

Dog Day of Summer



Northsider Sarah Davidson and her little friend enjoyed the 'Dog Day of Summer' event on September 18. Sponsored by the SLLA Recreation Committee in partnership with the Moore Humane Society, the event attracted dogs and owners of all shapes and sizes.

Mailhouse Town Hall held

by Stacy Naughton
Times Reporter



Though it may have been the most debated topic, the price tag to build a new mailhouse

on the Westside wasn't the only topic raised at a Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Town Hall held on Monday, September 19. The meeting, hosted by the Long Range Planning Committee, was held

to discuss the specifics of building a new mailhouse near West Side Park Community Center [WSPCC] and to allow Westsiders to offer input on the proposal.

With over forty people in attendance, SLWLA Treasurer Don Freiert moderated the meeting, which covered topics including cost, construction, and mail delivery options.

Cost

The first comment of the night came from Westsider Bernadette York, who asked whether Association dues would increase in order to finance building the \$310,000 mailhouse. Freiert told *The Times* that the Association has been building up a Cap-

(See "Mailhouse," p. 28)

Scant input on single mailhouse

by Stacy Naughton
Times Reporter



Relatively few Westsiders are weighing in on the proposal to build a single new mailhouse to serve all of Seven Lakes West, Treasurer Don Freiert told his fellow Board members during the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Work Session on Tuesday, September 27.

"Feedback has been minimal," Freiert said, compared to when the mailhouse issue was first discussed and the question was whether to build a new mailhouse or ask residents to rent a box at the West End Post Office.

Freiert said a total of fifteen written comments or messages on the website have been in favor of a single mailhouse in the community. Two commenters have advocated for two mailhouses: one at the front gate and one at the east gate [the plan currently favored by the Board would construct one mailhouse in the West Side Park area].

Two other members have asked that the mailhouse remain at the front entrance and be incorporated into the redesign of the entrance.

Overall Freiert said the most important issues that have been raised by members include:

(See "Westside," p. 14)

Echo repairs less costly than feared

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



Repairs are necessary at Echo Dam; but the structure is stable, and corrective work will be much less expensive than originally anticipated.

"A stability test conducted by S&ME confirmed the dam is stable," Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Vice President Don Fentzlaff told *The Times*, "and, as a result, NCDNR [Department of Natural Resources] has downgraded the timing of the repairs."

S&ME is the Association's dam engineer.

"At this point, we are just waiting for S&ME to provide a proposal as to what needs to be done," Fentzlaff said.

That proposal will most likely include repair work to plug four existing drainage pipes installed at the dam in 1985, as well as repairing areas around the catch basins to eliminate erosion.

The area around the original manhole at the base of the dam will also be drained, and a new toe drain will be installed.

These repairs will not require removing the protective rip rap which was added to the dam face as part of a costly state-mandated project to eliminate seepage.

"This is not a state-mandated repair, so we do not need to rush into a repair until S&ME have completed all of their evaluations and made a full report," Fentzlaff said.

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Business Guild's Chili Cook Off is October 8

by Darrell Marks, President
Seven Lakes Business Guild

Whether it's just good natured ribbing or serious competitive fire, the smack being talked by entrants in the Business Guild's Fourth Annual Chili Cook off is heating up.

The event will be held Saturday, October 8 in the large parking area in front of Phoenix Fashions. This will not only allow good spacing of the 15 contestants, but will make room for another 15-20 merchants and crafters looking to put their wares in front of the local citizens.

For just \$5 any local chili fan will be able to taste the different offerings and vote for their favorite. Cash prizes will be awarded in five categories, none of which will be for who *talks* the best chili. Last year's competition proved that really good chili was readily available in Seven Lakes.

The Chili Cook Off is the one event that the Business Guild holds each year to build

the organization's bank account as well as the community. Proceeds from the chili entrants, \$5 armbands that give free access to the chili, and the sale of beverages will be used to help cover the yearly cost of fixing roads and mowing grass in the business district. Participation in the event is still possible with a phone call to Judy McNeil at Jubilee Screen Printing at 673-4240 or Darrell Marks at Phoenix Fashions at 673-5998.

At its September meeting, hosted by Sherri Adams of CommunityOne Bank, the Guild welcomed its' newest

member, Sandhills Dog Training of West End, owned by Abby Ganin-Toporek. The wide range of dog training and behavior modification services can be accessed by calling Abby at 673-0074.

The Guild also heard from Karen Milligan about the Open House that will be held at her business, Karen Simmons Designs on Grant Street, Saturday October 1, from 11 am to 2 pm.

The Guild will be accepting entries for the Chili Cook Off until Friday, October 7. Vendors will start selling their products as early as 10 am on the 8th and the chili tast-

ing will begin at 11 am.

Whether or not they can participate, everyone is encouraged to attend and vote for their favorite chili

cook and help support the merchants and vendors that are trying to make Seven Lakes a more exciting place to live.

Foxfire Pink Ribbon Tourney

The Foxfire Ladies and Men's Golf Association are joining together to host a Rally for the Cure event on Wednesday, October 26.

The event is a golf tournament, with registration at 8 am, and a shotgun start at 9 am, on the Foxfire East course. Cost is \$50 (\$20 for the cause, \$10 for lunch, and \$20 for carts). Entries can be a foursome or an individual — the association will pair you up.

Everyone will have the

opportunity to participate in two holes-in-one prizes, a car and \$1000, both sponsored by Bill Smith Ford.

Checks may be made to: FLGA-Komen for the Cure and sent along with Entries to: Gerry LaShomp at 21 Foxfire Blvd., Foxfire Village, NC 27281 or for more information 910-295-2427.

Rally for the Cure spreads awareness about breast health and cancer in support of Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

WEE Fall Festival

The West End Elementary School PTA invites the community to their Fall Festival Fundraiser and everyone is welcome to join in on Friday, September 30, from 5:30-8:00 pm.

There will be Silent Auction items, a 50/50 raffle for the adults; with games, prizes, and Giant Slides

and Bounce Houses for the kids.

Pizza, Hot-dogs, Popcorn, nachos & drinks will be available to purchase for dinner. Please join the PTA for a night of fun and support the community school. For questions, call WEE PTA President, Daniel Armstrong at 910-783-8750.

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Oct 7	Oct 14
Oct 21	Oct 28
Nov 4	Nov 11
Nov 17*	Nov 25
Dec 2	Dec 9
Dec 15*	Dec 23

**Early publication or deadline due to holiday.*

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Commissioners approve minority contract targets

by Stacy Naughton
Times Reporter



Though Chairman Nick Picerno said the state-mandated requirement was a hardship for businesses during difficult economic times, the Moore County Board of Commissioners upped the target for utilizing minority owned and historically-underutilized businesses in County projects during the Board's Tuesday, September 20 meeting.

Moore County's goal was set at zero percent in 2001; the Commissioners upped that to ten percent in Tuesday's meeting, after holding a public hearing on the change.

The participation of minority/underutilized business applies to publicly-bid, State-funded building projects that cost \$100,000 or more, and to projects costing \$300,000 whether or not they rely on state aid.

County Attorney Misty Leland presented the Board with the resolution, noting that she was not trying to make policy, but rather coming to the Board with the recommendation from a legal perspective. The County is required by law to have a verifiable percentage goal for the participation of minority businesses.

Leland said many counties use the ten percent goal; the other option is to hire a consultant to study the County's business demographics, using that research to set a percentage goal.

In addition to resetting the minority participation goal, the Board unanimously approved a Minority Business Participation Outreach Plan and Guideline, also presented by Leland. The Outreach Plan, which will be posted on the County website, documents the guidelines the County will use to encourage greater participation in county projects by minority businesses and historically underutilized businesses.

The Commissioners also

approved a sole source exception to the Moore County Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual that would help standardize bidding procedures. This would authorize the County Manager, Assistant Manager, or the designee of either to approve purchases and or service contracts where the estimated cost is less than \$30,000.

In passing both the Minority Business Participation Outreach Plan and sole source exception Chairman Picerno asked that the meeting minutes reflect the fact that the state is requiring these regulations, which were not requested by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Lea agreed with Picerno, adding that the decision was "made under duress."

The Board approved an update to Moore County's Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual for contractor licensure as presented by Leland. This revision will require anyone bidding on a Moore County project to furnish appropriate documentation that indicates the contractor is duly licensed to participate in construction of a project of the same value.

Transportation

After a public hearing, the Board approved, in a four-to-one vote with Picerno opposed a grant application for the Rural Operating Assistance Program [ROAP].

Transportation Services Manager Tawanna Williams told the Board that the \$197,000 grant will be used to fund transportation services in Moore County.

Planning Department

The Board approved the adoption of a grant project ordinance for the 2011 Single Family Rehab Grant, requested by Planner Tim Emmert, which will allow \$160,000 to be used to fix four homes in the County where lead paint is evident. If the County serves four homes with the money then more funding will be available. The grant does not require a local match from the county.

The Board approved a renewal to the 2009 Housing Preservation Grant from US Department of Agriculture Rural Development and adopted an amended grant project ordinance.

Public Works

At the request of Public Utilities Director Randy Gould, The Board approved a performance agreement for a waterline upgrade on Midland Road intended, in part,

to support an expansion of Carolina Eye Associates. Moore County and Carolina Eye Associates will each receive half of a grant totaling \$150,000 from the NC Rural

(See "County," p. 26)

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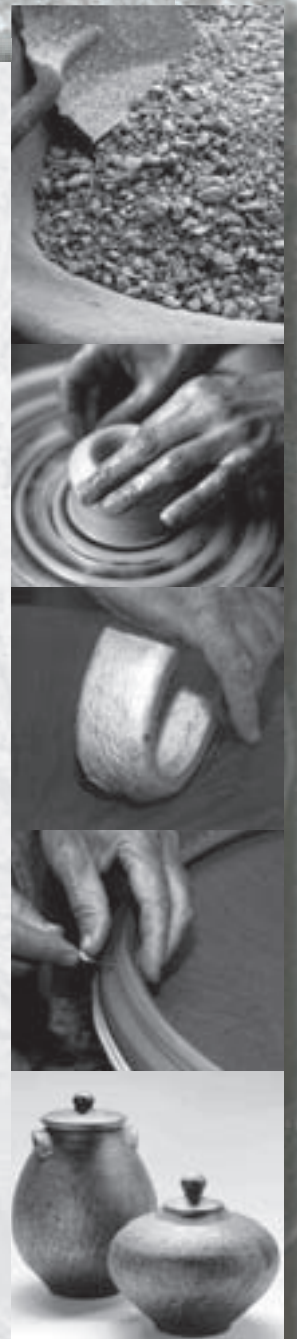
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7 Lakes crash highlights perils faced by cyclists

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

At 8:35 am on a typical weekday, Seven Lakes Drive is quiet — and this day was no different.

"I never saw it coming," said Northsider Kurt Kreuger. "The first thing I realized was that I was airborne, and I was going sideways on my

bike."

A retired firefighter and an avid long-distance cyclist, Kreuger is conscientious about safety. To the point of being annoyingly hyper-conscious, his wife, Barbara Keating, will argue.

His jersey was brightly-colored, he was wearing a helmet and riding as far right

on the travel lane as possible, and he had specifically chosen that time of day — after the morning school buses and office commuters have headed out — for his thrice-per-week, 30-mile training rides to Carthage and back.

The sun was shining, traffic was light, and the "it" he never saw coming was a passing motor vehicle.

Kreuger is grateful for what didn't happen.

"I was lucky," he told *The Times*. "It was a glancing blow, and the fortunate part is that I landed in an area that was moist and soft soil. If it had been rocky, or if I had been hit just a bit more centered, I would have been in worse shape."

Despite his positive outlook, the fact is that the impact was violent enough to wedge the passing motor vehicle's mirror into the frame of Kreuger's bike and to permanently weld shut the buckle clips on his specialty biking shoes. Medical tests are still underway as doctors continue to treat damage to his hip and knee.

And his days of solo biking along lonely stretches of rural roadways are also over — a personal favor for his wife.

"From now on, I'll be driving my bike over to Southern Pines a few times a week to participate in a group ride," explained Kreuger.

"When you ride with ten or fifteen riders, even a driver

who isn't paying close attention won't overlook you. Your visibility is greatly enhanced."

County could be more bike-friendly

However, what he finds most ironic about his accident was that it occurred within days of listening to a lecture by cycling activist Mia Birk.

A professional planning consultant and an adjunct professor, Birk authored *Joyride: Pedaling Toward a Healthier Planet* and is credited with remaking Portland, Oregon, into what is widely considered the most bike and pedestrian-friendly city in the nation. Sponsored by FirstHealth and Tour de

(See "Cycling," p. 27)



Cyclist Kurt Krueger narrowly escaped being run over by an automobile on Seven Lakes Drive.

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Karen Simmons Designs opens in Village

by Stacy Naughton
Times Reporter

Located in the Seven Lakes Business District, Karen Simmons Designs is an Art Clay studio that offers a wide variety of classes and workshops in jewelry making. The shop also has fine finished jewelry and Art Clay supplies for sale.

A certified Art Clay instructor, owner Karen Simmons-Milligan will open her doors to the public on Saturday, October 1, to share the fun and exciting process of taking a piece of silver clay and making it into a one-of-a-kind piece of silver jewelry.

Art Clay is a pliable jewelry-making material made with 99.9 percent silver powder.

"It's better than sterling silver," said Milligan, "because there are no additives or extra stuff."

The clay can be rolled, sculpted, stamped, sanded, filed, engraved, drilled and pre-polished into jewelry. "You can do so much" with the product. Milligan told *The Times*.

After a piece is sculpted, it can be kiln fired, gas stove-top fired, or hand torched to set the silver. That burns away the nontoxic Art Clay binders and water, leaving behind a piece of 99.9 percent pure silver.

Unlike the kiln firing process used in ceramics, a silver piece of Art Clay jewelry is ready in under fifteen minutes.

The fine silver powder used in the product is sourced from recyclables making it eco-friendly. That "green" approach is something that Milligan has incorporated throughout her studio — from her web page, which is

wind powered, to the silver jewelry, gift bags, and overall design of the studio.

"It's amazing," said Milligan, when describing the process of creating jewelry from Art Clay. "You are leaving with a fine piece of silver jewelry, but you feel good about making it...[it's] the best of both worlds."

Art Clay can also be set with different stones that Milligan offers, including one native only to the United States, called the "Oregon Sun Stone." Milligan also has all of the supplies necessary to make earrings, necklaces, rings — you name it. If she doesn't have something in stock, she is more than happy to order it for her customers.

Although Milligan has ready made jewelry — earrings, pendants, bracelets, and pins — for sale at the store, she

(See "Silver," p. 26)



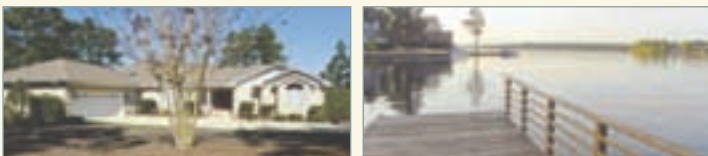
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NCDOT lays out plans for NC 211 widening

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Projected to cost \$31.5 million dollars over a 2.5 year construction period, the road widening and alignment project along Highway 211 is slated for completion in May 2014 — just in time for the US Open.

Division Construction Engineer John Olinger, of the NC Department of Transportation [NC-DOT], presented a progress report on the project to a large crowd assembled at the Moore County Senior Center on Thursday, September 22.

Clearing work completed over the Summer opened up the area for utility companies to come in, Olinger explained, and construction will commence next month on the new four-lane divided highway that will extend from Hwy 73, near the West End Fire & Rescue station, to the Pinehurst traffic circle.

The newly aligned and widened road will improve sight distances and be much safer for travel; however, Olinger cautioned that the 12 to 18 months of construction will be particularly tough for traffic congestion.

Lane restrictions will funnel vehicles through construction areas between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, though the roadway will be fully accessible during

peak commuting times. The exception is work between Gun Club Road and the Pinehurst traffic circle, which will be completed at night to limit congestion.

"This is not a huge graded project, so work should go quickly," Olinger said. "The new alignment will require a lot of lane shifts and the traffic will be primarily impacted for the first half of the project."

Responding to a resident's concern that the approved design with a dedicated lane to Hwy 2 at the traffic circle will not resolve the area's congestion, Olinger agreed.

"Eventually something will have to be done with the traffic circle, and we're looking at that and trying to figure out what to do. It is a problem, and everybody knows it."

"But it is a problem that must be looked at as a separate project," he explained. "This [211 widening] is something that can help a little bit; and, if and when something is done with the circle, then we will have this two-lane road in place."

Looking down the road in the other direction, Olinger also anticipated future work to Hwy 211 from West End to Candor.

"The long range plan is to take the four-lane road all

the way out to Rt. 220," he said, adding that such an expansion would likely be a phased project.

"We usually don't do more than eight miles at a time because of funding, but it is on the books to go all the way to 220," Olinger said.

Other DOT projects in 2011

"Moore County has not had a lot of road work other than resurfacing done in a long time," Olinger noted, "but it is just a coincidence that three projects were funded and scheduled for this next year."

The least controversial project will replace an aging railroad bridge at Hwy 15-501 in Aberdeen, just south of the split with Hwy 1. The project design also includes a total rework of the existing intersection to a more traditional signal.

"This is a fairly big project with a creek and a railroad," he explained. "The bridge itself will span 1100 feet and will be five lanes along 15-501 between US 1 and Hwy 211."

Turning to the second project in Aberdeen, the inter-

change at Morganton Road and Luther Way, he said he was aware that some are opposed to the final approved plan.

"This project has been in design for a long time," Olinger explained. "The situation is complicated with a bridge, neighboring businesses, a hotel, park land, and a cemetery. What we have won't please everybody; but we will get a lot of bang for our buck, and it will improve traffic flow."

The project calls for a six-lane bridge with a south-bound ramp and loop. Where the road merges with Hwy 1, there will be two thru lanes and a dedicated turn lane down to a new access point on Luther Way. The existing

entrance and egress points at Luther Way will be closed, essentially creating a closed cul-de-sac. Vehicles leaving Luther Way must travel south and will have a dedicated acceleration lane.

"We looked at several ways to keep Luther Way open; but there was no way to keep it safely tied to Morganton Road, because of limitations at the cemetery property," he said.

Estimating that vehicle traffic exceeded six to seven hundred vehicles at a time on Sunday mornings between the two churches on Luther Way, the Senior Pastor of Grace Church said he opposed the design.

"You are creating a hornet's nest," he cautioned.



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10 Lentil Soup ♥ Italian Meatloaf Dinner	11 Curried Carrot Soup ♥ Herb-Roasted Turkey Dinner	12 White Bean Chicken Chili Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	13 German Cabbage Soup Tilapia Florentine Dinner ♥	14 New England Clam Chowder Pork & Green Chile Enchiladas Dinner
17 Broccoli Cheddar Soup Salisbury Steak Dinner	18 Mushroom Bisque Chicken Tetrazzini Dinner	19 Chicken Brunswick Stew Pot Roast Dinner	20 Chicken & Dumpling Soup Crab Cake Dinner ♥	21 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥ Island Pork Dinner ♥
24 Split Pea with Ham Soup ♥ Shepherd's Pie Dinner	25 Potato Bacon Soup Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	26 Beef Barley Soup ♥ Eggplant Parmesan Dinner	27 Crab & Shrimp Bisque Pecan Crusted Tilapia Dinner	28 Tomato & Tortellini Soup Beef Stroganoff Dinner

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Starting from scratch on Western Connector

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

It's called the "Western Connector," or, sometimes, the "Western Bypass;" but, no matter the name, what is most consistent about this proposed roadway is the controversy surrounding it.

On Wednesday, September 21, twenty-five members of the Moore County Transportation Committee [MCTC] met to reopen discussion on the proposed road that would stretch roughly between West End and Aberdeen.

An on-again-off-again proposal that has been kicked around for well over a decade, the proposed bypass aims to reduce vehicle congestion at the traffic circle and along Hwy 5 in Pinehurst by providing an option for thru-traffic flow to the commercial corridor in Southern Pines and Aberdeen.

Various routes have been proposed by various parties over the years and were narrowed down to two primary options in the NC Department of Transportation's long-range plans. Then the process stalled.

Wednesday's meeting was called by the Moore County committee to restart the process, before NCDOT simply steps in and decides on its own what's best for the County.

By the end of the meeting, it was apparent that all the options are going back on the table for discussion, including the option to "do nothing," to improve existing roads, or to construct a new route entirely.

"This is going to be a long process, but there will be a chance for the committee and everybody in the county to be heard," explained County Commissioner Jimmy Melton, who serves as moderator for the MCTC. "We are trying to get these issues resolved to the betterment of our county, and I appreciate everyone's participation."

Addressing the committee, NCDOT's Frances Bisby offered a refresher course on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan [CPT] process, emphasizing the lengthy timeline between planning [2-3 years], programming [up to 7 years], design [1-2 years], land procurement [1-2 years], and construction [1-2 years].

"The difference between a Transportation Improvement Program and a CTP, is the first addresses one primary deficiency — one need and one purpose — whereas the CTP addresses a community's quality of life, its economic growth and development, and connectivity of users and destinations," said Bisby, noting that a CTP also can offer opportunities for alternative funding resources for such amenities as greenways and bike paths.

She continued: "A CTP is used to make sure that the community vision is incorporated into the long range planning process and to provide local agencies [municipalities] the opportunity to preserve the corridors vital to their community's land use plan and long range vision."

Matt Day, a senior planner for the Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization [TARPO] agreed.

"To plan is a difficult thing

to do, but it is vital," he said.

"But a CTP documents what is desired for a given road, with the understanding that nothing may happen for thirty

years."

He explained that NCDOT has no control over local development; therefore, it is

(See "Western," p. 25)

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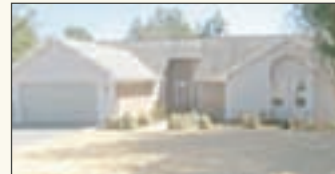
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New team at Cyber Ed: It's all about learning

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Bright colors, fun activities, a creative curriculum, and a dedicated, professional staff greet children each morning at Cyber Ed Learning Center in Seven Lakes.

Located in the heart of the Business Village, the facility is one of three Cyber Ed centers in Moore County, with all three earning the coveted five-star daycare license from the State of North Carolina.

But it is much more than just a daycare.

With four teachers on staff — including new director Abbie Locklear — daily programming at Cyber Ed includes a strong emphasis on early learning.

"We like to think of ourselves more of preschool than a daycare . . . but we are open all day," explained Locklear. "To accommodate the needs of the community, we reduced the size of our space, but increased the quality of

our program."

Catering exclusively to younger children between the ages of two and five, that programming incorporates several learning strategies in a unique way.

"We like to take the best of all the curriculums available and then make them our own," explained Cyber Ed owner, Sharyn Trinko.

Daily activities include library and learning centers

with blocks, computers, math, science and music areas, plus quiet corners for reading and a regular nap time. Children bring their own lunch, but breakfast

and an afternoon snack are provided.

"Children learn best when they are allowed to play and express their individuality,"

(See "Cyber Ed," p. 20)



The Cyber Ed teaching staff, from left; Linda Wood, Director Abbie Locklear, Jennifer Bartlett and Marquita Leake.

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Commissioners puzzle over redistricting

by Stacy Naughton
Times Reporter



Some parts of Moore County have grown faster than others in the past ten years; results of the 2010 Census make that clear. And that leaves the Moore County Board of Commissioners with the task of deciding how to redraw the lines of the Commissioner and Board of Education districts to reflect the changes.

That challenge was the focus of a special Commissioners Work Session on Thursday, September 22, with four options put on the table for review.

The goal is to take Moore County's current population of 88,000 residents and evenly divide that into five voting districts, each holding roughly 17,600 residents. Moore County's districts are "residency districts." The Commissioner from District II must reside in District II, but all county voters cast ballots for that seat on the Board.

One of the problems in moving district lines is the chance that a sitting member of the Board will find his or her residence no longer within the district he or she represents.

Commissioner Tim Lea stressed during Tuesday's meeting that moving certain district lines could affect whether a commissioner could run again in the future or not.

For instance, District III is represented by Commissioner Craig Kennedy and is currently the smallest district in the County. In an effort to increase the population to get it as close as possible to the 17,600 mark, some residents from District II — the largest in the County and represented by Chairman Nick Picerno — would have to move over to District III.

Given that Picerno, who lives in McLendon Hills, already resides close to to District III territory, rebalancing Districts II & III could

move his home into District III, which would prevent him from running for re-election in District II or force him to run against Commissioner Kennedy for the District III seat.

During Tuesday's meeting,

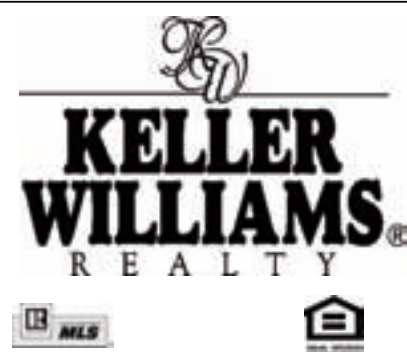
President Jo Nicholas, of the Moore County League of Women Voters, asked the Commissioners to redefine residency districts to make them more nearly equal and to do so in such a manner that would not preclude cur-

rently seated members of the Moore County Board of Commissioners and Board of Education from running in future elections.

Of the five options presented to the Board by County GIS Director Chris Kolytk,

only one allows the districts to remain the same for both the current Commissioners and School Board members while evenly dividing the population.

At least one option would
(See "Districts," p. 26)



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Piranhas! New swim team ready to take to the pool

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Year-round competitive swimming for youth is coming to Seven Lakes Health & Fitness Center under the direction of Lead Coach Bryan Coleman.

The PAST Piranhas [Pinehurst Area Swim Team] will kick-off in early November for the first of four twelve-week sessions which allows for flexible enrollment so children may also participate in other sports and activities throughout the year. Swimmers may commit for one session or participate year-round.

"Our goal is to be family-friendly, fun for the kids and affordable," Coach Coleman said.

A drop-in registration and team assessments will be conducted October 24, 25, and 26 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Seven Lakes Health & Fitness Center. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. Early registration forms will be available by email if requested and will also be on-hand. Potential Piranhas must be able to swim one pool length freestyle and one pool length by backstroke.

"It doesn't have to be pretty, but they do need to be able to swim at this level to enroll in the program," Coleman explained.

The Piranhas Winter session will run from November 7 to February 11; Spring session runs February 13 - May 19; Summer session runs May 21 - August 11; and the Fall session will run August 13 - November 9. Weekly practices will be divided into three levels based on age and ability, with options for beginning, intermediate and advanced swimmers.

Younger swimmers will meet up to three times a week for forty minute practice sessions [3:20 pm - 4 pm], intermediate swimmers will meet for one hour, four times per week [4 pm - 5 pm], and advanced swimmers will practice five to six days per week for 1.5 hour sessions [5 pm - 6:30 pm]. All practices will be held weekday afternoons at the indoor 25' four-lane pool facility at Seven Lakes Health & Fitness, which also serves as a regularly scheduled bus stop for Moore County Schools.

"Seven Lakes Health and Fitness is very convenient and can also provide an after-school activity for working parents," explained Coleman. "We'll practice a lot, but they will be having fun too. I want the kids to say, 'Yes, I want to go practice!'"

Sanctioned by USA Swimming, membership in the Pinehurst Area Swim Team [PAST] Piranhas is open to

all interested families - you do not have to be a resident of Seven Lakes or a member of Seven Lakes Health & Fitness to participate. The registration cost per child is \$65 which covers administration, insurance and an official USA Swimming cap. Team dues are tentative, but will be affordable and a multi-child discount will be offered for family memberships.

A native of Rochester, NY, Coleman has extensive coach-
(See "Piranhas," p. 20)



Piranhas Swim Coach Bryan Coleman

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NBC News at WEE



An NBC News photographer and reporter interview West End Elementary's Food Corps consultant Sebastian Naskaris.

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Lights, camera, action! Students at West End Elementary School enjoyed the spotlight on the fruits of their labor when a crew from 'NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams' recently came calling.

On Wednesday, September 14, national correspondent John Yang spent the day on campus working in the Communities in Schools [CIS] FirstSchool Garden with the

children as they built a traditional outdoor cob oven and a tippy-tap washing station.

The segment aired days later on the 'Making a Difference' report and is available to view on the MSNBC website at www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032619/ns/nightly_news/#44556360

Established as a hands-on learning environment, the FirstSchool Garden program provides a tangible educational experience in healthy

living, science and ecology lessons.

Yang's visit coincided with the kick-off of a new campaign to fight childhood obesity developed by Food Corps, a national service organization. Five North Carolina counties, including Moore County, were selected as pilot sites and are working hand-in-hand with Food Corps representative Sebastian Naskaris to increase the scope of nutritional education offered through the program.

Lions' White Cane Drive

The Seven Lakes Lions will be having a White Cane Drive on Friday and Saturday October 7 and 8 at several of the Local Merchants' front doors. Your donation assists the Blind and Visually Impaired, and other humanitarian needs of the less fortunate. This includes canes, vision vans, eye research, and Camp Dogwood. Please help The Lions and make a donation. You can also write a check to the Seven Lakes Lions Club and send it to: PO Box 841, West End, NC 27376.

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Westside

(Continued from front page)

- Cost.
- Traffic safety and concerns.
- The need for larger individual mail boxes.
- How the community will be engaged going forward, and keeping members informed on the progress of the project.
- The process for designing, bidding, and contracting the work.

"All are excellent comments," said Freiert, adding that they will be "utilized going forward."

On the prospect of changing lot numbers to physical addresses for mail delivery, four members have written in favor of the idea, with two others opposed. Freiert said he has received many more comments verbally at either the Town Hall or at Board meetings on the matter.

However Freiert did "re-emphasize," that the Association has not heard from the United States Postal Service [USPS] whether such a change of address is possible.

"No decisions are being made and none are being considered," until the USPS weighs in, Freiert said.

The community has two more weeks to offer input on the mailhouse issue; a final vote is expected during the Board's Tuesday, October 11 Work Session.

More Input Needed on West Gate Issue

A request by Safety and Security Director Jim McCarthy for \$17,000 to install an exit only gate at Banbridge Drive was tabled until further community feedback is received.

McCarthy asked for the money to be included in next year's budget for the possible installation of an electronic outgoing gate in the same location as the current locked emergency gate just off of Banbridge Drive.

When President Mick Herdrich asked what feedback has been received on the website regarding a west gate, Secretary Jane Sessler said only eight people had directly responded.

Herdrich said he was "very

surprised at the lack of interest with this particular subject" and questioned approving any funding for the project.

McCarthy said the Board promised to look into adding an exit gate for residents on the west side of the community after the dam road was closed.

During member comments, Westsider Max Foley brought up an incident early this year in which a tree fell across Longleaf Drive and blocked the road. "Things do happen that will close Longleaf," Foley said.

Stewart Chase said he supported an exit only gate on the west side of the community, noting that Banbridge already has signs up that say it is an emergency exit.

Currently the emergency exit gate at Bainbridge is locked in three different areas and requires either bolt cutters or a key to open.

Giving a "lady's view of the

west gate," Betty Parker said she has talked to many neighbors who are "afraid" of needing bolt cutters or keys in the case of an emergency to exit the community. Parker asked for Secretary Sessler to send out another e-blast to the community about the west gate issue.

McCarthy presented the Board with three exit gate options for the west side of the community to include: Finch Gate, Paula Gate and Banbridge. The later, according to McCarthy would be the most cost efficient to install.

Community Manager Joan Frost said that, to better secure the exit only gate, only vehicles with community issued barcodes would be able to activate the gate.

As recommended by Treasurer Freiert, the west gate issue will be readdressed when Board members submit their budgets to the Finance Committee for the upcoming

year.

In the meantime, there will continue to be a section on the community website regarding an exit gate, and the Board is encouraging the community to provide input on the matter.

Other Security Issues

McCarthy said he has been interviewing new security companies to see, "if we can better serve the community," especially with the front gate.

Installing two gates at the back entrance of the community is also being considered, reported McCarthy.

Lot Recombination Tabled

Until the many layers of rules and regulations, by-laws, and covenants that have been implemented in Seven Lakes West over the past three decades can be further reviewed, a rewrite of SLWLA rules on the recombination of lots has been tabled, as requested by Legal

Director Jack Stevens.

Stevens told *The Times* that, after taking a broad view of all the rules and regulations in the community there were "many conflicts" that will have to be addressed. Those "many conflicts," Stevens said, were the exact reason the SLWLA was trying to simplify the rules regarding lot recombination in the first place.

An unintended exchange of emails pertaining to lot recombination presented an awkward moment for the Board during the member comment period. Westsider Robert Temme — an opponent of the proposed lot recombination rules — had been inadvertently copied on an email exchange amongst the SLWLA Board members.

In one email, Treasurer Don Freiert, discussing the original lot recombination resolution that won preliminary approval from the

(See "Westside," p. 16)

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In memory of . . .

Mary Margaret Harrington McLaughlin, 90, died September 9 at St. Joseph's Health Center, Southern Pines. She was a resident of Coventry an assisted living facility of the Health Center and Belle Meade complex.

A memorial Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated on Saturday, October 8 at 11:00 am in the Chapel at Pine Knoll, 590 Central Drive, Southern Pines.

Mary Margaret Harrington was born in Carroll, IA, the daughter of Anna Bernadine Chassot von Florencourt and Alva Stanley Harrington. She graduated from St. Angela's Academy in Carroll, attended Briarcliff College in Sioux City, IA, and graduated from the St. Anthony School of Nursing. She joined the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps as a registered nurse during World War II and served at Great Lakes Naval Air Station north of Chicago and at Glynco Naval Air Station in Georgia, until she met and married Bill McLaughlin, a Navy lieutenant also assigned to Glynco.

In Melrose, Dalton, and Sudbury, MA, and in Nashua, NH, while she and her husband raised seven children, they also were active in the Christian Family Movement, an organization of Roman Catholic married couples seeking to apply the lessons of the gospel to the real world.

They marched for civil rights in the 1960s and against the Vietnam War in the 1970s.

When her children were older, Mrs. McLaughlin returned to nursing, working at a local hospital in Nashua and then as a visiting nurse.

She and her husband, retired to Seven Lakes in 1982, they volunteered with the Seven Lakes Rescue Squad and with Sandhills Hospice, were members of Our Lady of the Americas Parish in Biscoe, continued to work for peace and justice with the Sandhills Peace Coalition, with Pax Christi, the National Roman Catholic peace Group, with the Endowment for the Poor of

the Raleigh Diocese, and with other organizations.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her husband, William P. McLaughlin Jr.

She is survived by seven children: Patricia McLaughlin, of Philadelphia, PA; Margaret Best of Dalton, MA; Eileen Archambault of Fayetteville; William McLaughlin of Castleton-on-Hudson, NY; Ann Carroll of Bellingham, MA; Kathleen Cook of Hoffman; Paul McLaughlin of Merrimack, NH; thirteen grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Sandhills/Moore Coalition for Human Care, 1500 W. Indiana Ave., Southern Pines, NC 28387.

Peter James Barton, 87, died Sunday, September 18, at his residence. A memorial service was held Saturday, September 24, at West End Presbyterian Church where he and his wife, Evelyn, were members.

Mr. Barton was born in New Haven, CT son of the late Elinor Armour and Ernest Barton. He attended Fairleigh Dickenson University and served his country in the U.S. Navy. He retired after a long and successful career with the Eastman Kodak Company as manager of Equipment Service Centers and Customer Equipment Services. He retired in 1984 and was able to spend 26 wonderful years traveling and golfing and enjoying life with his wife, Evelyn.

He was preceded by his son Gary James Barton.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Evelyn; son Glenn Peter Barton, of Elburn, IL; three grandchil-

dren and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to FirstHealth

Hospice, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374 or West End Presbyterian Church, PO Box 13, West End, NC

27376.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes is assisted the family.



120 ZIEGLER COURT
Lot 65 Ph IV Morganwood with 2 stall barn, fenced pasture & city water. **\$127,900**



135 E. DEVONSHIRE
Like New 3Br/2Ba split plan close to front gate & first tee at SLCC in SLS. **\$239,500**



102 THOMAS POINT
3 BD, 2 BA, screened porch close to Johnson Pt and BR Country Club



103 SHEROFF
Like new (2005) 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Split Plan Close to Johnson Point. **\$262,900**



103 STANDISH POINT
Outstanding 4 bedroom 3 bath Lakefront on Lake Auman. **\$849,000**



121 SIMMONS DRIVE
3 BR 2 BA on elevated lot close to Johnson Pt in SL West **\$239,500**



105 ROUND OAK DRIVE
All Brick Lake Front Home on Lake Longleaf in SL North. **\$299,900!**



103 STANDISH POINT
Outstanding 4 bedroom 3 bath Lakefront on Lake Auman. **\$849,000**



104 WOODALL COURT
Executive Home, private cul-de-sac close to golf course, \$135K below '08 appraisal. **\$699,900**



104 AMBERWOOD COURT
All brick 4 BR 5 full bath lake front home on Lake Echo with walk out basement. **\$374,900**



139 FIRETREE LANE
One & One-half Story with Full Basement **\$139,900**



106 STANDISH POINT
189 feet of water front on Lake Auman with 3 BD, 3BA, and a walk out basement. **\$495,000**

LOT 52, PHASE IV
Morganwood Lot, 6.15 ac. **\$115,000**

LOT 51, PHASE IV
Morganwood 4-Bedroom Perc.
All Reasonable Offers Considered!
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These Adjacent Lots Make a 11.5+ Acre Tract



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Gently sloping pasture with elevated house seat close to everything. **\$120,000**

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Westside

Board, wrote: "No one has to know that we ourselves are questioning the format and potential content."

Temme said the email implied that the Board was hiding something from the members. President Mick Herdrick responded by saying, "The Board wasn't trying to hide something."

Herdrick said the Board was trying to deal with the fact that there was already a covenant in place that dealt with this issue that was being discussed. "This Board tries to get as much input as possible," said Herdrick.

Freiert said lot recombination in the community "was a technical matter we were trying to correct in the rules and regulations." As it stands, the covenants in the community "trump" any rules and regulation changes.

Ultimately, Temme said he was pleased with the Board's overall decision to table the lot recombination proposal.

Westsider Max Foley also thanked the Board for tabling the issue.

For now, the current covenants, by-laws, rules and regulations will continue to be used when addressing lot recombination in the community.

Other Legal Business

Also during Tuesday night's meeting, Stevens presented the Board with the annexation of Chandler Hills, located between Wagner Court and Douglas Drive on the outside of Longleaf Drive, and the annexation of Clubhouse Commons, which is bordered by Paula Court and Lucas Drive in the Beacon Ridge Area. Both had previously been signed off by the Board.

Events on the West Side

The Margaritaville event was attended by 122 people, reported Events Director Jim Ferguson, who said money raised at the event went to the West End United Methodist Church Food Pantry.

The next outdoor concert at Johnson Point will be on Friday, October 7, with the band "Loaded Dice" playing from 7 to 9 pm.

Oktoberfest is scheduled for October 15 from 6 to 9 pm. Ferguson said the dinner menu is being finalized for the event. There will be 125 tickets sold for \$15 each, which can be purchased at the CAS office. "Secure yours as quickly as you can," said Ferguson.

Infrastructure

A design to deal with eroded

overflow pipes at the lower Lakeway Mall pond dam has been received from Dr. Dan Marks, reported Infrastructure Director John Goodman.

The eroded pipes will either have to be replaced or built in. Included in the design is the widening of the dam with additional structural work so that a walking path for pedestrians can be put long side the roadway. Funding for this project was approved in last year's budget, reported Goodman, and work should begin before the end of the year.

A "speed hump" at the mailhouse was removed, Community Manager Joan Frost reported, and will be replaced by white striping, scheduled to be installed on Sunday, October 2. Goodman told *The Times* that the stripe will go over the area that the speed hump was originally in and suggested that members with questions or concerns should contact him or Frost.

Roads where the culverts were repaired will also be re-striped with white paint to re-connect the lines on the road.

Goodman said that erosion control on shoulders of roads and rights-of-way is "working really well." Erosion control

(See "Westside," p. 20)

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Seven Lakes Village
Mon – Thurs 7:30 – 3:00

Coming This Fall

Massage is Returning!

JoAnn Richardson (NC LMBT #100608) will be taking massage appointments beginning mid October... Look for more info on a "Meet the Therapist" date to be announced

Pat's Water Art Class

will be moving to 4pm
beginning Tuesday, October 4th

CASEY WYLIE

will complete his AFAA Personal Trainer Certification Mid November and will be helping motivate others to meet their fitness goals!

BRYAN COLEMAN USA Swimming Coach

will be heading up a swim club.

With 15 years teaching and coaching experience we look forward to a great swim program!

October 24-26 6-8pm

Team Assessments & Registration

SEVEN LAKES
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Seven Lakes North

Feeling Good is the Fun of It!

Westside

(Continued from page 16)

as well as road patching will continue on Longleaf over the next thirty days.

FY 2012-2013 Budget

It is "time to start planning the budget for next year," Treasurer Don Freiert told the Board, adding that he wants "to get ahead of the schedule this year." He presented the Board with an outline of the FY2012-2013 budget process over the next four months.

The first step is for the Finance Committee to receive draft budgets from the elected officers of the SLWLA and prepare an "initial draft budget," which will be presented to the Board by the end of October.

The Finance Committee will work on developing a finalized budget by December.

There will be a Town Hall meeting on January 4 — similar to one held last year — in which the community can offer feedback on the budget. After the Town Hall meeting, the budget will be finalized and it will be put to the membership for a vote during the Annual Meeting.

Check Signing Authority

The Board approved Treasurer Freiert's final reading of the Check Signing Authority amendment under Section 10 of the rules and regulations. The new addition will give:

- Officers of the SLWLA the authority to sign checks up to \$1,000.

- Checks in the amount of \$1000.01 to \$4,999.99 will require the signature of either the President or the Treasurer.

- Checks over \$5,000 will require the signature of both the President and the Treasurer. In the event that either one cannot sign off on a check, then the Secretary and/or Vice President can sign off on a check in their place.

The Board also approved a request by Freiert to add CAS Inc. President John Stone as a person authorized to sign checks up to \$1,000. Freiert said that CAS Inc. is

already an authorized signatory on the Association's checking account.

Freiert said he "received very little comment" on the check signing amendment, but the few comments he did receive were "favorable" to the change.

The cash disbursements for the month of August were \$155,800, with \$61,000 of that going to the final disbursement for culvert repairs.

Additional monies were spent on boat patrol and electronic monitoring that was above the "normal running rate," Freiert said.

He reported that \$100,000 was placed into two callable CDs; both are FDIC insured.

Revisions to the ARC Standards

A first reading by ARC Director John Hoffmann of an update of ARC standards was unanimously approved by the Board. Overall the update includes twenty-three revisions; a copy will be available on the community website.

A second and final reading — scheduled for the Board's October 25 meeting — will need to be approved before the changes can go into affect. Hoffmann thanked the ARC committee and gave a special thanks to Jim Johnson for helping with the project.

Hoffmann also announced a change to the new construction-major addition application that will now require both the homeowner and the contractor to sign before a permit is issued. Currently, only the contractor has to sign.

A new ARC member, Don Hauck was announced and approved by the Board at Tuesday's meeting.

Community Manager's Report

Community Manager, Joan Frost reported that, during the month of October, both Chatlee Marine and Seven Lakes Marine will be in the community to winterize boats. Each has been given assigned days to come into the community. Frost said for those

(See "Westside," p. 20)



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910-295-5511***

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- **West End Elementary PTA Fall Festival Fundraiser** – 5:30 to 8 pm. Silent Auction, Games, Prizes, Giant Slides, Food & Fun. Everyone Is Welcome. For more info contact Daniel Armstrong 910-783-8750.
- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – 5-9 pm. Chili, Cornbread, & salad. Buffet 5-6:30 pm. \$8.15 (+ tax & gratuity). Food, games & socializing.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm. *Sarah's Key*. Julia Jarmond, an American journalist married to a Frenchman, is commissioned to write an article about the notorious Vel d'Hiv round up, which took place in Paris, in 1942. She stumbles upon a family secret which will link her forever to the destiny of a young Jewish girl, Sarah. Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

- **Bird Walk** – 8 am, Visitor Center. Join the Park Ranger on a 2 mile hike to look for Southbound migratory birds. Bring binoculars and bug spray. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines. 692-2167, weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **Farmers' Market – at Sandhills Winery** - 9 am - Noon, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Karen Simmons Design Grand Opening** – 11 am to 2 pm, Learn about Art Clay, Register to win free classes, door prizes, and refreshments. 150C Grant Street, Seven Lakes Business Village, (next to Italian Table Restaurant), 910-603-5750.
- **Belford Baptist Church** – 6 pm, Gospel Song Fest to honor Pastor Brenda K. Robinson and husband John Robinson. 925 Windblow Rd., Jackson Springs.
- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm. *Sarah's Key*. starring Julia Jarmond, Sunrise Theatre,

250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

- **16th Annual Pottery Plus Auction** – 5:30 to 8:30 pm, at Country Club of North Carolina, Pinehurst. The auction will benefit FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care. Featuring silent and live auctions, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$65 per person. For more informa-

this vaccination with No out of pocket expense. Quality Care Pharmacy will file insurance. With your insurance covering the vaccination, you will be making a \$10 donation to support your local scouting program. Fellowship Hall.

- **Artists League of the Sandhills "Escapes: City and County Landscapes Show"** - Opening reception

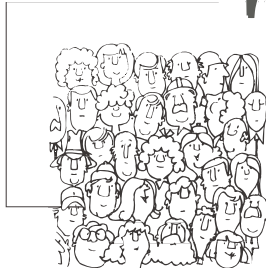
from 2 – 5 pm, show featuring works of Tommy McDonnell and Karen Walker. Exhibit runs thru Oct. 31.

Gallery hours are noon - 3 pm, Mon. - Sat. Classes & workshops available. League office 910-944-3979, 10-4 (M-F). Artists League 129 Exchange St., Aberdeen.

- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm. *Sarah's Key*. starring Julia Jarmond, Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

• **Birds, Blooms, And Butterflies** – 3 pm, Visitor Center. Autumn heralds a diverse display of wildlife in Weymouth Woods. Join the Park Ranger for an exploration of Fall flowers. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern

What's When Calendar



tion and tickets, call (910) 695-7510.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes 673-3838.
- **West End UMC Flu Shot Clinic** – 12-3 pm, at West End UMC. Quality Care Pharmacy will be administering flu shots for 14 years old and above. Quality Care Pharmacy will donate \$10 from every flu shot administered to the West End UMC Boy Scouting. Cost is \$25. Most insurance plans including Medicare and BCBS cover

Pines, 692-2167 weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov

- **National Alliance on Mental Illness Moore County (NAMI-MC) Interfaith Worship Service** – 4 pm at Sandhills Alliance Church, 425 Magnolia Drive, Pinehurst. A special service in observance of National Mental Illness Awareness Week. Featured guest speaker for this service is Anthony Pugh of Asheboro. (910) 295-1053 or www.nami-moorecounty.org

- **Sunday Night Kids** – 6 – 7 pm, at West End United Methodist Church children grades Kindergarten thru 5th grade are invited to a time of learning more about God through music, bible lessons, and activities just for everyone.

- **Youth Group** – 6 – 7:30 pm, Youth, Grades 6-12, meet at West End United Methodist Church to discuss the bible and how it applies to their daily lives.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

- **MANNA! On The Links** – at Southern Pines Golf Club. Registration 11:00

am, start at 12:30 pm. \$100 player fee includes green and cart fees, snacks on the course, box lunch, post-play refreshments, awards and prizes. To sign up to play or to serve as a sponsor, contact Don Barcus at 910 949-2921 or donnaprillbarcus@gmail.com or www.mannafeeds.org

- **Moore Republican Women's Club Luncheon** – held at the Pinehurst Members Club. Registration at 11:30 am, and lunch is served at noon. Cost is \$16 and may be paid by cash or check at the door. Valet parking is available. Reservations Kay Wildt at 235-4654. Guest speaker, Congresswoman Renee Ellmers.

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Group leader Rachel Carr.

- **SunFlix Movies at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm. *Sarah's Key*. starring Julia Jarmond, Sunrise Theatre, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines 692-3611.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

- **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.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive,
- **Bullying Prevention** – 5 - 7 pm, Free Workshop In Moore County. Search Family Support Program and Sandhills Center in Collaboration with NAMI NC held at Moore County Agriculture Center Room #1, 707 Pinehurst Avenue, Carthage Presented by: Emily Nicholson. To register 877-776-6599, (919) 906-7103 or ahsandhills@windstream.net.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am to 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a wonderful meal provided \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive,
- **Women of Seven Lakes** – at 2 pm, In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, Abbe DeBolt from Sandhills Community College will be speaking on "Perspectives of the Civil War - 150 Years Later." Held at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. October is 'Bring a Friend' Month. All members are encouraged to bring a friend to this meeting.
- **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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

- **White Cane Drive** – sponsored by Seven Lakes Lions at several Local Merchants. Donations assists the Blind and Visually Impaired, and

other humanitarian needs of the less fortunate, including canes, vision vans, eye research, and Camp Dogwood. Please help The Lions and make a donation.

- **United Methodist Women's Annual Harvest Dinner** – 6 pm at West End United Methodist Church. Tickets are \$8 each, which includes buffet, dessert, and tea. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the various missions of the West End United Methodist Women. Call Anneliese Feggeler at 673-3734 to purchase tickets.
- **Pastel Society of North Carolina Exhibition** – Opening Reception, today, from 6 - 8 pm, Campbell House Galleries, 482 East Connecticut Avenue, Southern Pines. Exhibit continues through October 28. Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am – 5 pm and the third Saturday of select months from 2 pm to 4 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

- **Farmers' Market** – at Sandhills Winery - 9 am - Noon, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **White Cane Drive** – sponsored by Seven Lakes Lions at several Local Merchants. Donations assists the Blind and Visually Impaired, and other humanitarian needs of the less fortunate, including canes, vision vans, eye research, and Camp Dogwood. Please help The Lions and make a donation.
- **Seven Lakes Business Guild Chili Cook Off** – 11 am to 2 pm, in the Seven Lakes Business Village. Cash prizes for Judge's Choice (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place) People's Choice, and Best Decorated Booth. Great Chili, lots of fun, and this year a Cornhole Tournament! Booths are free to guild members, \$35 for nonmembers. Call Judy or Kim for more details 910-673-4240 or judy@jubileescreenprint.com
- **Annie Oakley's Boom Day's and Buffalo Bill Wild West Show** – 10 am and 5 pm, held at Pinehurst's Mile Track. Highlights of

the weekend include Benelli Sharp Shooter Scott Matthews paying Tribute to Annie Oakley, Cowboy Mounted Shooting Performance, Falconer Chip Gentry with five birds of prey, Sandhills Pointing Breeds Dog Demonstrations, Clay Flurry Shooting Challenge, and music performed by the US Army Ground Forces Band.

- **Shaw House Fair** – 9 am - 4 pm, Third Annual Fair of vintage collectibles and antiques at the Shaw House, corner of Morganton Road and Broad Street, Southern Pines. Admission is free, free parking, free house tours and vintage craft demonstrations on the grounds of house, built in the 1820s, the Britt Sanders Cabin and the Garner House. Clyde Maness and Friends, the Allen Smith family, and a new group, 2nd Childhood will play live music to get you in the mood. 692-2051 or www.moorehistory.com

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

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

- **Insects with Gall** – 3 pm, Visitor Center. There are so many strange and interesting things we overlook as we walk through the woods. For example, when certain insects lay their eggs on plants, a growth called a gall is formed. 1.5 mile hike. Weymouth Woods, Sandhills Nature Preserve, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd. Southern Pines, 692-2167, weymouth.woods@ncdenr.gov
- **Carolina Philharmonic presents The Four Freshmen in concert** – at 7 pm, in Lee Auditorium, Pinecrest High School. Four parts harmony, a twist of elegance, with a twist of swing and a whole lot of fun. Tickets: \$25/\$50 (910) 687 4746 or www.carolinaphil.org

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

- **National Active & Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Sandhills Chapter 1895** – 10:30 am, monthly meeting, Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett St., Southern Pines. Surprise guest speaker!. George/Julina LeVander (910) 895-9657; Sheila Lang (910) 448-0704, or

Vilma Geisert (910) 215-5898.

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

- **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.
- **Seven Lakes Computer Club** – 3 pm, meeting at the Seven Lakes North Game Room.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

- **Growing Daylilies** – 2 to 4 pm, Noel Weston of Lakeview Daylily Farm of Garner, NC will help you want to learn more about these beautiful plants. Presented by Sandhills Horticultural Society and the Sandhills Council of Garden Clubs. in Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College. Tricia Mabe, 695-3882, for your free reservation. Bare root plants for sale, and ready for planting, including seven cultivars.

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Westside

(Continued from page 17)

interested to contact the CAS office or the business directly to check on those dates.

Another boat sank at the marina, but attempts to contact the owner have failed. Frost said a letter has been sent to the homeowner and will be followed up on.

Frost showed the Board

pictures of the flooring at the Johnson Point docks, saying a decision on replacing them needs to be made "soon." She told the Board that as much as the boards are nailed down they are continuing to pop up. Lake and Dam Director Adam Wimberly and Frost will meet to discuss possibilities to replace the docks and present them to the Board at the next scheduled meeting on October 11.

Other Business

Other business conducted during the Board's Tuesday, September 27 meeting included:

- The SLWLA agreed to close the West Side Park pool for the year, as requested by Frost. The pool will close on Thursday September 29 due to falling temperatures, as well as a fluctuation in attendance at the pool.

- An irrigation line that had a "major problem" due to root growth that caused a leak has been repaired, reported Frost.
- Frost said that a drain at Johnson Point that was stopped up was repaired by Cedar Pines Landscaping.
- Secretary Jane Sessler announced there are 612 members signed up on the community website.
- The nominating committee, which meets every two weeks, will have its next meeting on Tuesday, Octo-

ber 4, at 1 pm, reported Sessler.

- During member comments, Barbara Tullis said school buses coming into the community are "tearing up our roads." Tullis also asked the Board to consider the possibility of allowing visiting relatives to use the community's amenities without being accompanied by the resident member, if a request is made ahead of time.

Cyber Ed

(Continued from page 9)

said Locklear. "I believe in giving them several opportunities to express their natural, innate qualities and strengths, and I love their unique perspective on the world at this age."

And that learning extends beyond the classroom through partnerships with local businesses and volunteers. Guest speakers bring new experiences to the children and weekly visits from the Moore County Bookmobile encourage budding young readers.

"We are a niche, but we are a part of the community," Locklear said. "We want people to know we're here, and that we are better than ever."

Recently relocated to Seven Lakes North with her two young children, Locklear said she chose the community because it felt like home. She holds a bachelors degree in Child Psychology and also holds certification in Exceptional Children K-6 Education, with previous teaching experience in Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, and North Carolina.

Cyber Ed Learning Center is located at 1135 Seven Lakes Drive. The first week of tuition is free with paid registration and the facility accepts private and family-assistance program payment and also military and state subsidies. In addition, Sandhills Community College will provide assistance with day-care costs for enrolled students.

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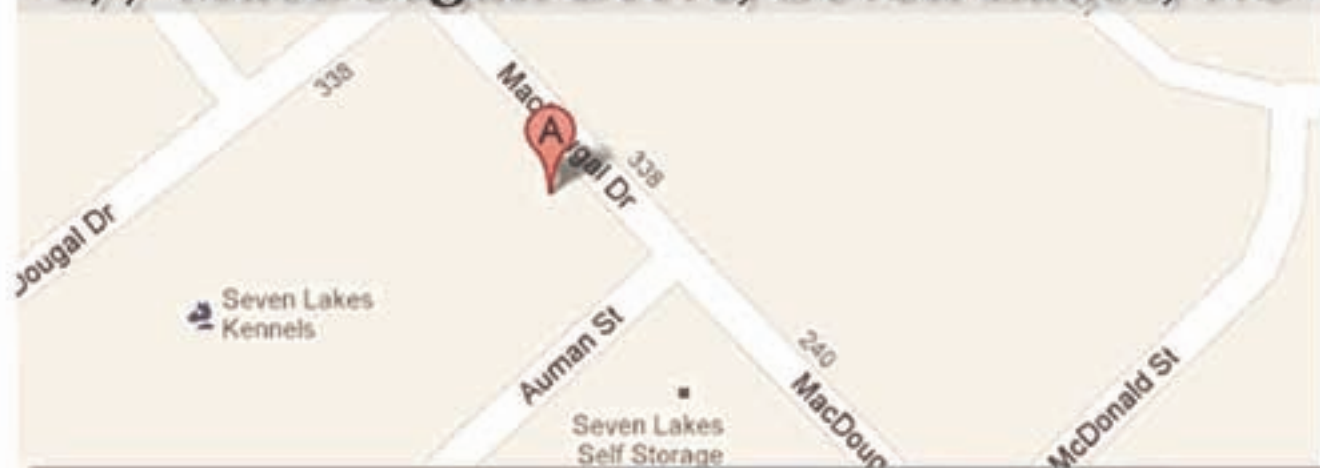
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We will be serving sandwiches and drinks and are raffling off 3 gift certificates to the “Italian Table” restaurant. You also have the chance to get a free wall calendar (while supply lasts).

Come and celebrate with us!

Front Row. Center.

Front row, center.

Eight different schools in twelve years and the single, completely predictable factor in my younger days: I was always stuck in the front row on school picture day.

Being smallest in the class meant sitting cross-legged with my tomboy, banged up knees smack dab in the foreground; but there was an advantage to this subservient positioning. I ranked at least one rung higher in the social pecking order than the tall, gangly kid forced to stand next to the teacher.

But to say I was short for my age is a bit too simplistic. A flip through any yearbook

reveals a bony, boyish frame more reminiscent of a hobbit or an Eastern bloc-era gymnast than a Prom queen-wannabe. Luckily, this awkward phase passed, because, at some point post-graduation, I did hit puberty.



Laura's Learning Curve

Laura Douglass

And not that any of this would matter anymore. Except when it comes to my

DNA, scratch that, what I mean is the fate of half of my DNA.

You know, children.

It's always fascinating to look at these miraculous little creatures and try to discern whether a trait is "his" or "hers." Like our own

family time capsules donated to the future, there is a déjà vu quality when Aunt Hilda's jutting chin pops up again or Grandpa's oddly-shaped toes make an encore per-

formance.

With German-Irish on both sides of my tree, nailing down the source of my frizzy, red hair and freckles is a coin flip. But my paternal gene pool is definitely to blame for my diminutive stature, and I can thank my maternal side for my charming, bulldozer-like personality.

In school, I was shy and skinny. I got over it. Way, way over it. Ask anyone.

Flash forward a few decades — which very closely approximates the speed that life travels by in adulthood anyway — and the reason I am reflecting on such frivolous insights is because of

the notice on my kitchen counter. And on my email and on my answering machine.

"Don't forget, school picture day is Thursday."

Okay kids, here is the good news: you were blessed with your father's blue eyes, long eyelashes, and a gorgeous peaches and cream complexion. Here's the bad news: I'm your mother.

Any hopes and dreams you may harbor for the convenience of a chair or the anonymity of standing in the middle of the class photo, get over it.

Front row, center.

My gift to you.

I hear the world's going to end in October?

Question: Didn't the California minister who first said that the world would end on May 21, 2011 recalculate his numbers to predict the end now to be October 21, 2011. Is there any truth in this? Is it really in the Bible? Should we be afraid?

Response: To call Harold Camping a minister is to use the word loosely. Of course in my profession anyone can get himself ordained over the internet and any half-literate

person can call herself a Biblical Scholar by reading several chapters from the Bible and a few Commentaries on the scripture.

So called preachers and prophets have been saying that we are living in the "end times" for almost 2000 years. Every time there is a major earthquake, storm, or war, we hear that the time is near for Jesus to return and meet his raptured believers in the sky (quite a trick) ushering

in a time of "tribulation" for those left behind and foreshadowing the end of the world. In our own time, taking official prayer out of our schools, giving full

rights and acceptance to gays and lesbians and the economic collapse over the past two years have fueled the fire for the "end-timers." A decade ago, Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins made millions exploiting these themes among others in their series of fictional books "Left Behind."

Does the Bible teach this? Not really, although an imaginative modern "prophet" can read into the Bible most anything. The wonderful book of Daniel in its later chapters was written to give hope to the people of Judah during the long years when the land was occupied, first by Greeks, then Syrians, and later the

Romans. The graphic word pictures in the Christian book



Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

of Revelation gave hope and encouragement to the first century Christians who were being persecuted under the Romans. Neither book lays claim to predicting what will happen centuries later in a world unknown to the writers.

Should we be afraid that the world will end on October 21? There is no more chance of that happening in October than it did in May. What we should fear are the millions of gullible people who buy this stuff and the churches and preachers who pump people up with fear of some future cataclysmic event as a method of control.

I prefer to get my informa-

tion on the finiteness of the world from Richard Dawkins, the British evolutionary biologist and author. He writes in the Washington Post: "In about five billion years, the sun will run out of hydrogen; in its death-throes it will swell and the earth will vaporize. Before that, the earth can expect, at unpredictable intervals measured in tens of millions of years, bombardment by dangerously large meteors or comets. Any one of these can be catastrophic enough to destroy all life as the one that killed the dinosaurs 5 million years ago nearly did. In the nearer future, it is pretty likely that human life will become extinct — the fate of almost all species that ever lived."

In the meantime, I do not look for a second coming of the Christ. I believe he has already come in the Holy Spirit and he makes his presence known to me and millions of believers almost every day.

I like the way the poet T. (See "Rev," p. 23)

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Seven Lakes West becoming a police state?

Dear Editor:

This is a copy of letter sent to Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Directors and Community Manager

Congratulations on turning this Community into a Police State. You arbitrarily decide without community input what people can do with their homes, yards, and lifestyle. Only organizations ruled by tyrants and police state governments govern in this manner. You fit each of the above very nicely.

A recent illustration of this occurred at the Lake Side

Villa complex. A resident requested two trees on the common grounds of the complex be removed as they were diseased and could cause serious damage to the two homes in close proximity should they fall. The Community Manager had a tree service look at them and the service agreed the trees needed to be removed.

Each Lake Side owner was informed by letter that a tree service of the Association's choice would take down the trees for a fee of \$950, and that we would be billed for

it.

As we thought the price was excessive, we asked the Manager if she had sought bids for the job and she stated that she had not and would not. She did say that if we provided her with bids from a legitimate tree service she would look at them. We did provide her with a bid from a bonded, insured tree service for \$850, \$100 cheaper than her service price.

She ignored this bid and authorized her tree service of choice to remove the trees.

This once again shows my analysis of the Association as being correct.

I will do my very best to discourage anyone I know who may be thinking of moving to this Community from doing so.

As a matter of fact, if we were not so old, we would move out.

*Charles W. Mahin
Seven Lakes West*

Thank you

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

My family and I would like to thank each and everyone of you for all the prayers, flowers, Memorial Mass cards, sympathy cards, telephone calls, and food to nourish our bodies as well as

our soul during this most difficult time in our lives.

Your kindness and support following Carl's passing will always be remembered.

*Sincerely,
Ann Nueslein & Family
Seven Lakes West*

Gas price woes

Dear Editor:

Bruce Macdonald's perspicacious comments about gas prices in the Sept. 16 issue struck a cord with me.

I recently traveled to Davidson and Huntersville, economically well-to-do towns, and found gas for \$3.45. Then in a trip to Lillington, a not so well-to-do area, I bought gas for \$3.52. At the

same time, gas was selling in Seven Lakes for an average \$3.72.

I would prefer to support merchants in Seven Lakes, but I and others I talked with do everything we can to go elsewhere for gas. Is there any reasonable explanation for the differential in prices?

*Jim Boyd
Seven Lakes West*

Rev

(Continued from page 22)

S. Eliot described the end of the world in the poem, "The Hollow Men."

ends

Not with a bang but a whimper.

This is the way the world ends

This is the way the world ends

This is the way the world

Don Welch, the minister at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines welcomes your comments and questions at donwelch1@nc.rr.com



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County needs Plan A and Plan B for water

I may have moved to Southern Pines after 19 wonderful and unforgettable years in Seven Lakes. But, I still have a great interest in the water issue for Seven Lakes and the larger picture of water for Area "A" and the rest of Moore County.

I've attended almost all meetings of the Board of Commissioners, talked to them at their meetings about water, and participated in their water meetings. Since the beginning, I have been a member of the Water Summit — a group of officials from the municipalities and concerned citizens who have learned much but, so far, recommended little.

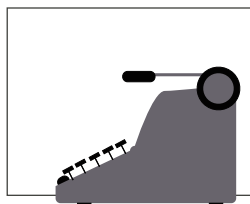
In recent months, I have met with Commissioners Caddell and Melton. In discussion with Commissioner Caddell, I recommended that potable water from Robbins be supplied to Area "A" (which includes customers of the Seven Lakes Distribution System also serving McLendon Hills and some of West End) with a new water main south on NC Highway 705, east on NC Highway 24/27, and then south on Dowd Road.

The area east of Dowd Road to Murdockville Road and

bordered on the south by NC Highway 211 has been identified as having significant growth potential — greater growth potential than the NC 705 corridor.

Your Turn

Dave Kinney
Southern Pines



When — not if — this growth occurs, it would help reduce water rates for Seven Lakes Distribution System customers. Caddell said that Melton had the same idea.

Great!

Robbins is very attractive for several reasons. It is in Moore County. Beyond Drowning Creek, Deep River is the only other viable source of surface water in Moore County. Robbins' 100-million gallon reservoir is an extremely valuable asset, especially in light of the cost and time of securing permits for a new reservoir anywhere in the County, or in the State.

A new 1.5 million gallon per day [gpd] water treatment plant, expandable to 3 million gpd, would be required.

The Robbins option needs

— and is getting — serious consideration by the Town and the County. Negotiations, frustrating as they have been, must continue. Now, Robbins is looking into wells as their source of raw water. That's certainly muddying the waters, but, still, negotiation must go on.

It's been implied that there are too many options to consider. I think not. As Commissioner Melton suggested in a recent meeting, two options need to be thoroughly explored (without yet throwing out all others). Let's call

(See "Water," p. 25)

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Water

(Continued from page 24)

what I've suggested "Plan A." I believe it should be implemented, depending on the economic climate, in ten to fifteen years — the near term.

In the event Robbins and the County cannot come to an agreement, the fall-back plan would be extending the water main along NC Highway 73 that supplies the

Dormie Club west through Area "A" to the Seven Lakes Distribution System.

Harnett County supplies potable water to the East Moore Water District [EMWD], some of which is wheeled through the EMWD to the NC 73 main and some to Pinehurst. The 10-inch NC 73 main may not be sufficient as a Seven Lakes back-

up, so a booster station and an elevated storage tank are likely to be required.

Moore County's present contract with Harnett County is for up to 2 million gpd. Harnett County has offered a new contract for an additional 2 million gallons of capacity from their enlarged treatment facility. A capacity-based contract is far better

for Moore County. This "Plan B" should be implemented in ten-to-fifteen years.

It's estimated Moore County will require an additional 2 million gpd by 2030. Plan A (Robbins new treatment facility, Deep River intake, reservoir, and in-county source) and Plan B (wheeled Harnett County water, extending the NC 73 main) both meet the

requirement.

Of course, important to implementing any plan is its impact on water rates. Increasing the supply of potable water to Area "A" cannot be free. A doubling of the present rate would cost the majority of homeowners a still affordable \$50, or less, per month.

Western Connector

(Continued from page 7)

up to each area and municipality to protect the desired travel corridor for future road development. If the corridor is not protected, when the CTP is moved forward to the point of funding, then the whole planning process must start over.

Of particular interest are those approved, but as yet unconstructed, developments that will impact traffic and must be considered in planning, including Pine Forest, Stonehill Pines, and East Lakes in Aberdeen, as well as proposed developments The Pit, Mace Project — both also in Aberdeen — and Pinewild IV, which is located along the far northwestern edge of the Pinewild community.

Speaking in opposition to a proposed route — still on the previous maps — that bisects his 800-acre tract in the Foxfire Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction, Mike Wilson reminded the committee that Moore County is also currently developing a Working Lands Protection Plan which

specifically addresses the need and desire to protect forest and farmlands.

"That plan states the proportion of Longleaf forest in Moore is five percent," Wilson said, "and where you have that road going through, is right through a big section of that five percent."

As a member of the Small Area A Plan Steering Committee, Wilson said he knows what people in that area have said they want.

"They said no new roads — and to protect and preserve what we have," Wilson explained.

Also speaking in opposition to both routes that had been formerly proposed, another resident argued that a new road so close in proximity to already developed areas would only encourage additional development. Instead he suggested that, if the goal was truly to improve traffic flow and a new road is necessary, that it should begin well beyond West End on Hwy 211, on the far side of the Seven Lakes population center and then drop down towards Aberdeen.


For now, planning will begin with several charrettes

— basically, community workshop meetings — to be scheduled throughout Moore County in early November to discuss the Western Connector and other areas of interest, including the Carthage 24/27 bypass and the US 1 freeway project.

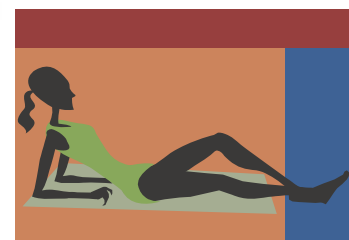
Extensive maps will be provided and Moore County Planning staff will be on-hand to assist interested residents in reviewing options making their own recommendations on whether and where new roads should be located.

WEUMC Annual Harvest Dinner

The West End United Methodist Church Women will host their annual Harvest Dinner on Friday, October 7 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall at the Church. Tickets are \$8 each, that includes buffet, dessert, and tea. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the various missions of the West End United Methodist Women. Call Anneliese Feggeler at 673-3734 to purchase tickets.

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Silver

(Continued from page 5)

told The Times, "The goal is; I want you to be involved in the clay."

Her "learning center" boasts a wide range of books and

magazines about Art Clay jewelry-making — what Milligan calls "a great inspiration space." With the Krups coffee maker just steps away; Milligan encourages anyone who

stops by to enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee and learn about Art Clay.

Milligan will be hosting a variety of classes this Fall that can be scheduled by

calling or dropping by the studio. [A fifty percent non-refundable deposit is required for classes]. The Learn About Art Clay classes will be held on Tuesday nights from 6:30

to 8:00. Prices start at \$29.

The studio will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11am to 4 pm (evening and Saturday classes will start in October). Parties for birthdays, bridal showers, or a girl's night out can all be scheduled ahead of time, as can seasonal projects and individual instruction time.

Karen Simmons Designs Art Clay Studio is located on 150C Grant Street in the Seven Lakes Village, beside the Italian Table in the Tracy's Carpet's building.

To schedule studio time, to learn more about the product, or to consult class schedules visit www.karensimmonsdesigns.com, call 910-603-5750, or email karen@karensimmonsdesigns.com.

On Saturday, October 1, the studio will host a Grand Opening from 11 am to 2 pm, with door prizes and the chance to win a free Art Clay beginners course.

County

(Continued from page 3)

Economic Development Center.

The total cost of the water-

line project is \$725,000, of which the County is paying for \$408,000. Carolina Eye will invest \$166,600; the

Rural Center, \$150,000.

The Board approved an amendment to the engineering contract for the ATEX Technologies project — which will extend county sewer lines to the ATEX manufacturing plant in Pinebluff — with the engineering firm Hobbs Upchurch and Associates that will extend the term from October 20 to May 31, 2012.

Other Business

In other business During its Tuesday, September 20 meeting, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Approved three change orders to the DH Griffin

Construction contract for the Detention Center, resulting in a overall \$92,000 decrease from the original budget.

- Appointed Cynthia Ransom and Mamie Bennet to three year terms on the RSVP Advisory Council.
- The consent agenda was unanimously approved by the Board, with the exception of Item "A" — approval of the September 6 meeting minutes. Item "A" was tabled during Tuesday's meeting so that Chairman Picerno can review the minutes before they are sealed.

Districts

(Continued from page 10)

split Seven Lakes between two districts.

Commissioner Kennedy told those in attendance at Tuesday's meeting, "We [Commissioners] all work for you. It doesn't matter where the lines are drawn." Kennedy added that he would work the same for anyone in the County, whether they were his neighbor or not.

Chairman Picerno told *The Times* that his main concern is to make sure that the number of voters are as even-

ly distributed as possible while avoiding to the degree possible splitting towns across district line.

"Populations should drive the map," he said, adding, "tonight is just the starting point to get some input."

Each of the five voting redistricting options will be placed on the Moore County website for residents to review. Voting redistricting lines in the County need to be decided by the end of January 2012.



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Cycling

(Continued from page 4)

Moore, among others, Birk's two-day visit to Moore County included meetings with local planners, recreation leaders, and citizens to discuss opportunities and options to make our communities more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly.

Unfortunately, Moore County has a long way to go.

"In talking to the highway patrolmen," Krueger said, "I was told that this particular area is the most dangerous part of the county to bike in. The part that makes it so inviting — because it is so rural and quiet — are also the same reasons the ride is dangerous."

"Ninety percent of the time, cars graciously give me space on the road; but wouldn't it be nice if, when they repaved Seven Lakes Drive, that they could have widened it to accommodate bikes? Wouldn't it be nice to have a safe path all the way from Seven Lakes down to the West End ballfield?" Krueger asked. "We're talking about four feet of pavement, and it is low maintenance because there is no real weight on a multi-use trail."

A fellow biking and walking enthusiast, Barbara Keating said Krueger's accident was a horrible way to prove an obvious point.

"We moved here because this is an incredibly beautiful area," she said. "I would like to get out and bike more, but I don't feel safe. Even inside the gates, people drive over the speed limit. And I've told people, I fear more for my husband's life when he is biking in Moore County than when he rode up and down the Pacific Coast Highway."

Even more frustrating, Keating explained, is that an NC Department of Transportation program was passed and funded in 2009 to encourage more multiuse

trails; but, so far, it hasn't been implemented.

Looking for such an improvement to be added to the upcoming Hwy 211 widening project, Keating was told NCDOT officials weren't sure if there was enough interest to justify the expense.

"I say, build it and they will come," she said. "I think when DOT is looking at any proposal, they should be considering bike paths like at Hilton Head, where they are fabulous."

Krueger agreed.

"In Hilton Head everything is connected: the homes, the stores, the restaurants," he explained. "Here we live in this great part of the country where we have the opportunity to get out and see it, to really enjoy it and experience it, but we get hemmed in because it is too dangerous

to go out and walk or to bike." "So everyone drives."

"I picked what I thought was the safest time to ride and it wasn't," Krueger continued. "And the problem is, the situation here will only get worse. There are more and more young people coming. This is a great place to live and parents have an expectation that it is safe here."

"There is funding out there for roadways and schools and we should be able to tap into that. I'm not talking about putting in 100 miles of bike trail: I'm talking about putting in maybe one mile here, or a few miles there to start with."

He continued, "This area is transitioning. It's not just about farmers and retirees, but now there are families. It is better to be out in front of change, anticipating it."



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Mailhouse

(Continued from front page)

ital Reserve Fund that could be used to finance construction of the facility. By using the reserve fund, dues would not have to increase to pay for the project.

During Monday night's meeting, Freiert stressed that the \$310,000 estimated to build the mailhouse is just that — an estimate. "Everyone is focused on a projected cost," said Freiert, noting that the numbers are "high level" estimates.

Once a traffic and engineering analysis identifies the best possible location for the mailhouse, then the project can be designed, bid, and the cost nailed down. The current cost estimates are based on broad outlines; the facility has not yet been designed.

"We do have very good options out there," Freiert said. "They just need to be evaluated."

Regardless of the cost, Westsider Ruth Caldara asked that the money be kept within the community as much as possible when bidding out the work for the mail house, in an effort to "generate some of our own money and jobs."

Freiert replied that the project is not yet at the bid stage, but noted that he has already been approached by contractors who live in the community and are interested in bidding on the job.

Construction

The SLWLA intends to "evaluate several alternatives" when it comes to mailhouse construction and is planning to share that information with the community before a final decision is made, Freiert said. What is certain is that the mailhouse will be placed somewhere near the Community Center.

However, the new mailhouse will need to meet the more "stringent" standards the United States Postal Service has developed since the existing mailhouse was built some thirty years ago. Those changes will also better accommodate residents.

The new mailhouse is

expected to be 1800 square feet, to accommodate mail boxes that are large enough to hold larger packages and to make sure no mail box is either too high or too low to reach easily. The extra space will also accommodate additional boxes for future growth of the community.

Delivery Options

Another topic that fueled conversation in Monday's meeting was the idea of changing Westside mailing addresses to reflect street addresses rather than box numbers linked to lot numbers. The USPS has yet to decide whether this option will be offered to Westsiders. Most of those in attendance on Monday seemed to agree that changing one's address would be more of a hassle than a benefit.

"Until we hear from the Postal Service, it is a non-

issue," Freiert said, adding, "Depending on what they say, there may not be a change to be made."

On another front relating to physical addresses on the Westside, Community Manager Joan Frost reported that Moore County recently changed forty-six street addresses in Seven Lakes [a list can be found on the County website], and new, updated street signs will be installed on the West Side in the next sixty days.

Next steps

Although the question of cost dominated Monday's Town Hall discussion, Westsider Betsy Mikula presented an archived newsletter written in 2006 by a former SLWLA President that stressed the importance of building a new mailhouse.

Once the mailhouse issue has been decided, Mikula

said, "I would like to see it done within a year."

Those who attended the Town Hall were given a handout that answered many questions about the mailhouse issue, from why it needed to be relocated to estimated costs. This handout will be available on the SLWLA website.

The next step is for the

Board of Directors to review all feedback from the community and to make a final vote during their October 11 meeting. The Association is contractually obligated to remove the current guardhouse by 2015, and the current entries master plan envisions locating the new entrance gate near the current mailhouse.

Women of Seven Lakes

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, Abbe DeBolt from Sandhills Community College will be speaking on "Perspectives of the Civil War - 150 Years Later." This month's meeting will be held at the North Clubhouse on Thursday, October 6 at 2 pm. October is 'Bring a Friend' Month. All members are encouraged to bring a friend.

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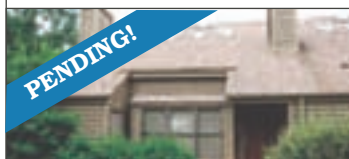
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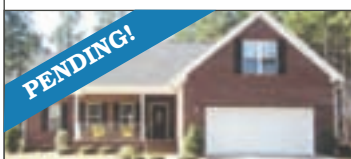
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