said he is a consensus-builder and that it is important to get everyone on board with a united resolution to an issue.

### Bob Darr

"The Reserve Study clearly

spells out the challenge for our future. The cost numbers are astonishing!" said Bob Darr, quickly zeroing in on his top priority when looking ahead.

In particular, he cited the study's recommendation that

dues should be increased \$100 in 2012, by at least another \$100 in 2013, and again, another \$100 in 2014.

"The job of the new Board is to take that reserve plan, which sets our future, and openly and transparently involve the whole community in what we will do and analyze all possible actions that can and may be taken," said Darr.

A former member of the Architectural Review Board [ARB] and, more recently, the former SLLA Maintenance Supervisor, he described himself as having a biased opinion on the issue of outsourced landscaping, and said the Finance Committee estimated the [now approved] contract would cost the Association an additional \$60,000

(See "SLLA Candidates," p. 12)



Bob Darr


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Bob Racine

Racine is an advocate for programs that bring residents and the Board together to support the community and its rules and regulations.

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# SLLA Candidates' Night

(Continued from page 11)

to \$100,000 per year.

"It appears the Board will pass that resolution and zap us with that cost," he said. "If I'm elected, my first motion will be to cancel that contract."

With extensive professional experience in a corporate environment and also running his own businesses, he explained he is a man who knows how to get things done.

"I know the community well, and I can contribute to its health and welfare," Darr said.

## Don Fentzlaff

Northsider Don Fentzlaff said he owes the community a great deal — and that is why he decided to run for a seat on the Board.

"So many members came to my assistance when my wife was gravely ill, and this is the best way I can repay these wonderful people," he said.

A retired electrical engineer



Don Fentzlaff

with extensive business experience in management and facilities, Fentzlaff said it is beyond imperative that the new Board direct, advise, and oversee the management plan for maintenance and improvements to infrastructure including the roads, dams, public buildings, common areas, stables, and beaches.

"Our community is beginning to show its age, and we have to look for new innovative ways to bring it back to how it once looked," he said. "As the Reserve Study identifies new areas, the Board will have to identify new priorities."

He encouraged more communication with members about immediate problems as well as a more open position overall.

"We must not be secretive with issues," Fentzlaff said. "The concerns of citizens are important, and decisions should be made with their thoughts and input."

"On financial assets, the Board must work aggressively to budget, but also to address everyday expenses and improved community needs."

With a background in management at all levels, he said he has the knowledge to improve both safety and appearance in the community. A regular meeting attendee, where he expresses concerns when warranted and offers praise when positive advances are achieved, Fentzlaff was an active member of the Lakes & Dams Committee before it was dis-

banded in 2009 and currently serves on the ARB: both being important roles that he looks forward to continuing if elected.

"If you foster respect in a positive can-do atmosphere . . . and have a vital and diverse community working together, you have a limitless source of vision," said Fentzlaff.

## Conrad Meyer

A homeowner since 2005, Conrad Meyer said his top priority is communication and recommended Town Hall forums to gather resident input — and also more flexibility for public comment during regular meetings.

"We need to listen to the membership. The Board and

membership need to improve the way we communicate," said Meyer.

Meyer said Talis must do a better job at posting minutes and other information to the website in a timely manner, and also suggested that old business items should remain on the meeting agenda until they are concluded.

"We need to run the Association like a business," he said. "We need to meet the budget — It's our money! — and never forget the members are the boss . . . We need to see proper business cases run on financial decisions. We need to finish what we start. We need to restore committees, because more par-

ticipation from members is better. Far too much material has been discussed in secret. We need to benchmark operations," he said.

Of particular concern is planning and then flawlessly executing a number of capital projects on the near horizon.

"These plans need to come to the forefront. We need to develop a plan for infrastructure replacement, prioritize, and fund it," said Meyer. "There has been little discussion of the Reserve Study and the major impact it will have on the community. This is area where we will need plenty of input from the community. We need to look to (See "SLLA Candidates," p. 13)



Conrad Meyer



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# SLLA Candidates' Night

(Continued from page 12)

satisfy those needs without a dues increase."

Since he only recently became a fulltime resident, Meyer said he has not had the opportunity to serve on a committee, but did participate in the community clean-up day and attends every Board meeting if possible. Meyer has an MBA and extensive experience in engineering projects and strategic planning, and said one of his most important skills is being an effective team player and leader with an ability to listen to others.

## Member Questions

Members attending the meeting submitted written questions to the moderator; candidates were given two minutes each to answer.

## Lakes & Dams

*Question: Do you support the reinstatement of the Lakes & Dams Committee?*

**Conrad Meyer** said that Lakes & Dams serves an important role, but suggested that an Infrastructure Committee could handle both maintenance and Lakes & Dams issues.

"As we go through the Reserve Study, we will need that group," he said. "The maintenance of a community affects beauty and the upkeep of the entire community and there need to be committees to oversee it."

**Bruce Keyser, Jr.**, said the Board took a hard look in the last year at what committees are needed, and he agrees that Lakes and Dams should be brought back in.

"Especially since recreation on the lakes is so important. There are a lot of things that need to be done to keep the lakes, but I don't believe those needs have to be met in the same fashion," said Keyser, noting that infrastructure planning must correspond to the Reserve Study recommendations.

"Absolutely we need the Lakes & Dams Committee," said **Bob Darr**.

"With the Reserve Study, we may be need to develop other committees to look at more specific projects and help with analytical data and provide feedback, but we also

dropped other committees like Beautification. We keep discussing how the community is looking worn, but Beautification was responsible for a lot of things that were considered attractive," said Darr.

**Randy Zielsdorf** agreed that the community lakes are very important, but does not believe the Lakes and Dams Committee — or other committees, must always

take the same form from year-to-year.

"I agree that infrastructure planning should match up with goals of the Reserve Study . . . but we don't need to have the same committees running the same year after year. That is what keeps us in a rut," said Zielsdorf, noting the Association must maintain only the ARB, Judicial and Election — all others serve at the pleasure of the

sitting President.

**Bob Racine** said he was in favor of reinstating Lakes & Dams, because the input of members is necessary to effectively push the community to an even better condition than it was when each arrived. He looked to his experiences serving on the Recreation Committee as inspiration.

"No one knows everything about everything," Racine

said. "In Recreation, we each offer input, and then proceed with discussion, and then make a decision. No one person can arrive at a decision in an isolated cubicle: you must have the input of many."

**Don Fentzlauff** said there was no question that Lakes & Dams should be reinstated, but agreed that it did not necessarily have to retain its (See "SLLA Candidates," p. 14)



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# SLLA Candidates' Night

(Continued from page 13)

previous structure.

"I have the feeling we're beginning to see the results of the loss of committees," he said, referring to both Lakes & Dams and Beautification. "Committees are our eyes, and the souls of this community. I believe we should reinstate committees lost and be creating many more. We all need to be involved to get the community to how it should look."

## Beautification

*Question: There has been much discussion that the community is starting to show its age. What would be your top priorities to beautify and make the community look better?*

**Bruce Keyser, Jr.** recommended bringing back a Beautification Committee to improve appearances — and also taking a good, hard look at maintenance.

**Bob Darr** said the debris site, which had been cleaned up during his time as Maintenance Supervisor, is again a mess. He also recommended that overgrown bushes along Seven Lakes Drive, which also had been trimmed during his tenure, needed to be pruned.

"It's a visual thing," Darr said. "Overgrown shrubs make a community look worn and cluttered. Grass along Seven Lakes Drive needs to be reseeded and trees and shrubs pruned. If not, it continues to look worn, it looks untidy, and it needs to be fixed."

**Bob Racine** said he'd like to see the playground cleaned up and the beaches raked regularly, especially during the Summer. In addition, roaming dogs continue to be a concern.

"On littering, it is up to people to accept responsibility, but we do need better enforcement of dogs. They are running free on the beaches and leaving deposits, it all makes for a poor appearance," said Racine.

**Don Fentzlauff** looked to the community gates as a top priority.

"Our front entrance could be added to," he said. "It is your first impression when coming into Seven Lakes North and South. We need

to make it look even better."

In addition, he recommended that more attention be paid to other common areas and buildings, such as the picnic pavilions and beaches.

"These are facilities that our guests come to and judge our community on," Fentzlauff said. "The biggest complaint I have are the cigarette butts and beer cans littering Sequoia Point. Also at the entrance to Sequoia Point, we took out the junipers and put in fences but nothing was added — it could use some work."

**Randy Zielsdorf** said the front entrance needs some pizzazz and also suggested a second look at the office area and Sequoia Point for beautification. But he recommended that, firstly, that decisions about beautification and maintenance priorities should be rooted in the Reserve Study information.

"At this point, because we haven't kept up for years and years," Zielsdorf said, "we won't be able to do everything at once. We'll have to carefully prioritize, but we do need to do something with the roads. It'll probably be a \$2 million project, and I believe we will need to borrow. The \$100 increase will allow us a sub-

stantial down payment and we can pay off the investment in ten years," said Zielsdorf.

Roads are the top priority for **Conrad Meyer**, followed by improvements to the entrance gate area.

"Several roads are in really bad shape," Meyer said. "First impressions are everything. We need some snap and updating. The gate buildings could be updated and the fences around the tennis courts are rusty and dingy as you can get."

## Dog problems

*Question: Roaming dogs and residents allowing their pets to leave 'unwanted deposits' in common areas are a problem in the community. What can or should the Board be doing about it?*

"How do you get people to accept their own responsibility?" asked **Bob Racine**. "If you have a dog, you are responsible for picking up after them; but, unless you catch them not cleaning up, it's hard to enforce."

Recalling an incident near the SLLA office when Community Manager Alina Cochran approached a pet owner who had not picked up after his dog, Racine suggested the most effective means to encourage compli-

ance could be to simply embarrass violators.

"If you see someone out walking without a bag, ask them: 'How do you plan to pick up the mess?'," he suggested.

**Bob Darr** said it was a difficult problem to enforce — and that even using an increased fee structure for violations through the Moore County Animal Control office had not successfully resolved the problem of roaming dogs.

"It didn't discourage them," Darr said. "People would pay the fine and let their dog loose again."

**Randy Zielsdorf** said dogs were a two-part problem;

people not picking up after their pet and dogs running loose. He said periodic, random sweeps of the community by Animal Control would be helpful.

"Where I live, the main problem is with dogs running loose. I clean up substantial deposits on a weekly basis — you'd think there were small ponies running around," he joked.

**Conrad Meyer** noted that, with behavior issues, it was difficult to get people to change their ways. He said that while working in a production facility, he reinforced the idea that employees deserved to work in a clean

(See "SLLA Candidates," p. 15)

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# SLLA Candidates' Night

(Continued from page 14)

place and that if he saw trash, he would set the example by picking it up.

"The answer may be with responsible owners setting the example," Meyer said. "Take an extra bag and even if you pick up one more 'deposit.' Maybe the attitude will spread."

"It's illegal to shoot dogs with a BB gun and, unfortunately, also illegal to shoot irresponsible owners," joked **Don Fentzlaff**.

Kidding aside, he recommended fines for violations and continuing to educate membership about rules through the newsletter and other educational sources.

"We need to make it cost them money. If time after time we allow it to happen, then they don't seem to care," said Fentzlaff.

**Bruce Keyser, Jr.** said that, when he was a kid, his parents would find effective ways to embarrass him to get the desired result, but that there wasn't such a simple solution for community rules compliance.

"I have a neighbor with a wonderful dog that leaves a deposit in my yard every morning," Keyser said. "Sometimes I say something, most times I don't; but it really comes down to an owner's responsibility."

## Speeding

*Question: Speeding continues to be a concern in the community. How can or should the Board resolve the problem?*

A police officer many years ago, **Don Fentzlaff** said that education is the number one way to combat speeding.

"Our security people have to write down who they see speeding, get their license plate numbers," said Fentzlaff. "Enforcement is a problem — not just for speeding, but with many other rules

in the community. I hope the new Board will look into enforcement aggressively."

**Randy Zielsdorf** said that he personally did not witness many speeding infractions because, due to his work schedule, he was generally only on the community roads late in the morning and late in the evening. However, he does often see school buses and delivery vehicles speeding through the community.

"Our only legal authority is the [Moore County] Sheriff," Zielsdorf said. "We cannot do it — though we may have a radar gun, we don't have the certified officer to use it, and we would also need to have it calibrated," explained Zielsdorf.

**Bob Darr** admitted he occasionally violated the speed limit himself.

"The only way to stop it is

with law enforcement; and I'm not sure we can dictate any more of their time than what they're giving us already," Darr said. "I agree with Don that it is an educational process [with residents]."

**Bruce Keyser, Jr.**, agreed that speeding was a consistent problem and that he too would speed on occasion.

"We have asked for more enforcement and they [Sheriff's deputies] will come in for awhile, but then they disappear," Keyser said. "It may help when we start seeing Wildlife Resources officers in here more often. Hopefully, their presence may help curb the problem."

**Conrad Meyer** recommended more consistent contact and engagement with the Sheriff's office.

"The squeaky wheel gets

the grease," he said. "Let's see if we can't get them in more often. We have to make that effort and stick to it until we see more participation."

"I do know the answer is not putting out one hundred more speed bumps. Why punish 100% of the residents for the ten percent that are speeding?"

**Bob Racine** said he was disappointed that North Carolina law was not as Association-friendly as Florida laws. For example, he said at his former home, community security officers had the authority to use radar and

write violation tickets.

In addition, he recommended researching the speed control bumps used at CCNC, which he described as barely noticeable when traveling at lower speeds; however, he agreed that this could be both an unpopular and expensive option.

## Keeping the amenities

*Question: The Reserve Study notes that one way to potentially solve the problem of aging assets, is to eliminate some. Would you, as a Board member, wholeheartedly support all the community's* (See "SLLA Candidates," p. 16)

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## SLLA Candidates' Night

(Continued from page 15)

port all the community's assets?

"Yes, it wouldn't be Seven Lakes without the lakes — and dam are integral to that — and the playground and stables," said **Conrad Meyer**. There are people that use all of our amenities, and they are counting on the community to have those."

Meyer further described himself as a firm believer in the gates, and identified them as a primary reason that he bought in Seven Lakes.

"On the general topic of reserves, we need to look at what we own and pay for," he said. "For example, if we need to buy a new dump truck. If we're not using it on a regular basis, then it may make sense to rent or lease one. There are some areas where we may get better capital efficiency."

**Bob Darr** said he would support all assets and directed his comments to the recent decision to outsource maintenance.

"When you talk about maintaining facilities, if we don't have people that can do the work, then we will have to outsource all maintenance — and we will need to take a serious look at what

that cost would be," he said.

**Bruce Keyser, Jr.** also said he was in favor of everything that is Seven Lakes and would not be in favor of getting rid of any assets, especially the gates and security.

**Bob Racine** noted that in the recent Recreation survey, many respondents commented that even if they didn't personally use the assets, they did enjoy them with their visiting guests and families.

"You may not use the stables, the pool, the beaches, tennis and basketball courts, or playground slide, but others do," said Racine. "I am in favor of keeping these, including the gates. All of these assets help us feel like we're part of a small community. You know the people and they know you. We need to keep all we have and improve on them."

**Randy Zielsdorf** said the stables and lakes define Seven Lakes.

"We need the security presence. The playgrounds are wonderful. We have such an influx of younger working families and things like the soccer field are a great asset," said Zielsdorf.

Unequivocally, yes: on

everything," emphasized **Don Fentzlauff**. "They [assets] are the reason I moved here from California. I don't want to see any of that change."

### Closed meetings

*Question: In NC, we have rules that state when public bodies can close meetings. This Association has bylaws that describe situations when such meetings can be closed. Do you support more openness in decision-making? Describe when you feel the Board should and shouldn't be using closed sessions.*

**Bob Darr** said under the bylaws there are only two reasons that a meeting may be closed: legal or personnel.

"In the last period, we have

been having closed meeting after closed meeting after closed meeting," admonished Darr. "Quite frankly, we don't have employees, they all work for Talis — so I see no reason to have closed meetings for personnel. So then it is all legal."

Darr recommended that even in the case of a legal discussion, the Board still has the opportunity to communicate a general understanding or basis for what is to be discussed.

**Bruce Keyser, Jr.** said that certain aspects of discussion need to be open to the community, but not everything.

"You elect us to handle the business of the community, and certain aspects cannot

(See "SLLA," p. 17)



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## SLLA Candidates' Night

be divulged." Keyser said. "Sometimes there is private information that we cannot let out. I hear too often comments that we are trying to overtake the community and have run amok. We have closed sessions because we have legal or employee issues that we cannot bring forward."

Keyser said the recent discussion of outsourcing was a perfect example why closed meetings to discuss personnel concerns are necessary.

**Randy Zielsdorf** noted the varied responses offered by the candidates and how those differed between those who has served on the the Board and those who had not.

"Bruce has been one of the most level-headed directors," Zielsdorf said. "He studied the issues and we are very fortunate to have had him on the Board. I agree with his answer."

**Don Fentzlaff** said he understood the predicament of the current Board because any issues relating to employee or legal questions can't be disclosed, as he explained, "Because of God knows how many different reasons."

"There is an awful lot they can't talk about, but I believe that, after the deed is done, more information can be presented to the community, so at least we know why the secret meetings were held," said Fentzlaff.

"As it stands now, there are many things that have gone on that we have no idea of the disposition of anything . . . I recommend more openness after the fact."

**Bob Racine** spoke candidly

for an attorney — even a retired one — explaining that any good counsel could take a statute and "twist it to say what you want it to say."

He said he was recently concerned when he heard the Board was looking at outsourcing and that the Finance Committee had not reviewed the proposal.

"If there is a true reason for a closed meeting, okay,

but otherwise I agree with sunshine laws," Racine said. "Don't twist the regulations around to suit your own purpose. You should use closed meetings carefully, with consideration and caution."

**Conrad Meyer** said it was difficult to know what topics had been discussed in any of the closed meetings in the last year or two.

"We just don't know. It's

not in the minutes. You just have to trust the Board," said Meyer.

"I think very few personnel issues should be discussed in closed meetings. Salary shouldn't be out there — and, with legal issues, there are clearly times when the Board is negotiating and working an issue that is sensitive. But the community, as a whole, will feel better if

we knew at least a little bit about what is held in closed session. You can give the community some idea about what is happening."

### Annual Meeting is March 27

SLLA members will be receiving their Annual Meeting packets — including ballots for the Board elections — next week.

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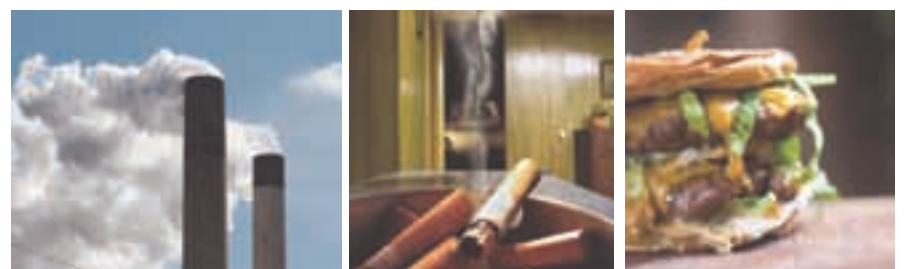
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The phone books are on sale at The Seven Lakes North/South Landowners Office, The Seven Lakes West Landowners Office, Seven lakes EMS Building, 714 Seven Lakes Drive, or Quality Care Pharmacy on Seven Lakes Drive.



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# Seven Lakes EMS wants new members

Thank you Seven Lakes for all of the support that has been evident in the past year. The big accomplishment of the year has been the fund drive to reduce the indebtedness for our new ambulance.

Many residents responded by pledging to contribute to this fund over a three year period. Others responded with a generous one time contribution. The total cost of the ambulance was approximately \$102,000. The loan for the ambulance was reduced over \$30,000 in 2010 and approximately \$26,000 remains on the ambulance loan.

The Women of Seven Lakes volunteered to run a Bingo Fund Raiser to help us reduce the ambulance debt. The Kiwanis Club of Seven ran the games, local businesses participated, and the women coordinated the event. Over \$2,000 was raised through that event.

We appreciate the initiative of the Women of Seven Lakes to set up this event for us. We thank everyone who has helped us successfully reduce this debt.

The Seven Lakes EMS goal for 2011 is to increase our membership. We need to replace those who are reaching retirement age and need help with the call load that our present members sustain. Presently, all of our members carry pagers 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are available for most of that time with the exception of shopping trips, vacations, job responsibilities, etc.

At the present time, we have a paid member at the station Monday through Friday from 8 am until 4 pm. In addition to being available for quick response to calls there are plenty of chores to be done to keep our operation in first class running condition.

It is Seven Lakes EMS' goal to have enough members so that we can form two or possibly three teams that would be available for a 24 hour period and rotate the call responsibilities.

During the 2010 calendar year, Seven Lakes EMS responded to a total of 490

calls which calculates to be about 9 calls per week average or about 1-1/3 calls per day.

On any given day the EMS can see anywhere from zero to four calls, and they have experienced as many as fif-

teen calls in one week. Being

part of EMS is a great opportunity for new residents to be of public service and to meet people in our community. The Seven Lakes EMS urges all new residents to come and see us during the day and become acquainted with us. Old timers are wel-

come too! A "Junior Member Program" for young people 14 years old and above was started in May.

We involve them in many training activities and they can ride along with us to observe what we do, but they are not permitted to do patient care. At age 16, Junior members may enroll in EMT and other certification classes and at age 18, they may take the NC State Exams and become a regular member as a certified EMT and do patient care. All inquiries about the junior program are welcome.

The Annual Chicken Dinner is a favorite event in Seven Lakes near the end of April

where you can meet most of the EMS and also visit with a lot of your friends and neighbors. A generous community made it possible for us to bring in over \$3400 between dinner receipts, contributions and telephone book sales. The chicken dinner this year is scheduled for Friday, April 8.

The Seven Lakes Telephone Book is now on sale for \$7 per copy. They are available at both landowners' offices, Seven Lakes EMS and various businesses.

This is the only public listing of people in Seven Lakes which includes both their physical street address, their mailing address and other numbers which are not normally listed in the common telephone directories. Yellow pages include many local businesses.

Helpful information on

elected officials and other important telephone numbers are listed in the front.

A sign for the Moore County Sheriff's Department is in front of our building. The Sheriff's Department using one of the small rooms as an office to do paperwork and interviews. The deputies quite often eat their lunch with us in our conference room.

We think that this is a great benefit to the community to have them here.

If you need the services of the Sheriff's Department or Seven Lakes EMS the quickest and easiest way to get a response is to call 911. Don't come to us, we'll come to you.

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# In memory of . . .

**Betty Anne Kellis Fogleman**, of West End, died Saturday, February 26, at her home.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 2, at Middle Cross Baptist Church. The Rev. David Reynolds officiated. Burial followed at West End Cemetery.

Mrs. Fogleman was the owner/operator of B&B Produce in West End for more than twenty years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Rora and Edna Kellis; brothers Glenn and Earl Kellis, of Candor; and grandsons Bryan Keith Frye and Charles Kevin Smith.

She is survived by her daughters, Cynthia Kennedy Barber, Pamela Dawn Kennedy, Lisa Kennedy Smith and Kimberly Kennedy Yahn; sisters LaRue Greene, of West End, and Ruby Halter, of Conway, Arkansas; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and ex-husband Billy Fogleman, of West End.

Memorial contributions may be made to FirstHealth Hospice, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

**Earl E. Babcock, Sr.**, 75, of West End, died Thursday, February 24, at his residence.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 28, at Bethlehem Baptist Church. The Rev. James Cagle officiated. Burial, with military honors, followed at the church cemetery.

A native of Illion, NY, he was the son of the late Howard and Mary Lewis Babcock. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict and retired from the Rochester, NY, Fire Department, Engine 4, Broad and Allen. He moved to Moore County in 1989.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Shirley Smith.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Dupree Babcock; daughter, Pamela Neerbasch, of Rochester, NY; sons, Earl E. Babcock, Jr., of Aberdeen, and James Babcock, of Baltimore, MD; brother, Howard Babcock, of Hilton, NY; seven grandchildren; and several

nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Liberty Hospice, 300 W Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines, NC 28387, or Bethlehem Baptist Church, 3244 Dowd Road, Carthage, NC 28327.

**Faye Carpenter**, 68, of West End, died at her home on Sunday, February 20.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, February 26, at the Community Presbyterian Church fellowship hall.

She was born in Rockingham to Viola and Lee Carpenter and moved to Moore County in 2007.

She was as a caregiver, both by nature and profession.

She is survived by her daughter, Jamie Lynn Perkins, brother, Jay Travis Perkins; brother, Boyce Lee Carpenter Jr., of Hamlet.

Memorial donations may be made to the Community Presbyterian Church, Minister's Discretionary Fund, P.O. Box 1449, Pinehurst, NC 28370.

Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines assisted the family.

**Connie Hale Beelendorf**, 73, died Thursday, February 17, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 21, at the Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes. The Rev. Don Welch officiated. Interment followed at Seven Lakes Cemetery.

Mrs. Beelendorf was born in Galatia, IL to the late Opal Strickland and Kenneth Hale. She also graduated from Sterling High School, received her BA from Northern Illinois University, and worked in the field of finance.

She is preceded in death by her sister Donna.

Mrs. Beelendorf is survived by her husband of 53 years Richard; sons Doug Beelendorf, of Greensboro, and Scott Beelendorf, of New Bern; daughter Lisa Beelendorf, of Framingham, MA; brother Jack Hale; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 8300 Health Park, Ste. 10, Raleigh, NC 27615.

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**FRIDAY, MARCH 4**

- **Harnessing Local Horsepower** – Coach Light Trattoria and Rose Cottage Boutique are teaming up to donate a percentage of their proceeds through Saturday, March 5, to benefit Prancing Horse Center for Therapeutic Riding. Prancing Horse has helped hundreds of children and adults with physical, mental and emotional challenges find strength and independence. Coach Light Trattoria and Rose Cottage Boutique, 290 West Penn. Ave., Southern Pines, 910-692-4449, 692-9938. Restaurant hours: 5 pm – 9 pm. Boutique hours: 1 pm – 9 pm.
- **Casual Friday at Seven Lakes Country Club** – 5-9 pm. Buffet 5-6:30 pm. \$8.15 (+ tax & gratuity). Food, games & socializing.
- **Little Roy Lewis and Lizzy Long Show** – 7 pm, at the James H. Garner Conference Center, 210 Burnette Street, Troy. Come see and listen to the 2010 GMA Award's Bluegrass Song of the Year, "When We Fly" along with other bluegrass favorites you'll enjoy. Tickets \$20 reserved or \$15 at the door. For tickets 704-985-6987 or jbranch205@windstream.net For concert information www.bluegrassintroy.com Presented by West Montgomery Lions Club.

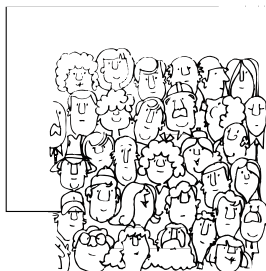
**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes, 673-3838. All are Welcome.
- **Belford Baptist Church** – 4 pm, Hosting a Black History Program. Apostle Marvin Leake of Sound Doctrine Fellowship, Rockingham will be the speaker. 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 7:30 pm, presents Alasdair Fraser. Poplar Knight Spot, 113 Knight Street, Aberdeen. Ticket Price: \$25 - \$29. 910-944-7502 www.theroosterswife.org

**MONDAY, MARCH 7**

- **Moore Republican Women's Club** – 11:30 am, monthly meeting. Held at Pinehurst Members Club.

Darlind Davis, Director of Drug Free Moore County, will be the guest speaker. Drug Free Moore County is a multi sector coalition of agencies and organizations whose mission is to reduce alcohol and drug use



among youth.

Ms. Davis will present a program entitled "Preventing Prescription Abuse- A concern for All." Reservations: Kay Wildt, mkgw824@gmail.com or call 235-4654.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8**

- **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. All are welcome.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – 11:30 am, Third Annual Lunch with Legends. "Guests" Susan B. Anthony, a pivotal figure in 19th century rights movements; Francis Perkins, the first woman to hold a cabinet post; and Sojourner Truth, a former slave who became an abolitionist preacher. Conver-

sations, in their own words, portrayed by League members. Country Club of North Carolina. Cost \$30. Contact Ginger Finney, at 910-673-1330 for tickets.

- **Seven Lakes Computer Club** – 3 pm, Seven Lakes North Game Room. Craig Castrogiovani of G&D Computers will be presenting an in-depth discussion of the Email

programs Outlook Express and Windows Mail. He will discuss how to get multiple Email accounts to appear on the same interface such as Time Warner, AOL & Hotmail, and he will review the best practices to mail organization and long term Mail Archiving.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9**

- **Ash Wednesday**
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 10:30 – 2:30, Community Presbyterian Church, 125 Everett Rd., Pinehurst. For appt. call 692-8571. Eligibility questions call the donor counselor at 1-866-236-3276.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes "Spring's a Springing"** – 1-4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Renewable Energy: Hope and Challenge** – presented by English Speaking Union at Country Club of North Carolina, Douglas C. Sandridge will address the English Speaking Union on the topic of renewable energy. Cocktails served at 6 pm followed by dinner at 7 pm. Mr. Sandridge will present his program immediately

after dinner. The English-Speaking Union welcomes new members. For information, call Martha O'Connor at (910)235-0635 or e-mail Dr. Phillip Hinesley at phil@chanticleerproperties

- **Ash Wednesday Service** – 7 pm, in the Sanctuary, West End United Methodist Church, West End. Call 673-1371.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 10**

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. This ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a wonderful meal is provided at \$5 per person.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 1:30 pm – 6 pm, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Penick Village, 340 S. Ridge Rd., Southern Pines. For appt. call 692-8571. Eligibility questions call the donor counselor at 1-866-236-3276.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – open 1-4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8 pm, great wines, and food pairings. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

- **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – Seven Lakes North Club House at 7:30 pm. Guest speaker Marissa Back will speak about "Fluttering Flowers." Please join the gardeners – you do not have to be a member.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11**

- **Casual Friday at Seven Lakes Country Club** – 5-9 pm. Buffet 5-6:30 pm. Food, games & socializing.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

- **Stroke Support Group** – 10:30 am, (Group meets second Saturday of each month.) Held at the Conference Center, Moore Regional Hospital - Corner of Hwy 211 & Page Road, Pinehurst. For more information, call (910) 715-5266.
- **Carolina Pines Ballroom Chapter 6091 USA Dance** – "St. Patrick's Day Dance". An evening of fun, great music and dancing. 105 McReynolds St. Carthage. Dance at 7 pm, with a complimentary dance lesson from 7:30-8 and open dancing 8-10 pm. Singles and couples welcome. \$7 members, \$10 guests. 919-356-2784.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

- **Daylight Savings Time Begins**

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- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes, 673-3838. All are Welcome.

### MONDAY, MARCH 14

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 8:30 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Open to all landowners.
- **National Active & Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Sandhills Chapter 1895** – quarterly “Eating Meeting” at 10:30 am, at Kenny’s Country Restaurant, US Hwy. 1, opposite the Shell Station in Pine Bluff. Chapter 1895 welcomes all Federal (including US Postal Service) active employees, retirees, spouses and surviving spouses. Vilma Geisert (910) 215-5898 or George Sandoval (910) 246-9881.
- **Sacred Narratives Workshop** – 11:00 am, Alyson Breisch will be leading an introduction to Life Writing and Shared Narratives in the West End United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Workshop will focus on discovering the meaning of our life by remembering our story, connecting with God’s story, and listening to another’s story. Life Writing is designed to stimulate the “narrator” in us and encourage us to write our life experiences. Interested in attending this workshop? Call the WEMC church office at 673-1371 by Sun-

day, March 6.

- **Sandhills Photography Club** – 7 to 9 pm, guest speaker Juan Pons with a slide show presentation on Nature Photography. Pons is a professional photographer and lives in Pittsboro.: wildnaturephoto.com or www.sandhillsphoto-club.org

### TUESDAY, MARCH 15

- **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.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – Drug Free Moore County to Speak with the League. Darlind J. Davis, Executive Director of Drug Free Moore County. Held at Table on the Green Restaurant, Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Rd., Southern Pines. Check-in 11:30 am, meeting at 11:45 am. Public welcome, Charlotte Gallagher at 910-944-9611 by March 11. Cost \$12.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, regular meeting. Historic Courthouse, Carthage.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10 am to 3 pm, SL North Clubhouse. Join the blanketers as they try to fill a blanket request from the 82nd Airborne, Ft. Bragg for 150 blankets. Project

Linus is trying to meet local needs and make additional blankets for the soldiers’ children. Platoon leaders’ wives will keep blankets and distribute them to children when a traumatic event occurs in their lives. If you can not join the group during the workshop, but would like to donate a new homemade quilt, blanket or afghans, they may be dropped by the Seven Lakes Landowner’s Association office, North Side or by Phoenix Fashions in the Seven Lakes Business District. Include your name, address, phone or email information so that we can say thank you. Call Pat Weber 673-1457 or email weberconsult@nc.rr.com if you have any questions or would like to make a donation to purchase fabric for the 82nd Airborne project. Bring a snack or lunch and stay as long as you like.

- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – open 1-4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Open for browsers.
- **West End United Methodist Church Lenten Supper & Devotional** – special meal at 6 pm, followed by a Lenten devotional service at 7 pm. For families with young chil-

dren, nursery will be available. If you have any questions, please contact Don Allen at 295-0460 or the church office at 673-1371.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 17

- **St. Patrick’s Day**
- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a meal, \$5 per person.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – open 1-4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Four Stories of the Passion of Christ** – 4 pm on Thursdays, beginning March 17. A four week study of the crucifixion of Jesus as portrayed in the

four Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John led by Reverend Don Welch at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines. Persons of all faith traditions and especially those of the Christian faith should find this Lenten study both informational and inspiring. All are welcome and no prior registration is required. A copy of the scriptural text for each lesson will be provided. Participants should prepare for the first session by reading Mark, chapters 14 and 15. Each session should last one hour.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery 5:30 to 8 pm, great wines, and food pairings. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com

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Seven Lakes Times  
March 4, 2011

# OPINION

## How are you feeling? Green? Orange?

It's feeling like a yellow kind of day.

You know, reasonably calm with a tolerable risk factor. Safe enough to venture out for groceries, but probably not a particularly good morning for an intrusive TSA pat down.

But I'm in the minority on this whole color-coded threat level thing. According to critics, the federal government developed an alert program that was vague and easily manipulated for political gain.

Really? Umm . . . And that's surprising?

So, while the policy wonks are busy plotting out a new and improved way to scare everyone — but the actual terrorists — with another equally corruptible source of

ambiguous information, I'm feeling kind of yellow because I think they were on to something there.

Walt Disney told me so.



### Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

Okay, so it wasn't the man himself, cryogenically speaking, but his minions at "Mission: Space."

One of Epcot's newer attractions down in Orlando, this centrifugal-based thrill ride is so wild they had to invent a two-toned system of deliv-

ery.

Orange or green: it's up to you.

Queuing up in the orange line will guarantee a stomach-churning 2.5G moon landing adventure, while less hardy souls, like me, can queue up in the

Green line, enjoy a similar experience, and get to keep their lunch too.

Think I'm exaggerating? Name another amusement park ride that includes its own permanent and not-so-discrete barf bag dispenser?

Yep, you called it: I kept

one as a souvenir — unfilled, of course.

But I say kudos to old Walt because: 'green versus orange' is genius.

Imagine the possibilities!

Green and orange highway lanes, green and orange restaurant menus, green and orange television shows.

It would also be great for marital harmony.

Arriving home Darling Hubby sees a green flag flying and knows the kids have finished their homework, the dog is pre-walked, and dinner is on the table.

I'm guessing that green flag would last for many years from disuse.

Instead, arriving home to a tattered orange flag flying, he would intuitively take the

only safe course of action.

"Honey, have I told you lately how beautiful you look in those bunny slippers? So, where should we go for dinner, dear?"

And green versus orange would be useful in social settings.

Like a grown-up version of the Red Light-Green Light game, or perhaps a giant mood ring [that isn't stuck on mottled blue-ish black all the time], our daily choice of attire could offer fair warning.

You know, yellow really isn't on my color wheel anyway. Hello, green.

## What's this stuff in the Apostle's Creed?

**Question:** Before we were married, my husband and I belonged to different churches. So we agreed to find a church together in a denomination different from either of our previous churches. We are both happy with the church we have chosen, but I am bothered by two phrases in the Apostles Creed that we recite each Sunday. What does it mean when we say that Jesus "descended into hell," and why should Protestants say that we believe in the "holy catholic church?"

**Response:** I am pleased that the two of you have found a church where you can worship together, and I am not surprised that those particular phrases in the Apostles' Creed bother you. Every church, even those in the same denomination, has its own liturgy and ways of worshiping God. Creeds are particularly troublesome for new worshippers.

I don't believe the creeds were originally meant to be recited by congregations in worship. Many of them,

including the Apostles' Creed were written to dispel ideas which at that time the Church considered heresies. For centuries, the chief function of the creed was to instruct new converts to Christianity by teaching them the basic beliefs necessary for baptism or confirmation.

As a Protestant pastor in an interdenominational church, I receive many question similar to yours regarding the same two phrases. Allow me to offer my answers to both.

When we say that Jesus was "crucified, dead and buried" and that "he descended into hell," we are stating that Jesus really died on the cross. This is in direct opposition to some who were saying, centuries ago, that Jesus went into a coma or fainted from the pain and was put prematurely in a tomb; thus negating any need for Jesus' resurrection.

The Latin word we translate as "hell" is more accurately translated for modern minds as "Hades" or "the place of the dead." Faced with so

many questions about this phrase, some denominations, including the United Methodists, removed the phrase from the Creed entirely.



### Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

In like manner, many Protestant churches have substituted the word "universal" or the word "Christian" in place of the word "catholic" in affirming the belief that the Church is of God.

In this way they avoid confusing "the holy catholic church" with the Roman Catholic Church. I believe that in this phrase, we are saying that all churches, Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox are part of something far greater than our own institutions. We affirm the historic nature of the

Christian Faith and acknowledge that no particular church or body of believers has captured all the truth, but that all of us are open to what God has yet to reveal in the church that is to come.

If there are parts of the Creed or lines in a hymn that you do not believe, feel

free to remain silent and join the congregation later in stating what you do believe. Each of us would benefit from sitting down and writing our own personal creeds and reciting them daily in our personal devotions. It is important for us to know what we believe. It is equally important for us to be honest with ourselves and God.

Don Welch is the minister at The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines and welcomes your questions and comments. Write him at [dwelch1@nc.rr.com](mailto:dwelch1@nc.rr.com).

### SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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# We need a Board that communicates

Dear Editor:

The evening of Wednesday, February 24, I spent an interesting hour or more listening to our Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] residents complaining to our seemingly autocratic Board and manager about their obvious intent to outsource our landscaping.

Neighbor after neighbor rose to complain about their intent and each drew a unanimous round of applause. It was clear that the thought of outsourcing our landscaping was repugnant to those in attendance, and an explanation from the Board for

having voted as they did would have been welcome.

That evening, the Board didn't communicate. Speaker after speaker appeared to be ignored. All might just as well have stayed home. The decision had been made and nothing would change it.

I have heard more than one Board member say, "you elected us to do a job, so let us do it."

I think a fitting response would be "we expect each of our elected members to "communicate, listen to their constituents, give weight to their feelings, explain management's position and vote their

conscience." In my opinion, those few words — "to communicate," "listen to," "give weight to," "explain their position," and "vote their conscience," best describes the Board members we seek. There is nothing shameful about uncertainty, but failure to explain or to communicate leaves everyone "out in the cold."

After this most recent session, it's easy to understand why those who spoke might think: "what's the use! Our elected officials pretend to solicit our thoughts by offering us comment time during public sessions, stare blankly

at us while we offer our thoughts, and trash them without explanation."

It's little wonder that attendance at our monthly open meetings is so sparse. Let's elect those who encourage open meetings, those who are ready and willing to listen and learn, to admit to mistakes, to apologize and, just as important, to explain.

Let's elect those who have a distaste for all these frequently called closed sessions and will explain their need.

Do our two incumbent Board members running for re-election fit this mold? I think not.

I'm voting for Darr, Fentzlauff, Meyer and Racine with the expectation and hope that if elected, they will make every effort to be more com-

municative than our present incumbent candidates.

I've never attended a good old town hall meeting, but wouldn't such a format have been a marvelous place to discuss the ultimate end use of the old country club driving range?

It seems to me that the sale of this high visibility property to a developer for the building of a substantial number of small residences would negatively impact our property values and that this end-use should be carefully analyzed and meet with the approval of both the Country club members and the landowners.

Nowhere does this provision appear in the agreement.

*Ron Erskine  
Seven Lakes North*

## Vote! But not for these guys.

Dear Editor:

I'm amazed that Randy Zielsdorf and Bruce Keyser are running for re-election. Zielsdorf seems to operate best behind closed doors and under the table. He led the board and voted to give Dalton Fulcher over \$75,000 for nothing. He then tried to hide this from the landowners, but after some months, it came to light. He has stated that he would consider borrowing over a million dollars for improvements which would cost our community, which has no debt, millions to pay back!

And Bruce Keyser's right there with him. On Candidates' Night, Keyser tried to justify all the Board's closed meetings which he was apart of. He didn't understand that most of them were illegally called.

Neither of these two knows or adheres to our by-laws. Yet, both of them want you to live by the rules and regulations, but then they ignore them.

It seems their crowning glory was the February open meeting when they voted to spend our money on a landscape company from Apex to do our mowing. They ignored the Treasurer and Finance Committee's report that shows it would cost us at \$60,000 more than keeping our present maintenance employees! They did this for the Talis manager, who can

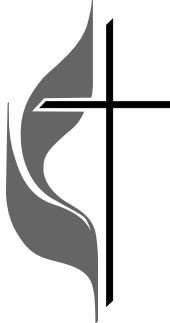
not manage the people. We have a community manager who can't manage, and we pay \$140,000 for this? Oops, I understand Zielsdorf and Keyser gave Talis a \$20,000 raise, so that makes it \$160,000.

These two have shown time and again their behind the door, under the table, free spending ways.

Please vote, but not for them. Let's get four new board members who have said they want openness and less spending.

Let's put Meyer, Racine, Fentzlauff, and Darr on the board and keep these other two spendthrifts at home.

*Steve Hudson  
Seven Lakes North*



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# Commissioners

(Continued from front page)

ments through the Lodging Occupancy Tax. Currently, the tax is used to fund the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Picerno said the Board is aware that there will be diversion of funds from the CVB, but added that the diversion is for a "specific need" and for a "specific time period." Once the grant for the airport has been paid the CVB can use the extra funding for other projects, Picerno said.

Implementing the new use for Lodging Occupancy Tax dollars will require approval from the NC General Assembly. The county has asked State Representative Jamie Boles to present the necessary local bill to the legislature for approval.

Chairman Picerno noted that Boles has indicated that he has no desire to increase the Lodging Occupancy Tax rate in Moore County from the current three percent to the five or six percent charged in some NC counties.

## CVB has its own proposals

The Convention and Visitors Bureau itself has some new ideas for using the Lodging Occupancy Tax, which CVB Director Caleb Miles presented to the Board of Commissioners during Tuesday's meeting.

The CVB Board is recommending the creation of a Tourism Product Development Fund [TPDF] to support tourism capital projects that would generate additional visitors, tourism revenue, and jobs for Moore County. Miles said one example of a specific use for the TPDF would be to create one or several amphitheaters in Moore County to hold events or festivals throughout the year.

The TPDF, which has already been approved by the CVB Board, would mainly be funded by the current three percent Lodging Occupancy Tax on hotel rooms. Currently a third of the tax goes to tourism related product development and two-thirds goes towards marketing and advertising.

Miles asked the Commissioners to endorse an Events Marketing component to the

TPDF that would promote both established and new festival or events in the county. Working with a tight timeline to introduce the required TPDF-EM bill in the General Assembly during the current legislative session, the Commissioners approved and endorsed the CVB request.

## Pine Forest Rezoning Hearing Delayed

The on-going Pine Forest Rezoning hearing that had been scheduled to resume during Tuesday's Board of Commissioners meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 15 at 6:00 pm because of the lack of a quorum for the hearing. Both Commissioners Tim Lea and Jimmy Melton were hospitalized and unable to attend the March 1 meeting.

Because Commissioner Larry Caddell has recused himself from voting on the Pine Forest Rezoning, that left only Commissioner Craig Kennedy and Chairman Nick

Picerno to hear public testimony.

At the close of Tuesday night's meeting it was announced that Commissioner Lea had been released from the hospital.

## Public Hearings Scheduled

The Board approved, during Tuesday's meeting, a public hearing to be held on March 15 at 6 pm to consider amending rezoning five parcels of land at the intersection of Skyline Estates Drive and US Highway 1 at 4930 US Highway 1 from Heavy Industrial Conditional Use District [1-2 CUD] to Highway Commercial [B-2].

Initially, the area was rezoned to accommodate the needs of SunPak Foods for food processing and packaging. But, after the company pulled out of the area, the property owner hopes to market the property to a wider range of businesses and needs to revert back to B-2 zoning.

The Board called a second public hearing for March 15 to consider a grant application from the North Carolina Department of Transportation/Public Transportation Division to the County's Community Transportation Program [CTP] that would provide safe, reliable transportation to Moore County citizens.

## EMWD Bids Awarded

Sitting as the Board of Directors of the East Moore Water District [EMWD], the Commissioners approved two contract awards for the District's Phase 3 build-out. The first was to McArthur Construction for \$1,141,993 and

the second to T.A. Loving Company for \$1,129,875. Both are contingent upon final approval from County Attorney Misty Leland and the US Department of Agriculture [USDA].

Phase 3 of the EMWD was awarded \$5,080,000 in loan funding from USDA-Rural Development, with the total estimated project budget at \$5,435,000. Public Works Director Denis Brobst estimated that the project is currently running thirty percent under budget.

## New Recycling Containers

The Commissioners approved accelerating a  
(See "Commissioners," p.25)



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## Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

Auman rules and regulations approaching their twentieth anniversary — as well as a growing number of wake-creating speed boats on the lake — a twelve-member volunteer committee was established that initially brought the

SLWLA Board recommended rules and buoy placement revisions during the February 8 Work Session. Paul Kirst, the Committee's spokesman, re-presented those recommendations to the Board and landowners during the February 22 Work Session.

Kirst said that, about five years ago "a bunch" of no wake buoys began showing up, which he felt meant that "the old rules just aren't working anymore." The Committee's recommendations include repositioning the ski area, creating a transitional

speed zone into Johnson Point, and allowing novice skiers to start out at the northeast side of the island.

The changes to the ski area would expand it by as much as fifteen percent, mainly at the north end of the lake and along the dam. Buoys mark-

ing the perimeter of the ski area would be placed a minimum of 125 yards from all residential shorelines. The recommended placement of buoys in certain areas will create narrow turns for skiers — a potential problem that  
(See "Westside," p. 26)

## Commissioners

(Continued from page 24)

\$6,000 local match that will allow the County to receive new recycling containers provided through a \$30,000 grant from the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources [NCDENR].

The funds for the local match had been planned for next year's Solid Waste Budget, but waiting until next year would result in a forfeiture of the grant from NCDENR.

### Social Services

The Board approved an application for grant funding from the Criminal Justice Partnership Program for \$100,679 which would be used by the Moore County Day Reporting Center for the Sentenced Offender Program, which provides group counseling, educational services, and life skill training — such as GED and job placement.

The Board also approved a grant application for \$100,783 from the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council for Moore County Youth Services to provide juvenile restitution, teen court, and psychological evaluations programs. The grant requires a match of \$5,348 from Moore County. The grant also includes \$250 from fundraising activities and \$41,328 of in-kind contributions for a total of \$147,709.

The Board approved a request from Health Director Robert Wittmann request to change the Moore County Health Department contract that provides pregnancy care management and care coordination for children, to convert funding from fee-for-service to a per capita reimbursement. The program does not require county funding, only state and federal funding.

The Commissioners endorsed the Drug Free Moore County Grant [DFMC] for the Drug Free Communities Support Program for 2011. Commissioner Craig Kennedy, a member of the

board of directors for DFMC, presented the grant information to the Board and mentioned that \$125,000 of in-kind contributions to DFMC have been received. The DFMC addresses problems of underage drinking and drug abuse among the youth of Moore County.

### Other Business

In other business during the Tuesday, March 1 meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Commissioner Craig Kennedy presented and the Board approved an application that would allow Robbins to become a HUBZone [Historically Underutilized Business Zone] certified town. Due to the loss of jobs and the poverty level in Robbins, it meets requirements to become HUBZone certified, giving Robbins the opportunity to receive a ten percent subsidy for federal contracts and to become a part of the BRAC development.

- The Board approved an amendment to the Moore

County Zoning Ordinance that will add the use of "Human Services Center" and permit the use in B-1, B-2 and O-P Zoning Districts. The Human Services Center would allow individuals to gain new skills, receive assistance, and rejoin the workforce.

- During the public comment period, Doug Middaugh pointed out that the county was clearing a right of way of 700 feet along a lakeside in Pinehurst. "Value needs to be considered of the landscaping, shrubbery, and

ambiance provided by the trees you're taking down, Middaugh said. He suggested a lime treatment program to inhibit root growth, rather than the cutting down of trees.

- The Board agreed to officially implement a policy that allows ABC Board members to be paid \$100 for attending at least half of a regular meeting.

- The Board tabled consideration of a proposal to dissolve the Government Center Committee until Commissioner Tim Lea, who was





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## Westside meeting

(Continued from page 25)

the Board asked the Committee to address. Kirst reported back that this issue will not be a new problem, as skiers have had to deal with making an earlier turn to avoid narrow areas in the lake for some time now.

The second major change would be to widen the 5 mph "no wake" zone from the shore to the ski area. Currently, there are two separate speed zones between the shore and the ski area; the new changes would eliminate one of those zones. Kirst said this change would "increase the safe zone" for swimming, canoeing, kayaking and sail boating.

Westsider Ron Weber objected to the change, arguing that it was "restricting and changing the use of the lake" because, under the new rules "it will either be a ski area or a no wake 5 mph area." If someone wants to putter around the lake at 10 or 15 mph, they cannot do that under the new rules, Weber said. Instead, the new rules would be "taking all the boats that would be cruising around the lake" and forcing them into the ski area.

Weber also objected that the 5 mph speed limit creates an enforcement problem, because many boats do not have an odometer that reads below 10 mph. Kirst replied that there is already a 5 mph zone and that the size of the wake can determine the speed of the boat. Weber reminded Kirst that on a windy day a boater has no idea how large a wake he is throwing.

Other recommended changes would move the three buoys guarding Johnson Point from 239 yards to 150 yards and eliminate one of the buoys. The area leading in and out of Johnson point would be known as a "transitional speed area" where boats can speed up to get to the ski area or slow down as they are coming into the marina. Two additional buoys will be added to the area where land juts out into the "transitional area."

The final recommendation is for novice skiers to start out at the bulkhead of the

northeast side of the island — which is not against NC boating laws, according to Kirst. The Board unofficially approved this rule for novice skiers about ten years ago, Kirst said, and the Committee would like for it to be officially added to the Lake's rules and regulations.

President Ron Shepard said the Board is open for public comment on the changes to Lake Auman until the final reading and vote on April 12. Information about the proposal and a map showing changes to the ski area is posted on the Seven Lakes West website (and at sevenlakeswest.net).

### Seven Lakes Council to meet with Commissioners

Shepard announced that the Moore County Board of Commissioners will meet with the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council on Tuesday, March 8 at 5 pm at the Seven Lakes West Commu-

nity Center. The 90-minute meeting is open to the public and Seven Lakes area residents are especially encouraged to attend.

Issues surrounding the area's water supply and the impact of the Pine Forest Development rezoning on Seven Lakes are at the forefront of the scheduled meeting. There will be a time for public comment and questions for the Board of Commissioners.

### Documentary on Alaska

Immediately after the Commissioners meeting with the Community Council on March 8, the Lake Auman Sports Club will show a documentary style video about Alaska.

The video, described as "a glimpse of what tourists do not see," was shot by Seven Lakes resident Dan Pieroni, who lives in Alaska six months of the year. Shepard encouraged those attending

the Board of Commissioners meeting to remain for the screening, which will also be held in the great room of the Community Center.

### Culvert Repairs Nearly Done

Infrastructure Director John Goodman reported that last of five culvert remediations scheduled for this year is on target for completion. Depending on the weather paving of the culverts will begin as early as March 1, Goodman said, followed by grading, seeding and laying pine straw over the area. He added that he is "pleased with the quality" of the work.

Safety and Security Director John Hoffman asked if extra paving material would be available for repairing a three-by-three foot hole that located just outside the back gate, and Goodman agreed to the repair.

During the public comment period Kathy Kirst applauded Goodman for a "superb" job on the culvert repairs.

### Safety and Security

Director Hoffman and Community Manager Joan Frost met with representatives of a number of the private communities in the area — including Midsouth, National Country Club, Pinewild, and the Country Club of North Carolina — on Friday, February 18 to discuss common problems and challenges, among them snow and ice response, speeding, and access control equipment.

Hoffman said he hoped to bring away from these meetings "the best of the best" and to "bring it back to Seven Lakes." He noted some differences and similarities

(See "Westside," p. 27)



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## Westside meeting

(Continued from page 26)

among the participating communities — or example all of the other communities have speed bumps, which most security managers feel are affective in critical areas.

One community enforces speed limits by using patrol which does not pursue any-

## Guild

(Continued from page 2)

tenance, and Phoenix Fashions. Unable to attend the meeting, but every bit as deserving of their recognition, are Beacon Ridge Country Club, Lee-Moore Insurance, Master Kleen, and Seven Lakes Hardware.

The Guild is also proud to recognize the following first time members for 2011 – The Seven Lakes Snack Shack, Blush Salon, Sandhills Memory Care, Seven Lakes Self Storage, Stackhouse Plumbing, and Classical Conversations.

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one, but uses certified equipment and trained personnel to issue tickets that impose a fifty dollar fine. A speeding ticket notice is sent to the speeder's home with the license plate number and the date that the speeding took place. Hoffman said he will be exploring implementing this style of speed enforcement, with discussion by and approval from the SLWLA Board.

The group addressed access control, with Hoffmann reporting that the Westside barcode system is "highly reliable" with almost "zero problems."

Seven Lakes West may be the only community to still use fiber glass control bars, he said, noting that other communities place responsibility on individuals who may be tailgating through the gates if their vehicles are damaged by stronger security gates.

The ad-hoc inter-community meetings are set to take place quarterly, with the next one scheduled for May.

### Community Events

The first Westside CPR class was attended by forty-four people and was a "great success" Community Events Director Jane Sessler reported. The course covered both CPR and the Emergency dispatch system.

Sessler reported that two Automated External Defibrillators [AEDs] are mounted in the Community Center — and the Events Committee is working on a way to make the AEDs available for transport to big events such as Summer Concerts at Johnson Point.

Sessler also reported that the West End Methodist Church sent the Events Committee thank you notes for their help in the food drive.

### New LRP Committees

President Shepard reported that the Long Ranging Planning Committee has adopted two new subcommittees.

The first committee is chaired by Ed Cockman and will work on how the dam can be turned into an amenity "if at all it can be," said

Shepard.

The second committee will be chaired by Gerhard Her-genhahn and will look into the possibility of creating a road around the dam. Reports are expected back in six months from both committees.

### New Piezometers

Director Herdrich is asking for at most \$40,000 to replace the current piezometers which measure the water level inside Lake Auman Dam.

Herdrich said Dam Engineer Dr. Dan Marks has determined that the sixteen current piezometers are not in the correct place and should be filled in with sand and replaced with fourteen new ones that will be "better positioned" for more accurate

readings.

### Other News

• Safety and Security Director John Hoffman has extended an invitation for volunteers to join CERT — the Community Emergency Response Team and the Neighborhood Watch Patrol. Those interested may contact Joan Frost at 910-673-5314.

• Luci Hadlock reported for Community Manager Joan Frost that the community has filed for two foreclosures on properties with delinquent dues.

• Hadlock also reported that the staff is working on a recommendation for pool access passes for the coming season and noted that the fence around the pool will be increased in height bringing it up to code.

## Memory Loss 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.

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# Outsourcing

(Continued from front page)

maintenance employees.

But the biggest concern, among the landowners who spoke was cost — because Board members themselves couldn't agree on the actual cost of the landscaping contract to the Association.

"I hear the Finance Committee say one thing, and I've heard [SLLA President] Randy [Zielsdorf] say it is cost neutral," said Northsider Rodney Godwin. "But those numbers are a long way apart. Where are the real numbers? There is a lot of confusion to the public on numbers."

Treasurer Denny Galford and his Finance Committee share Godwin's desire to determine the real cost of the outsourcing contract versus in-house maintenance, comparing both the cost and the number of man-hours of labor provided under each scenario.

During the Board's February Work Session, Galford told the Board the outsourcing contract would cost the Association approximately \$60,000 in lost labor. He also questioned whether the \$146,000 contract pricetag is accurate, arguing that a fair comparison must include a yet-to-be-approved \$11,980 optional enhancement contract with Davenport. Finally, the Treasurer expressed concern that the contract allows Davenport to increase its fees based on rises in the consumer price index — a measure of the inflation rate.

Earlier in the meeting, he requested that the financial analysis provided by the Finance Committee, along with tables, schedules, and a PowerPoint presentation of the information, be appended to the minutes of the February 14 Work Session. Analysis of the outsourcing contract by each member of the committee led each to recommend against its acceptance.

"I want to emphasize that this year we will spend \$276,000 on maintenance," Galford said, "and next year, with this outsourcing, we will spend \$332,000. That's \$56,000 more that we will spend for sure."

"We're going to get a better

looking community when you spend \$56,000," he added. "But is it because of outsourcing, or because we're spending more money?"

## Bidding process questioned

First called for action at the January Open Meeting, the motion to approve the outsourcing contract was tabled for further debate and — more importantly — open discussion of what had long been kept behind closed doors as a personnel issue.

However, as speakers became increasingly bold in their appeals to the Board during the February 23 meeting — to the point of outright hostility — concern over the proposal erupted into questions over the vetting process and thinly-veiled assertions of a conflict of interest between Talis Management Group and Davenport Landscaping.

Community Manager Alina Cochran directly addressed the allegations during her management report later in the meeting, confirming — to an audible gasp from the audience — that Talis does, in fact, have other contracts with Davenport.

"There is nothing to disclose, and there is no relation,

Cochran said. "Talis is not related to Davenport, and I am not related to Davenport."

"The numbers have been provided to the Board and analysis and other consideration beyond costs were presented to the Board over the last few months," she continued. "There is not a conflict of interest."

During the February Work Session, Cochran had explained that one local company was included among the contractors contacted for bids, but the SLLA's call to that company went unreturned. Three out-of-county contractors were asked to bid because of their proven, successful track records of service in other Talis-managed communities.

## Talis' management of maintenance questioned

However, during the Open Meeting, Talis remained under fire as other residents questioned whether management or, rather, mismanagement of the maintenance department had been considered as a factor leading to the drive to outsource the landscaping functions.

"You only hire from the outside when you cannot build from the inside," North-

sider DeWitt Petterson cautioned the Board. "If you don't build from inside, it's your own damn fault. It takes both good management and good support from the manager to make it work."

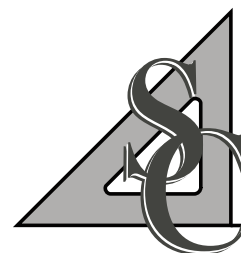
Tom Zaleski also questioned the Board: "I can't believe how anybody from the outside can do the job at a more reasonable cost than an internal staff. Private enterprise must add profit — so that necessitates it must cost more than internal," he said, noting that Davenport does not have an internet website nor is the company a member of their local Chamber of Commerce. "Also, who are these people? Why are they coming from

Apex? Will they be here when it snows or if a tree falls down?"

Jerry Johnson also opposed disbanding the maintenance department and recommended a thorough evaluation, in writing available to the membership, of both Talis Management Group and Cochran's performance as Community Manager.

"You are looking at spending more money than you should and ignoring the advice of your Finance Committee," cautioned former SLLA Treasurer Steve Hudson. "Talis Management was hired to manage the community. Maintenance is a part of the Seven Lakes com-

(See "Outsourcing," p. 29)



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# Outsourcing

(Continued from page 28)

munity, so what's the problem? If you can't manage it, get out."

## Shaver asks to delay vote

The February Open Meeting marked the last regular meeting of the 2010-2011 Board prior to the election of four directors at the March annual meeting. Pointing that out, Director Bud Shaver recommended postponing a vote on the outsourcing contract rather than passing a controversial action in the closing days of this term.

During the three Board meetings in which that the contract has been actively discussed, not a single Association member — aside from sitting Directors — has expressed support for the

outsourcing proposal.

"At the last meeting and tonight," Shaver said, "we have heard overwhelmingly from residents opposed. The Finance Committee has unanimously recommended against this." He noted that even the actual cost of the contract was still being debated and had not been fully presented to the public.

Shaver's motion to table the proposal was defeated by a 2-4 split vote.

## Majority offers no defense

The motion to approve the Davenport contract then easily passed with support from Vice President Kent Droppers, and Directors Melinda Scott, Chuck Mims, and Bruce Keyser, Jr. Since there was no tie to break, President

Randy Zielsdorf did not cast a vote, but he has repeatedly expressed his support for the outsourcing option.

Aside from casting their vote, the majority largely sat mute, rather than attempting to explain their support for outsourcing to an unreceptive audience. In previous meetings, both Zielsdorf and Scott have stressed the need for

an improved community appearance and suggested that attaining that goal would require a new direction in the maintenance area.

In a telephone interview with *The Times* in January, Zielsdorf said the decision by the Board to seek outside professional services had not been easy or unanimous. The three contractors who

submitted bids were interviewed, Zielsdorf said, noting that he found Davenport Landscaping to be very knowledgeable.

"We need to start taking the initiative to improve curb appeal," Scott said during the February Work Session. "If we continue with what we are doing we will never see changes."

# SLLA meeting

(Continued from page 3)

by email last month.

He noted that a \$5,000 reduction in the dues line item was an accounting error related to a write-off for prior years' uncollected dues. He explained that dues in the current year are counted towards income, but that any income from previous year's dues that is received is counted towards reserves.

Galford questioned Cochran on why security expenses could not be estimated, referring to a budget inaccuracy created when SFI, the security contractor, failed to generate a monthly invoice as anticipated. The oversight resulted in a double-billing in the February financial statement.

"There should be a journal entry that should correct the

figure to the correct month, so the numbers are more meaningful to members," Galford said. "I have recommended that Talis implement this practice to correct such items."

In addition, Galford said it would be very important, with the upcoming influx of 2011-2012 dues, to make sure that the Association was earning maximum rates of interest on its FDIC-insured accounts.

"This was not handled as smoothly as we wanted last year. I hope we get it straight this year," he said.

## Other Business

In other business on Monday, February 23, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board:

- Welcomed Lakota Copeland

to the SLLA front office staff, replacing Sally Grundy, who resigned last month and has returned to her home in England.

- Approved the 2011 NC Open Water Swim event to be held at Lake Echo on Friday and Saturday, June 3-4.
- Approved a contract with Brooks Hauling, Grading and Landscaping to provide removal services for the community yard debris site.
- Called a special Closed Meeting to proceed the March 14 Work Session to discuss a legal issue. The purpose of the meeting was further clarified as a discussion of collections and assessments.

## NAMI-Moore County

NAMI-MC holds its monthly meetings at the Community Room located in the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Specialty Clinic Building, located at the corners of Memorial Drive and Page Street, Pinehurst. Educational/Support Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm. All meetings are free and open to the public. For information call (910) 295-1053 or go to [www.nami-moorecounty.org](http://www.nami-moorecounty.org)

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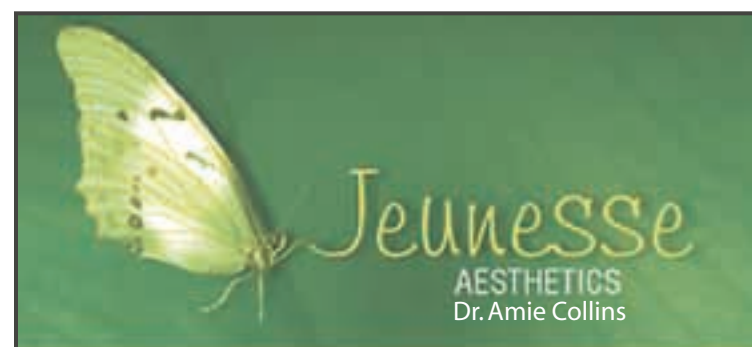
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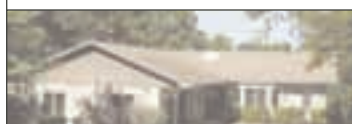
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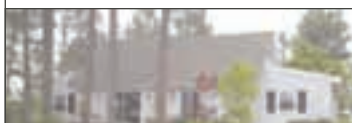
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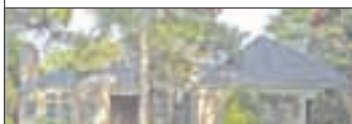
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